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Untitled variation set (The Egg and the Flower)

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BOSTON UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS

Thesis

**UNTITLED VARIATION SET
(THE EGG AND THE FLOWER)**

by

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**UNTITLED VARIATION SET
(THE EGG AND THE FLOWER)**

ADAM BERNDT

ABSTRACT

This untitled set of variations started as sketches for viola and piano in the summer of 2012. I started the academic year planning to finish the piece by the end of the semester. I was informed shortly after the start of the semester, by Sam Headrick, of my tentative placement on the Allea III Young Composers Concert on February 6th, 2013 – my priorities changed. The initial sketches for the viola piece became the seeds for this one but this piece bears little semblance to what the viola piece would have been. This piece is a series of five variations, the last serving as a sort of coda to the previous four. The subtitle, *The Egg and The Flower*, refers to opposing types of material in the piece; flourishing material used to close variations and pitch-organized material.

Instrumentation

Flute, Oboe, Clarinet/Bass Clarinet, Piano, Percussion, Viola, Cello and Contrabass.

Percussion List

Almglocken

Crotales

Marimba

Tom-toms (set of 5)

Temple Blocks (set of 5)

Vibraphone

Performance Notes:

*All grace notes performed with a slur.

*Fingering:

Measure 120 Multiphonics

The image shows a musical score for two instruments, Oboe and Clarinet in Bb, for Measure 120 Multiphonics. Both instruments are in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The Oboe part has a whole note on F#4 and a series of five grace notes (half notes) descending: B4, C4, B3, A3, and G3. The Clarinet in Bb part has a whole note on F#4 and a series of five grace notes (half notes) descending: B4, C4, B3, A3, and G3. The grace notes are indicated by a vertical line with dots and circles, and the notes are labeled with their letter names (B, C, F#).

Untitled Variation Set (The Egg and The Flower)

Adam Berndt

8

Ib ♩ = 66 ♩ = 44 (reduce by 1/3)

Fl. *mp* *n* *mf*

Ob. *p* *n* *mf* poco cresc.

Cl. *mp* *n* To B. Cl. Bass Clarinet in B $\flat$ *mf* poco cresc.

Pno. *mf*

Vib. *mf* *pp* *mf* Almglocken To Vib.

Ib ♩ = 66 ♩ = 44 (reduce by 1/3)

Vla. *mf* poco cresc.

Vc. *mf* poco cresc.

Cb. *mf* poco cresc.

14

Fl. *poco cresc.* ***ff*** *mp*

Ob. ***ff*** *sub.f* *mp* *f* *mp*

B. Cl. ***ff*** *mp*

Pno.

Vib. *mp* *5* *5*

Vla. ***ff*** *f* *p*

Vc. ***ff*** *f* *p*

Cb. ***ff*** *f* *p*

Reo.

[illegible]

20

IIa ♩ = 44-50, lyrical

Fl. *n*

Ob. *n*

B. Cl. *n* To Cl. Clarinet in B $\flat$ *mf*

Pno. *mp* gently 3 7 3

Vib. *mp* 3 5 Crotales Vib. To Mar. Marimba *ppp* *mp*

IIa ♩ = 44-50, lyrical

Vla. *p* *f*

Vc. *p* *mp*

Cb.

24

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Pno.

Mar.

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

f *mp* *f* *mf* *p* *mf* *mp* *p*

mp *p* *ppp* *f* *mp* *p* *3*

opt. 8va *ppp*

sul tasto *mp* *mp+* *p* *n*

33

IIb Moving forward very slightly ♩=(50) poco rit A tempo

Fl. *mf* *n* *pp*

Ob. *p* *mf* *n*

Cl. *mp* *mf* *n*

Pno. *pp*⁺ *mf* *p* *pp*³

Mar. *ppp* *n* *mp* *p* *ppp*

IIb Moving forward very slightly ♩=(50) poco rit A tempo

Vla. *p* ord. *pp*

Vc. *p* *mp* *mf* *n* *pp*

Cb. *p* *pp*

To Vib. Vibraphone

Moving forward again (♩=50) poco rit A tempo IIc

Fl. *mf* *p* *p*

Ob. *mf* *p*

Cl. *mf* *p*

Pno. *mf* *mp* *p*

Vib. *mp*

Vla. *mf* *f* *p*

Vc. *mf* *f* *p*

Cb. *p*

The musical score is for the third movement of 'The Carnival of the Animals' by Camille Saint-Saëns. It is a 12-measure piece, divided into two systems of six measures each. The tempo is marked 'poco rit' (a little slower) and the time signature is 4/4. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The score is for a full orchestra, including Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Piano (Pno.), Vibraphone (Vib.), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Contrabass (Cb.). The score is marked with 'IIIa' and a tempo of 88. The first system includes a 'poco rit' marking and a 'p' (piano) dynamic. The second system includes a 'poco rit' marking and a 'p' (piano) dynamic. The score is marked with 'IIIa' and a tempo of 88. The first system includes a 'poco rit' marking and a 'p' (piano) dynamic. The second system includes a 'poco rit' marking and a 'p' (piano) dynamic.

[illegible]

64

Fl.

mf

Ob.

mf

fp

f

Cl.

Bass Clarinet in B $\flat$

f

Pno.

mf

f

mp

Tom-t.

Crotales

Temple Blocks

To Vib.

p

mf

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

>

70

Fl. *mp* *mf cresc.*

Ob. *mp* *mf+ cresc.*

B. Cl. *mp* *mf cresc.*

Pno. *cresc.* *p* *mf* *Red.*

Vibraphone *mp* *p* *mf* *Red.*

Vla. *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *mp* *mf cresc.*

Vc. *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *mp* *mf* *cresc.*

Cb. *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *mp* *mf* *cresc.*

IIIb
♩ = 88

76

Fl.

