

**“Everything was asleep as if the universe was a  
vast mistake”**

– FERNANDO PESSOA quote

for orchestra  
**Judith Ring**  
**2022**

written for the National Symphony Orchestra of Ireland as part of the Contemporary  
Music Centre’s composer lab.

# Instrumentation

1 Piccolo  
2 Flutes  
2 Oboes  
2 Clarinets  
2 Bassoons

4 Horns in F  
3 Trumpets in C  
2 Trombones  
Bass Trombone  
Tuba

Timpani

Percussion 1:  
Bass drum  
2 Toms (low+medium)  
Suspended Cymbal

Percussion 2:  
Vibraphone  
Crotales + bow (upper octave)  
Snare drum  
Suspended Cymbal

Violin I (last section divisi)  
Violin II (last section divisi)  
Viola  
Cello  
Double Bass

everything was asleep as if the universe was a vast mistake

for Orchestra

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(♩ = 120)

The score is for a full orchestra in 4/4 time, with a tempo of 120 beats per minute. The instruments and their parts are as follows:

- Piccolo:** Rests throughout.
- Flute 1 & 2:** Play a melodic line starting at measure 4, marked *p* and *mp*. Flute 1 has a trill in measure 8.
- Oboe 1 & 2:** Play a melodic line starting at measure 4, marked *p* and *mp*. Oboe 1 has trills in measures 4, 8, and 12. Oboe 2 has trills in measures 8 and 12.
- 2 Clarinets in B♭:** Rests throughout.
- 2 Bassoons:** Play a rhythmic pattern starting at measure 4, marked *p* and *mf*. First fingerings are indicated.
- 4 Horns in F:** Rests throughout.
- 3 Trumpets in C:** Rests throughout.
- 2 Trombones & Bass Trombone:** Rests throughout.
- Tuba:** Rests throughout.
- Timpani:** Play a rhythmic pattern starting at measure 4, marked *p*.
- Percussion 1:** Bass Drum, 2 Toms, Sus. Cymbal. Bass Drum part marked *p*.
- Percussion 2:** Snare Drum, Sus. Cymbal. Snare Drum part marked *p*.
- Vibraphone & Crotales:** Rests throughout.
- Violin 1 & 2:** Play a melodic line starting at measure 4, marked *pp* and *cresc.* with *sul pont.* instruction.
- Viola:** Play a melodic line starting at measure 4, marked *pp* and *cresc.* with *sul pont.* instruction.
- Cello & Double Bass:** Play a melodic line starting at measure 4, marked *pp* and *cresc.* with *sul pont.* instruction.

13

Picc.

Fl. 1

Fl.

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

2 B♭ Cl.

2 Bsn.

mf

mf

1 2 3 4

4 Hn

mf

mp

1 2 3

3 C Tpt.

2 Tbn.

mf

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Timp.

mp

mf

f

p

Perc. 1

mp

mf

f

p

Perc. 2

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Wide vibrato of varying intervals and speeds sul pont.

pp normale

p normale

p normale

p normale

ff

p

A

26

Musical score for orchestra and strings, measures 26-31. The score includes parts for Piccolo, Flute 1, Flute 2, Oboe 1, Oboe 2, 2 Bass Clarinets, 2 Bassoons, 1 and 2 Horns, 3 Trumpets, 2 Trombones, Bass Trombone, Tuba, Timpani, Percussion 1 and 2, Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass. The score features various dynamics such as *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *mp* (mezzo-piano), and includes performance markings like *normale*. The woodwinds and strings play rhythmic patterns, while the brass instruments provide harmonic support.

32

Picc.  
Fl. 1  
Fl.  
Ob. 1  
Ob. 2  
2 B♭ Cl.  
2 Bsn.  
1  
2  
4 Hrn.  
3  
4  
3 C Tpt.  
1  
2  
3  
2 Tbn.  
B. Tbn.  
Tuba  
Timp.  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2  
Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vc.  
D.B.

