

Sympathetic Resonance

for orchestra

2015

Christian Mason

Sympathetic Resonance was commissioned by Radio France for broadcast on “Alla Breve”. It was first recorded on June 19th 2015 by the Orchestre National de France conducted by Maxime Tortelier.

Movements

I pp. 1 - 5

II pp. 6 - 10

III pp. 11 - 15

IV pp. 16 - 20

V pp. 21 - 25

N.B. In performance there should be no pause between movements.

Orchestration

4 Flutes (2nd doubling Alto Flute, 3rd and 4th doubling Piccolo)

4 Oboes

4 Clarinets in Bb (3rd doubling Clarinet in Eb, 4th doubling Bass Clarinet)

3 Bassoons

1 Contrabassoon

4 Horns

4 Trumpets in C (1st doubling Piccolo Trumpet in Bb) [+ mutes: straight, cup]

4 Trombones [+ mutes: harmon, cup, plunger]

1 Tuba

Timpani

3 Percussion:

(1) 4 Triangles (varied sizes small to large), Glockenspiel, 3 Tam-tams (small, medium, large)

(2) Vibraphone, Tubular Bells (low G, A, B, C only), 3 Suspended Cymbals, large Bass Drum

(3) Crotales, 7 tuned Thai Gongs (lowest octave: E, F, G, A, B, C), large Bass Drum

Harp

Piano (with lid off)

Violin I (8 desks)

Violin II (7 desks)

Viola (6 desks)

Cello (5 desks)

Contrabass (4 desks)

Score in C with the usual octave transpositions

Duration: 10 minutes (each movement lasts 2 minutes)

Orchestral Layout

- The piano (with lid removed) should be positioned in front of the strings (as in a concerto, though the piano part is not soloistic).
- Trumpet 1 and Trombone 1 should be position just behind the piano, allowing them to play into it and cause the sympathetic resonance of the piano strings.

Performance Notes

General:

- **Piano as resonator:** As described above, the piano primarily acts as a resonator for the trumpet and trombone soloists.
- **Dynamics:** in cases where no dynamic is indicated at the end of a diminuendo hairpin the player should return to the original dynamic, e.g. *pp <f>* means *pp <f> pp*
- There are **quasi-soloistic roles** in the piece for: Piccolo 2 (b. 165 to the end), Horns 1 and 3 (bb. 18 - 77), Trumpet 1 (throughout), Trombone 1 (throughout)
- **Repeat boxes:** material notated within a box is to be repeated with individual instruments in their own tempo unsynchronised with others who share the material. In some cases it is indicated that the individual tempi should fluctuate (accel./rall.) in other cases the tempi should remain fixed throughout the repetitions.
- **Glissandi** should always be continuous across the notated duration
- **Accents on tied notes** = emphasis without attack

Woodwind:

- B.T. (in flute parts) = breath tone, for an airy sound but still clearly pitched.
- W.T. (in flute parts) = whistle tones ad lib. above notated fundamental (diamond note-head)
- Overblowing (in flute parts) should emerge and fade naturally from the notated cresc./dim.
- **lip bend (quasi molto vib.)** should follow the notated rhythm but the depth of the pitch bend does not have to be precisely a 1/4 tone.

Brass:

- **Natural Horns:** for much of the piece the horns are required to play natural harmonics without adjusting the tuning. In the score these are notated to the nearest 1/4 tone (rather than with a precise indication of cents) according to the following harmonic series:

Other instruments are sometimes required to match the horn intonation when shadowing the horn melodies.

- **Harmon and Plunger mutes:** transition between open (o) and closed (+) positions should always be gradual and continuous

Strings:

- **Metal practice mutes** are required for all violins (starting at b.66).
- **Natural Harmonics** are notated to the nearest 1/4 tone according following the same principle as the horn harmonic series above. They are often used melodically, but it is understood that there is an inherent instability as the harmonics get higher. A natural blurring of the unison is expected in passages that use partials 6 - 12.
- Contrabass sounds an octave lower than written at all times (including harmonics)

In memory of Bob Gilmore

In Memory of Bob Gilmore
SYMPATHETIC RESONANCE

I

Christian Mason

A Always Serene, Calm, Contemplative $\text{♩} = 40$

4 FLUTES

4 OBOES

4 CLARINETS

4 BASSOONS

4 HORNS

TRUMPET 1

3 TRUMPETS (2, 3, 4)

TROMBONE 1

3 TROMBONES (2, 3, 4)

TUBA

TIMPANI

PERCUSSION 1

PERCUSSION 2

PERCUSSION 3

PIANO

HARP

A Always Serene, Calm, Contemplative $\text{♩} = 40$

VIOLIN I

VIOLIN II

VIOLA

VIOLCENcello

CONTRABASS

(Piano acts as RESONATOR for trumpet and trombone stand behind and play into piano when specified)

(Piano acts as RESONATOR for trumpet and trombone stand behind and play into piano when specified)

(Piano acts as RESONATOR for trumpet 1 and trombone 1 play with lid off and pedal depressed throughout)

pizz (with plectrum) sempre lv.