Ob.

B. Cl.

Pno.

Vib.

IIIb
♩ = 88

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

This musical score page contains two systems of staves. The first system includes staves for Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Piano (Pno.), and Vibraphone (Vib.). The second system includes staves for Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Contrabass (Cb.). All staves begin with a 3/4 time signature and a key signature of one sharp (F#). At measure 76, the Flute, Oboe, and Bass Clarinet parts have a fermata and a forte (f) dynamic marking. The Piano part has a fermata and a forte (f) dynamic marking, while the right hand begins a melodic line with a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic marking. The Vibraphone part has a fermata. At measure 77, the time signature changes to 4/4. The Piano part continues its melodic line. The Viola, Violoncello, and Contrabass parts have a fermata and a forte (f) dynamic marking. The score concludes at measure 79 with a double bar line and repeat dots. A rehearsal mark 'IIIb' with a tempo marking of quarter note = 88 is placed above the first system, and another identical rehearsal mark is placed above the second system.

80

Fl. *mf*

Ob. *mf*

To Cl.

B. Cl. *mf*

Pno.

Temple Blocks

To Vib.

Vibraphone

To Mar.

Vla. pizz *mf*

Vc. pizz *mf*

Cb. pizz *mf*

pp

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for measures 80 through 84. Measures 80-82 are in 4/4 time, and measures 83-84 are in 3/4 time. The Flute, Oboe, and Bass Clarinet parts have a melodic line starting in measure 80 with a *mf* dynamic. The Piano part has a complex accompaniment. The Trombone part has a melodic line starting in measure 80 with a *mf* dynamic. The Viola, Violoncello, and Contrabass parts have a pizzicato accompaniment starting in measure 83 with a *mf* dynamic. The Vibraphone part has a melodic line starting in measure 83 with a *pp* dynamic. The score includes performance instructions: 'To Cl.' for the Bass Clarinet, 'To Vib.' for the Trombone, 'To Mar.' for the Vibraphone, and 'pizz' for the string parts.

85

Fl.

Ob.

B. Cl.

Pno.

Vib.

Marimba

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

mf

p

cresc. poco

...mp

f

ff

mf

p

cresc. poco

...mp

f

ff

mf

p

cresc. poco

...mp

f

ff

3

3

3

92

Fl.

Ob.

B. Cl.

Pno.

Mar.

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

f

ff

f

ff

f

ff

arco

arco

arco

The musical score for measures 92-94 features a variety of instruments. The woodwinds (Flute, Oboe, Bass Clarinet) are mostly silent, with rests. The Piano and Maracas provide harmonic support with complex rhythmic patterns. The Viola, Violoncello, and Contrabass have more active parts, with the Viola and Vc. marked *f* and *ff* in measure 92, and the Cb. marked *f* and *ff* in measure 93. The Viola, Vc., and Cb. parts also include the instruction 'arco' in measure 93. The time signature changes from 4/4 to 3/4 in measure 94.

95

Fl.

Ob.

B. Cl.

Pno.

Mar.

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Clarinet in B $\flat$

p

f

mf

p

f

fp

p

pizz

strum

etc

arco

8va

n

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for measures 95 through 98. Measures 95-97 are in 3/4 time, and measure 98 is in 2/4 time. The instruments and their parts are: Flute (Fl.) has rests in measures 95-97 and a melodic line in measure 98 starting on G4, marked *f*. Oboe (Ob.) has rests in measures 95-97 and a melodic line in measure 98 starting on G4, marked *f*. Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.) has rests in measures 95-97 and a melodic line in measure 98 starting on G2, marked *f*. Piano (Pno.) has a complex accompaniment in measures 95-97, marked *p*, and rests in measure 98. Maracas (Mar.) have a rhythmic pattern in measures 95-97, marked *p*, and a melodic line in measure 98, marked *mf*. Viola (Vla.) and Violoncello (Vc.) have a rhythmic pattern in measures 95-97, marked *p*, and a melodic line in measure 98, marked *f*. Contrabass (Cb.) has a rhythmic pattern in measures 95-97, marked *p*, and a melodic line in measure 98, marked *p*. The score includes various articulations: *pizz* (pizzicato) for the strings, *strum* for the maracas, *etc* (etcetera) for the strings, and *arco* (arco) for the strings. The score also includes a *8va* (octave) marking for the contrabass in measure 98 and a *n* (natural) marking for the viola in measure 98.

99

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Pno.

Mar.

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

mf

f

sfz

sfz

sfz

mf

p

mf

mf

p

pizz

sfz

mf

mp

mf

sfz

sfz

sfz

mf

mf

sfz

mf

[illegible]

IVa $\text{♩} = 100$

114

Fl. *f*

Ob. *mf* *f* *mp*

Cl. *mp* *f* *mp*

Pno. *f*

Mar. Marimba *ff* To Vib. Vibraphone *f* To Mar.

IVb

IVa $\text{♩} = 100$

Vla. *ff* *arco* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

Vc. *pizz* *ff* *arco* *mp* *f*

Cb. *pizz* *ff*

117

Fl. *mp* *f* **IVc**

Ob. *mp* *f*

Cl. *mp* *f*

Pno. *p* *f*

Vib.

Vla. *fp* *fmp* *fmp* *poco* **IVc** *fp*

Vc. *fp* *fmp* *fmp* *poco* *fp*

Cb. *arco* *fmp*

120

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Pno.

Vib.

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

mp

mf

f

mf cresc.

mp

cresc poco a poco ...

gliss.

gliss.

gliss.

24

[illegible]

CURRICULUM VITAE

████████████████████

[REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]