Detailed description: This page of a musical score covers measures 32 through 36. The instrumentation includes Piccolo, Flute 1, Flute, Oboe 1, Oboe 2, 2 Bass Clarinets, 2 Bassoons, 4 Horns (1 and 2 parts), 3 Trumpets in C, 2 Tenors, Baritone, and Tuba, Timpani, two Percussion parts, Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass. The score is written in a common time signature. Measures 32-33 show woodwinds and strings with various rhythmic patterns and articulations. Measures 34-35 feature a prominent woodwind melody with sustained notes and a complex string accompaniment. Measure 36 concludes with a final chordal structure across the ensemble.

**B**

37

Picc.

Fl. 1

Fl.

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

2 B♭ Cl.

2 Bsn.

1 2

4 Hn

3 4

1 2

3 C Tpt.

3

2 Tbn.

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Timp.

Perc. 1

Bass Drum

Perc. 2

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

*ff*

*mf*

*f*

C

45

Musical score for section C, measures 45-51. The score includes staves for Piccolo, Flutes 1 and 2, Oboes 1 and 2, Clarinets, Bassoons, Horns, Trumpets, Trombones, Tuba, Timpani, Percussion 1 and 2, Violins 1 and 2, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass. Dynamics include *f*, *mp*, *p*, and *mf*.



52

Picc.

Fl. 1

Fl.

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

2 B $\flat$  Cl.

2 Bsn.

1  
2

4 Hn

3  
4

1  
2

3 C Tpt.

3

2 Tbn.

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

*mp*

*mf*

*f*

D

59

Picc. -

Fl. 1 - *f*

Fl. -

Ob. 1 *f*

Ob. 2 -

2 B♭ Cl. *f*

2 Bsn. *f*

1 2 4 Hn 3 4 *f*

1 2 3 C Tpt. *f*

2 Tbn. *f*

B. Tbn. -

Tuba -

Timp. -

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Vln. 1 *ff*

Vln. 2 *ff*

Vla. *ff*

Vc. *ff*

D.B. *ff*

The score for measures 59-64 features a dense orchestral texture. Measures 59-62 show woodwinds and strings playing rhythmic patterns. Measures 63-64 are dominated by a powerful, sustained chord marked with a large 'D' in a box. Dynamics include fortissimo (*f*) and fortississimo (*ff*).

66

This musical score page contains measures 66 through 70. The instruments and parts are as follows:

- Picc.**: Piccolo flute, rests throughout.
- Fl. 1** and **Fl.**: Flute 1 and Flute, both playing a rapid sixteenth-note pattern starting in measure 67, marked *ff*.
- Ob. 1** and **Ob. 2**: Oboe 1 and Oboe 2, both playing a rapid sixteenth-note pattern starting in measure 67, marked *ff*.
- 2 B♭ Cl.** and **2 Bsn.**: Clarinet in B♭ and Bassoon, both playing a rapid sixteenth-note pattern starting in measure 67, marked *ff*.
- 4 Hn.**: Four Horns, playing sustained notes in measures 67-69, with a change in dynamics in measure 70.
- 3 C Tpt.**: Three Trumpets in C, playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes starting in measure 66.
- 2 Tbn.** and **B. Tbn.**: Tenor Trombone and Baritone Trombone, playing a simple melodic line starting in measure 67.
- Tuba**: Tuba, rests throughout.
- Timp.**: Timpani, rests throughout.
- Perc. 1** and **Perc. 2**: Two Percussion parts, playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes starting in measure 66.
- Vln. 1** and **Vln. 2**: Violin 1 and Violin 2, playing a rapid sixteenth-note pattern starting in measure 66, with a *ff* dynamic marking in measure 70.
- Vla.**: Viola, playing a rapid sixteenth-note pattern starting in measure 66.
- Vc.**: Violoncello, playing a rapid sixteenth-note pattern starting in measure 66.
- D.B.**: Double Bass, playing a simple melodic line starting in measure 66.

E

72

Picc.

Fl. 1

Fl.

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

2 B♭ Cl.

2 Bsn.

1  
2  
4 Hn

3  
4

1  
2  
3 C Tpt.