DESK 1

DESK 2

DESK 3

DESK 4

pizz

B

FL. 1
FL. 3
FL. 4
A. FL.
(fl. 2)
B. CL.
(cl. 4)
BSN. 4

HN. 1
HN. 2
HN. 3
HN. 4

TBN. 1
TBN. 2
TBN. 3
TBN. 4
TBA

TIMP

PERC. 1
3 SUS. CYM.
T. GONGS

PNO.

HP

VC.
CB.

(Play into piano) solo plunger mute
always gradual transition between closed/open positions

(Play into piano)

arco

(Play into piano)

trombone resonance

\sharp = ped. buzz

solo msp. vib. ff s

C

17

FL. 1 match horn intonation
breath tone

FL. 3 match horn intonation
breath tone

FL. 4 match horn intonation
breath tone

A. FL. (fl. 2) match horn intonation
breath tone

B. CL. (cl. 4) diaphragm accents

Contrabassoon diaphragm accents

CBSN pp

NATURAL HORN
initial accidentals
approximate sound
to nearest 1/4 tone

HN. 1 solo

NATURAL HORN
initial accidentals
approximate sound
to nearest 1/4 tone

HN. 2 solo

NATURAL HORN
initial accidentals
approximate sound
to nearest 1/4 tone

HN. 3 solo

NATURAL HORN
initial accidentals
approximate sound
to nearest 1/4 tone

HN. 4 solo

TBN. 1 +

TBN. 2 con sord. (harmon)

TBN. 3 con sord. (harmon)

TBN. 4 con sord. (harmon)

TBA. diaphragm accents

T-TAMS small tam-tam arco

3 SUS CYM. arco

T. GONGS f

PNO.

H.P. z

C

VC. solo sp. 3

glibri pizz.

DUESK 1 and 2

DUESK 3

DUESK 4

D

E

33

FL. 1 W.T.
 FL. 3 W.T.
 FL. 4 W.T.
 A. FL. (fl. 2) W.T.
 B. CL. (cl. 4)
 CBSN.

HN. 1
 HN. 2
 HN. 3
 HN. 4

TPT. 1
 TPT. 2
 TPT. 3
 TPT. 4

TBN. 1
 TBN. 2
 TBN. 3
 TBN. 4

TBA.

TIMP.

T-TAMS

TUB. B.

T. GONGS

PNO.

HP.

To Triangles

Trumpet resonance

E

VC

DESKS 1 and 2

DESK 3

DESK 4

IV. III. IV. III. sim. IV. IV. III. sim. 3

solo msp. solo msp.

piano

Trumpet resonance

II

F

FL. 1
FL. 3
FL. 4
A. FL.
(fl. 2)
B. CL.
(cl. 4)
CBSN.
HN. 1
HN. 2
HN. 3
HN. 4
TPT. 1
TPT. 2
TPT. 3
TPT. 4
TBN. 1
TBN. 2
TBN. 3
TBN. 4
TBA.
TIMP.
4 TRI.
3 SUS. CYM.
T. GONGS
PNO.
HP.
sempre 1 v.

F

DUSK 1 soft
DUSK 2 - 5 (natural)
sul tasto
senza vib. (like a viola da gamba)

DUSK 2 - 5 (mod.)
sul tasto
senza vib. (like a viola da gamba)

VC.
CB.

4I

G

49

A. FL. (fl. 2) senza vib.

CL. 1

B. CL. (cl. 4) sim.

HN. 1

HN. 2 *sfpp* —

HN. 3 *pp* —

HN. 4 *lip trill* —

TBN. 1 *pp* —

TBNS *3* rapid wah-wah ad lib. +o+o+o+

TBA *fz.* —

TIMP *pp* —

4 TRI

3 SUS. CYM

T. GONGS

PNO

HPI

G

IV — III sim. —

VC

poco vib. *sp*

CB. REPEAT unmeasured, tempo fluctuating ad lib. (♩ = 60 - 120)

H

57

PICC. 1 (fl. 3)

PICC. 2 (fl. 4)

A. FL. (d. 5)

CL. 1

B. CL. (cl. 4)

CBSN

HN. 1

HN. 2

HN. 3

HN. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBA

TIMP

4 TRI.

3 SUS. CYM.

T. GONGS

PNO.

HP

H

VLN. I

VLN. II

VLA.

VC.

CB.

I

PICC. 1 (fl. 3) *lip bend* *p* *poco a poco cresc.*

PICC. 2 (fl. 4) *p* *poco a poco cresc.*

A. FL. (fl. 2)

CL. 1 *PP* *mf* *PP* *f* *PP* *f*

B. CL. (cl. 4)

CBSN.

