

Curved Form (No. 10)
for Large Orchestra

Alex Groves

for Patrick

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Instrumentation

Piccolo
2 Flutes
2 Oboes
Cor Anglais
2 Clarinets in Bb
Bass Clarinet in Bb
2 Bassoons
Contrabassoon

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

Timpani

Percussion (3 players: Bass Drum,
Tam-tam and Crotales)

Harp

Piano

Strings

Duration

3 minutes

Notes

Curved Form (No. 10) is a slow motion wall of noise. Starting in the depths of the orchestra, waves of sound are gradually layered up creating a constant ebb and flow. As the music rises higher and higher, the waves get progressively shorter until the whole orchestra comes into alignment creating a sudden apex in the piece. From that point on, the piece retraces its steps and slowly returns to the low C with which it started.

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Meditative, with a constant ebb and flow (c. $\text{♩} = 60$)

Woodwinds: Piccolo, Flutes 1 & 2, Oboes 1 & 2, Cor Anglais, Clarinets 1 & 2 in Bb, Bass Clarinet in Bb, Bassoon 1 & 2, Contrabassoon.

Brass: Horns 1 & 3 in F, Horns 2 & 4 in F, Trumpets 1 & 2 in Bb, Trumpet 3 in Bb, Trombones 1 & 2, Bass Trombone, Tuba.

Percussion: Timpani, Bass Drum, Tam-tam, Crotales.

Other Instruments: Harp, Piano, Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, Double Bass.

Performance Instructions: *ppp*, *p*, *mp*, *mf*, *f*, *una corda*, *sui pont*, *transition from air sound to note and back again*, *unpitched, air sound*, *centro*.

A

Fl. 1
Ob. 1
Cl. 1
Cl. 2
B. Cl.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Cbn.
Hr. 1 & 2
Hr. 3 & 4
Tpt. 1 & 2
Tpt. 3
Tbn. 1 & 2
B. Tbn.
Tbn.
Timp.
B. Dr.
Tl.
Hr.
Pno.
Dbl. Bass

Annotations:
- Fl. 1: *fff*
- Ob. 1: *fff*
- Cl. 1: transition from air sound to note and back again, *p*
- Cl. 2: transition from air sound to note and back again, *p*
- B. Cl.: *p*
- Bsn. 1: *p*, *fff*, *mp*, *fff*
- Bsn. 2: *fff*, *mp*, *fff*, *p*, *fff*
- Cbn.: *fff*, *p*, *fff*
- Hr. 1 & 2: *mf*
- Hr. 3 & 4: *mf*
- Tpt. 1 & 2: unpitched, air sound, *mf*
- Tpt. 3: unpitched, air sound, *mf*
- Tbn. 1 & 2: *fff*, *p*, *fff*
- B. Tbn.: *fff*, *mp*
- Tbn.: *fff*, *p*, *fff*, *fff*
- Pno.: *fff*, *p*, *fff*
- Pno. (left hand): *Da*

A

Vn. I
Vn. II
Va.
Vc.
Cb.
Db.

Annotations:
- Vn. I: *mf*, *nat.*
- Vn. II: *mf*, *nat.*
- Va.: *mf*
- Vc.: *p*
- Cb.: *mf*
- Db.: *mf*

D

Musical score for woodwinds, brass, and percussion. The score includes parts for Piccolo (Pic.), Flute I (Fl. I.), Flute II (Fl. II.), Oboe I & II (Ob. I & II), Clarinet in A (C. A.), Clarinet in Bb (Cl. Bb), Bassoon (Bsn.), Contrabassoon (Cbass.), Horn I (Hn. I.), Horn II (Hn. II.), Horn III (Hn. III), Horn IV (Hn. IV), Trumpet I & II (Tpt. I & II), Trumpet III (Tpt. III), Trombone I & II (Tbn. I & II), Trombone III (Tbn. III), Tuba (Tuba), and Timpani (Timp.). The score features complex rhythmic patterns, including sixteenth-note runs and triplets, with dynamic markings such as *pp*, *f*, and *ff*. The woodwinds play sustained notes with various articulations, while the brass and percussion provide a rhythmic foundation.

D

Musical score for strings, including Violin I (Vn. I.), Violin II (Vn. II.), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vcl.), and Double Bass (Cb.). The score features sustained notes with dynamic markings such as *pp*, *f*, and *ff*. The strings play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, with some parts including accents and slurs. The score is marked with *mf* and *ff* dynamics. The section includes performance instructions such as "sul pont." and "nat.".

E

This section of the score covers measures 26 through 30. It includes staves for Piccolo (Pic.), Flute 1 (Fl. 1), Flute 2 (Fl. 2), Oboe 1 (Ob. 1), Oboe 2 (Ob. 2), Clarinet in A (C. A.), Clarinet in Bb (C. Bb), Bassoon (B. Bb), Bassoon 1 & 2 (Bbn. 1 & 2), Contrabassoon (Cbass.), Horn 1 (Hn. 1), Horn 2 (Hn. 2), Horn 3 (Hn. 3), Horn 4 (Hn. 4), Trumpet 1 (Tpt. 1), Trumpet 2 (Tpt. 2), Trumpet 3 (Tpt. 3), Trombone 1 & 2 (Tbn. 1 & 2), Trombone 3 (Tbn. 3), Tuba (Tba.), and Cymbals (Cym.). The woodwinds and strings play sustained notes with various dynamics such as *pp*, *f*, *mp*, *ppp*, and *p*. The Piccolo and Flutes have melodic lines with slurs and dynamic markings. The Oboes and Clarinets play rhythmic patterns. The Bassoons and Horns play sustained notes. The Trumpets and Trombones play sustained notes with dynamic markings. The Tuba and Cymbals play sustained notes.

E

This section of the score covers measures 26 through 30 for the string section. It includes staves for Violin 1 (Vn. 1), Violin 2 (Vn. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Double Bass (Cb.). The strings play sustained notes with various dynamics such as *f*, *mp*, *f*, and *f*. The Violins and Violas have melodic lines with slurs and dynamic markings. The Violoncello and Double Bass play sustained notes. The score includes performance instructions such as *nat.* (natural) and *sul pont. nat.* (sul ponticello natural).