2 Tbn.

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

*tr*

*f*

*f*

*f*

79

Picc.

Fl. 1

Fl.

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

2 B♭ Cl.

2 Bsn.

1

2

4 Hn

3

4

1

2

3 C Tpt.

3

2 Tbn.

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

*ff*

*f*

Snare Drum (with snare)

(rim)

F

85

Picc.

Fl. 1

Fl.

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

2 B♭ Cl.

2 Bsn.

1  
2  
4 Hn

3  
4

1  
2  
3 C Tpt.

2 Tbn.

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

*mf*

*mf*

*p*

*to wire brushes*

91 rit.

**Pic.**

**Fl. 1** *mp*

**Fl.** *mp* bend note up and down normale

**Ob. 1** *mp* bend note up and down normale

**Ob. 2** *mp* bend note up and down normale

**2 B♭ Cl.** 1.

**2 Bsn.** 2 bsn.'s independently bend note up and down

**4 Hn.** 1 2 3 4 *mp*

**3 C Tpt.** 1 2 3

**2 Tbn.**

**B. Tbn.**

**Tuba**

**Temp.**

**Perc. 1** Sus. Cymbal Scrape surface with end of a beater ad lib. TOMS

**Perc. 2** (S.D) wire brush circular swishes alternating hands Sus. Cymbal Scrape surface with end of a beater ad lib.

**Vln. 1** *mf* Solo short downward glisses (sul E) ad lib.

**Vln. 2** *mf* Solo downward glisses (sul A) ad lib.

**Vla.** *mf*

**Vc.** *mf* Solo seagull glisses ad lib.

**D.B.** *mf*

G

(♩ = 140) fiercely energetic

110

This page contains the musical score for measures 110 through 115. The score is for a full orchestra and percussion. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The tempo is marked as 110 (♩ = 140) and the character is "fiercely energetic".

**Instrumentation and Dynamics:**

- Picc.**: Piccolo, starts in measure 110 with *mf*.
- Fl. 1, Fl.**: Flutes, start in measure 110 with *mf*.
- Ob. 1, Ob. 2**: Oboes, start in measure 110 with *mf*.
- 2 B♭ Cl.**: Clarinets in B-flat, are silent.
- 2 Bsn.**: Bassoons, play a rhythmic pattern starting in measure 110 with *mp*, increasing to *mf* in measure 115.
- 1, 2, 3, 4 Hn.**: Horns, are silent.
- 1, 2, 3 C Tpt.**: Trumpets in C, are silent.
- 2 Tbn., B. Tbn., Tuba**: Trombones, are silent.
- Timp.**: Timpani, are silent.
- Perc. 1**: Percussion 1, plays TOMS (Low and mid) with *p* in measure 110, then *(rim) cresc.* in measure 115.
- Perc. 2**: Percussion 2, is silent.
- Vln. 1, Vln. 2**: Violins, start in measure 110 with *mf*.
- Vla.**: Viola, starts in measure 110 with *(tutti)* and *cresc.* in measure 115.
- Vc.**: Violoncello, starts in measure 110 with *(tutti)* and *cresc.* in measure 115.
- D.B.**: Double Bass, starts in measure 110 with *mp* and *cresc.* in measure 115.



117

Picc. *f* *ff*

Fl. 1 *f* *ff*

Fl. 2 *f* *ff*

Ob. 1 *f* *ff*

Ob. 2 *f* *ff*

2 Bs. Cl. *f* *ff*

2 Bsn. *f* *ff* (1.) 2.

1 2 3 4 4 Hn. *f*

1 2 3 3 C Tpt. *mp*

2 Tbn. *f* 1. 2. *f*

B. Tbn. *f*

Tuba *f*

Timp. *f*

Perc. 1 *f*

Perc. 2

Vln. 1 *f* *ff*

Vln. 2 *f* *ff*

Vla. *f* *ff*

Vc. *f* *ff*

D.B. *f* *ff*

124

Picc.

Fl. 1

Fl.

