

RYAN HOWARD

RUHE

(2005 / REV. 2008)

VIOLA, PERCUSSION

Composer's note

Ruhe unfolds as a series of subtly differentiated musical regions, articulated both by the viola's shifting harmonies and by the long, circuitous line traced by the percussion from its lowest to highest sounds. The work periodically makes oblique reference to a seven-note phrase from the fourth of Anton Webern's *Fünf Sätze* for string quartet, Op. 5, first presented in a somewhat recognizable manner, and gradually made more indistinct as it is "digested" into the fabric of the music.

I think of this work as being, in part, about the transformation of musical affect, from the expressionism of Webern's original to something far more contemplative, even serene, in character.

Performance notes

Viola: Vibrato should be used sparingly. Special attention should be paid to all dynamic markings even within sections of limited dynamic range, in order to emphasize the "arch" character of individual phrases.

Percussion: The almglocken tremoli may be rather slow (approximating sixteenth-note quintuplets or sextuplets) in order to bring out the fundamental pitches as clearly as possible. When bowing the D almglock (mm. 77-93), enough bow pressure should be used so that the fundamental pitch is sounded.

Percussion



Large temple block
Large suspended cymbal
Wind gong
Medium tam-tam

All instruments except crotale and tam-tam should be played with yarn mallets.

for Anna Pelczer

RUHE

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♩ = 46-50 *Gently*

Vla. *con sord.*

Perc. *tam-tam*

ppp *sempre*

6

mp *mf* *mp*

11

pp *pp* *mp* *mf*

16

Musical score for measures 16-20. The upper staff features a complex melodic line with triplets and slurs. The lower staff provides a simple harmonic accompaniment. Dynamics include *pp* and *mp*.

21

Musical score for measures 21-25. The upper staff continues with intricate melodic patterns, including triplets and slurs. The lower staff maintains the accompaniment. Dynamics include *pp* and *mp*.

26

Musical score for measures 26-30. The upper staff shows further melodic development with triplets and slurs. The lower staff continues the accompaniment. Dynamics include *pp*.

31

mp *pp* *mp* *pp*

36

(pp) sempre *3* *3* *3* *3*

susp. cymb.
(l.v. sempre)

ppp sempre

41

3 *3* *3* *3* *3* *3*

(pp) sempre

46

Musical score for measures 46-51. The bass clef staff features a melodic line with triplets and slurs. The piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and a rhythmic pattern in the left hand.

52

senza sord.
poco sul pont.

pp *mp*

almglocke

ppp *mp* sempre

Musical score for measures 52-57. The bass clef staff continues with triplets and slurs. The piano accompaniment includes the instruction "almglocke" and dynamic markings "ppp" and "mp sempre". The text "senza sord. poco sul pont." is written above the staff.

58

mf *mp* *mf* *mp* *mp*

Musical score for measures 58-63. The bass clef staff continues with triplets and slurs. The piano accompaniment features dynamic markings "mf" and "mp".

64

mp *mf* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp*

70

>pp *ppp* *ppp* *cresc. poco a poco*

ord.

77

mp *cresc.* *f* *sempre*

almglocke (bowed)

wind gong

pp *ppp* *cresc. poco* *mp* *p* *mp*

82 *senza vibr.*

mf sempre

87

p *p* *f* sempre

mp *mp* *f* sempre

92

p *pp* sempre

p

97

3 3 3 3

p cresc. poco a poco

102

mf 3 3 3 3 *f*

107

p *mf* *pp* sub. *mf* *pp* *pp* *mf* *pp*

112

3 *mp* *pp* *pp*

almglocke *pp*

tam-tam *pp* *pp* sempre

117

mp *pp* *mp* *pp*

mp sempre

123

mp *pp* *mp* *pp* *mf*

128

f *mp* *pp*

134

cresc. poco *mf* *p* detaché

sul tasto senza vibr.

mf sempre

susp. cymb.

ppp

139

mf sempre *pp*

dim.

dim.

145

pp sempre

p

temple block

(susp. cymb.)

ppp sempre

151

poco sul pont.

157

pp sempre

163

Musical score for measures 163-168. The system consists of three staves: a single treble clef staff at the top, and a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) below. The treble staff contains a melodic line with several triplet markings (indicated by a '3' above a bracket) and slurs. The grand staff contains a complex accompaniment with many beamed sixteenth notes and slurs.

169

pp sempre

Musical score for measures 169-173. The system consists of three staves: a single treble clef staff at the top, and a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) below. The treble staff contains a melodic line with several triplet markings (indicated by a '3' above a bracket) and slurs. The grand staff contains a complex accompaniment with many beamed sixteenth notes and slurs. The dynamic marking *pp* sempre is written in the middle of the system.

174

Musical score for measures 174-178. The system consists of three staves: a single treble clef staff at the top, and a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) below. The treble staff contains a melodic line with several triplet markings (indicated by a '3' above a bracket) and slurs. The grand staff contains a complex accompaniment with many beamed sixteenth notes and slurs.

180

3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

ppp

(ord) *pp* sempre

186

gong

tam-tam

ppp sempre

pp sempre

194

sul tasto

(*pp*)

susp. cymb.

pp

200

almglocke *p*

ppp sempre

tam-tam *pp* sempre

gong

206

almglocke *p*

pp

susp. cymb.

sul tasto

212

ppp

almglocke *ppp* *pp* *p* *pp* *p* *pp*

wind gong

sempre sim.

pppp (quasi niente)

218

Musical score for measures 218-222. The right hand features a melodic line with slurs and accents. The left hand has a steady eighth-note triplet accompaniment. The bottom staff shows a simple drum pattern with quarter notes and rests.

223

sul tasto

pp sempre³

crotale

ppp

pp sempre

susp. cymb.

ppp sempre

Musical score for measures 223-228. Measure 223 starts with "sul tasto" and "*pp* sempre³". Measure 224 has "crotale" and "*ppp*". Measure 225 has "susp. cymb." and "*ppp* sempre". Measure 226 has "crotale" and "*pp* sempre". The right hand has melodic lines with slurs and accents. The left hand has a steady eighth-note triplet accompaniment. The bottom staff shows a drum pattern with "susp. cymb." and "*ppp* sempre" markings.

229

ppp

pp

Musical score for measures 229-233. The right hand has melodic lines with slurs and accents. The left hand has a steady eighth-note triplet accompaniment. The bottom staff shows a drum pattern with "*ppp*" and "*pp*" markings.

235

The image shows a musical score for two staves, measures 235 through 240. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The music is written in a common time signature. The top staff features a melodic line with various note values, including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, and rests. The bottom staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line at the end of measure 240.

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