

"Aphelion"

FOR STRING QUARTET

MUSIC BY CHAD LANGFORD

APHELION describes the point at which an orbiting body is furthest from the sun. The work is intended as a companion piece to my earlier string quartet, *Orbit* (2011).

In concert the two pieces may be performed together as a set, in which case *Orbit* should be played first.

DURATION: 6 minutes.

for Billie.

"Aphelion"

Chad Langford

The musical score is divided into three systems, each with four staves: Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Cello. The first system (measures 1-4) is in 4/4 time with a tempo of quarter note = 63. It features a *pp* dynamic for the violins and a *mp* dynamic for the Viola and Cello. The second system (measures 5-8) has a tempo of quarter note = 50. The third system (measures 9-12) returns to a tempo of quarter note = 63. The score includes various musical notations such as triplets, slurs, and dynamic markings like *pp*, *p*, *mp*, *mf*, *pizz.*, and *arco*.

12

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.

pp

This system contains measures 12, 13, and 14. It features four staves: Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Violoncello. The music is in a key with one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. Measure 12 starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The first violin part has a triplet of eighth notes. The second violin part has a quarter note followed by a quarter rest. The viola part has a quarter note followed by a quarter rest. The cello part has a quarter note followed by a quarter rest. Measure 13 continues the patterns. Measure 14 has a dynamic marking of *pp* (pianissimo) and a crescendo hairpin. There are also accents and slurs throughout the system.

15

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.

p *pp* *mp* *pp* *p* *p* *mp* *pp*

This system contains measures 15, 16, and 17. The first violin part has a dynamic marking of *p* (piano) and a crescendo hairpin, followed by *pp* (pianissimo). The second violin part has a dynamic marking of *p* and a crescendo hairpin, followed by *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *pp*. The viola part has a dynamic marking of *mp* and a crescendo hairpin, followed by *p*. The cello part has a dynamic marking of *p* and a crescendo hairpin, followed by *mp* and *pp*. There are also accents and slurs throughout the system.

18

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.

f *pp* *f* *pp* *mf* *p* *p* *p*

pizz. *arco* *pizz.* *arco*

This system contains measures 18, 19, and 20. The first violin part has a dynamic marking of *f* (forte) and a crescendo hairpin, followed by *pp*. The second violin part has a dynamic marking of *f* and a crescendo hairpin, followed by *pp*. The viola part has a dynamic marking of *mf* (mezzo-forte) and a crescendo hairpin, followed by *p*. The cello part has a dynamic marking of *p* and a crescendo hairpin, followed by *p*. There are also accents and slurs throughout the system. The first violin part has a *pizz.* (pizzicato) marking in measure 18 and an *arco* (arco) marking in measure 19. The second violin part has a *pizz.* marking in measure 18 and an *arco* marking in measure 19.

"Aphelion"

rall. ----- ♩ = 42

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.

♩ = 63

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.

rall. -----

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.

$\text{♩} = 63$

44

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

pp

mf

pp

p

mp

p

poco

poco

8^{va}

47

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

p

f

ppp

mf

ppp

mp

pp

f

ppp

p

ppp

p

pp

sempre

pp

sempre

mf

ppp

mf

ppp

p

ppp

8^{va}

51

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

f

ppp

f

ppp

mf

ppp

p

ppp

mf

ppp

mf

ppp

mf

ppp

f

ppp

f

ppp

mf

ppp

8^{va}

(8va)

8va

55

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

f *ppp* *mf* *ppp* *mf* *ppp* *f* *ppp*

f *ppp* *f* *ppp* *mf* *ppp*

(8va)

58

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

mf *ppp* *mf* *ppp* *p* *f* *ppp* *mf* *ppp*

f *ppp* *f* *ppp* *mf* *ppp*

61

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

f *ppp* *mf* *ppp*

f *ppp* *mf* *ppp*

63

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

f *p*

p *ppp* *p* *f* *ppp* *mf*

f *mf* *pp* *p*

f *p*

rit. ----- ♩ = 50

65

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

f *ppp*

f *ppp*

mf *p* *mp* *p* *poco* *p*

mf *p* *poco* *p*

rit. ----- ♩ = 42

69

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

pp *p*

pp *p*

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

mf *p* *mp* *p*

10 *"Aphelion"*

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.

73 74 75 76

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.

77 78 79 80