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

2 B♭ Cl.

2 Bsn.

1  
2

4 Hn

3  
4

1  
2

3 C Tpt.

3

2 Tbn.

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

*f*

*ff*

Bass Drum

131 **H**

Picc. *ff*

Fl. 1 *ff*

Fl. 2 *ff*

Ob. 1 *ff*

Ob. 2 *ff*

2 B♭ Cl. *ff*

2 Bsn. *ff*

1 2 3 4

4 Hn. *f*

1 2 3

3 C Tpt. *f*

2 Tbn. *f*

B. Tbn. *f*

Tuba *f*

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Vln. 1 *tutti*

Vln. 2 *tutti*

Vla. *tutti*

Vc. *tutti*

D.B. *tutti*

I

138

This page contains a musical score for measures 138 through 142. The instruments listed on the left are Piccolo (Picc.), Flute 1 (Fl. 1), Flute 2 (Fl.), Oboe 1 (Ob. 1), Oboe 2 (Ob. 2), Bass Clarinet (2 B♭ Cl.), Bassoon (2 Bsn.), Horns (4 Hn.), Trumpets (3 C Tpt.), Trombones (2 Tbn., B. Tbn., Tuba), Timpani (Timp.), Percussion 1 (Perc. 1), Percussion 2 (Perc. 2), Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Double Bass (D.B.). The score features various dynamics such as *ff* (fortissimo) and *f* (forte), and includes articulation like accents and slurs. The woodwinds and strings play melodic lines, while the percussion provides a rhythmic accompaniment.

144 J

Picc.

Fl. 1

Fl.

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

2 B♭ Cl.

2 Bsn.

1  
2

4 Hn

3  
4

1  
2

3 C Tpt.

3

1.

2 Tbn.

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

*f*

K

151

This page of a musical score contains measures 151 through 158. The instruments listed on the left are Piccolo, Flute 1 and 2, Oboe 1 and 2, Clarinet in Bb and Bassoon, Horns 1-4, Trumpets 1-3, Trombones 1-3 and Tuba, Timpani, Percussion 1 and 2, Violin 1 and 2, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass. The score features complex rhythmic patterns, including sixteenth-note runs in the woodwinds and strings, and triplet figures. Dynamic markings include *f*, *mf*, and *ff*. Performance instructions such as *bend* and *1.* are present. A boxed letter 'K' is located at the top right of the page.

159 *ritardando*

Pic.

Fl. 1

Fl.

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

2 B♭ Cl.

2 Bsn.

1  
2

4 Hn  
3  
4

1  
2

3 C Tpt.  
3

2 Tbn.

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Vibraphone  
Crotales

**L**

Andante (♩ = 52) poignantly beautiful

Violins 1&2 divisi on the next page!

170

Picc.

Fl. 1

Fl.

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

2 B♭ Cl.

2 Bsn.

1  
2

4 Hn

3  
4

1  
2

3 C Tpt.

3

2 Tbn.

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Timp.

Perc. 1

vibes (l.v.)

(vibes) (crotales)

Perc. 2

mf

Crotales (l.v.)

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Ve.

D.B.

to divisi violins 1

to divisi violins 2



M

184

Picc.

Fl. 1

Fl.

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

2 Bb Cl.

2 Bsn.

1  
2  
4 Hn

3  
4

1  
2  
3 C Tpt.

3

2 Tbn.

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Temp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

*Superball beater gliss. on smallest timp.*

*(vibes)*

*pick up bow*

*Crotales bowed (lv.)*

*sul pont.*

*(aliss)*

*Mute strings with L.H. fingers. Breathe bowing on the C string molto sul pont.*

*(accent the change of each bow)*

*p*

*pp*

193 ritardando

Picc.  
Fl. 1  
Fl.  
Ob. 1  
Ob. 2  
2 B♭ Cl.  
2 Bsn.

1  
2  
4 Hn  
3  
4  
1  
2  
3 C Tpt.  
3  
2 Tbn.  
B. Tbn.  
Tuba

Timp.  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2

Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vc.  
D.B.