HN. 1 *3* *ff*

HN. 2 *sfp* *af* *sfp* *f*

HN. 3 *ff* *3* *ff* *3* *ff* *3* *ff*

HN. 4 *mf* *sfp* *mf* *sfp* *f*

TPT. 1

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

TBA.

TIMP.

T-TAMS *3 Tam-tams arco* *p* *To Glock.*

3 SUS. CYM. *arco* *p* *To Tub. Bells.*

CROT. *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *p*

PNO.

HP.

I DESKS 1-3 *con sord. (metal mute)* *sul A*

VLN. I *ppp* *3* *3* *5* *poco a poco cresc.*

I DESKS 3-4 *con sord. (metal mute)* *sul A* *ppp* *3* *3* *2* *poco a poco cresc.*

I DESKS 5-6 *con sord. (metal mute)* *sul A* *ppp* *2* *con sord. (metal mute)* *sul A* *poco a poco cresc.*

I DESKS 7-8 *con sord. (metal mute)* *gloss* *ppp* *gloss* *poco a poco cresc.*

VLN. II *ppp* *con sord. (metal mute)* *gloss* *poco a poco cresc.*

VLA. *senza vib.* *ppp* *p* *pizz.* *poco a poco cresc.*

VC.

CB. *desks 1-4 div.* *p*

softer tones to match natural horn' intonation

J

73

PICC. 1 (fl. 3) ff

PICC. 2 (fl. 4) ff

FL. 1 f

A. FL. (fl. 2) pp

CL. 1 pp

B. CL. (cl. 4) p f

CBSN p f

HIN. 1 3 p

HIN. 2 sfpp ff

HIN. 3 3 p

HIN. 4 sfpp ff

TPT. 1 cup mute closed fp fp

TPT. 2 cup mute closed pp f pp

TPT. 3 cup mute closed pp f pp

TPT. 4 pp f pp

TBN. 1 f

TBN. 2 pp 3 f 3

TBN. 3 pp f

TBN. 4 senza sord. pp 3 f 3

TBA.

TIMP

GLOCK

TUB. B. sempre 1.v.

CROT. p p p p

PNO. ord. (on keyboard)

HP. sfz z

Trumpet resonance

J

VLN. I ff

VLN. II gloss ff gloss

VLA. ff ppp

VC. arco (unis.) ord. DESKS 1, 2, 3

DESKS 4, 5

pizz. arco sul I/II senza vib.

DESKS 1, 2 sul III

DESKS 3, 4

L

89

PICC. 1 (fl. 3) f pp f pp

PICC. 2 (fl. 4) f pp f pp

FL. 1 3 p f 3 p f 3 p f 3 p f 3 p f 3 p f 3 p f 3 p f 3 p f 3 p

A. FL. (fl. 2) 3 f 3 p 3 f 3 p 3 f 3 p 3 f 3 p 3 f 3 p 3 f 3 p 3 f 3 p

CLS. (2) (3) (2) (3) (4)

B. CL. (cl. 4) p f 3 p f 3 p f 3 p f 3 p f 3 p f 3 p f 3 p f 3 p

BSN. 1 p mf mf mf mf mf mf mf mf mf

BSN. 2 p mf mf mf mf mf mf mf mf mf

BSN. 3 p mf mf mf mf mf mf mf mf mf

CBSN p mf mf mf mf mf mf mf mf mf

TPT. 1 3 f pp

TPT. 2 f pp

TPT. 3 f pp

TPT. 4 f pp

TBN. 1

TBA. f pp f pp f pp

TIMP

GLOCK. f p f p semper sim.

TUB. B. p f f

T. GONGS p

PNO f

H.P. ff ff ff ff

L

VLN. I f f sim. f f f f f f f f f f f f f f

VLN. II 3 f f f f f f f f f f f f f f

VLA. p f f f f f f f f f f f f f f

VC. pp f f f f f f f f f f f f f f

CB. pp f f f f f f f f f f f f f f

M

PICC. 1 (fl. 3) f
PICC. 2 (fl. 4) f PP
FL. 1 p
A. FL. (fl. 2) 3
CLS. (1) (2) (3) 12.
B. CL. (cl. 4) p f
BSN. 1 p f
BSN. 2 p f
BSN. 3 p f
CBSN p f
TPT. 1
TBN. 1 p f
TBA f fp
TIMP ppp p ppp
GLOCK.
TUB. B.
T. GONGS p
PNO. f
HP ff sfz
M
VLN. I f f f f f f f f
VLN. II 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3
VLA. nat. harm. gliss. REPEAT: unsynchronised, tempo ad lib.
VC. ff pp ord. ff pp ord. ff pp
CB. f pp f ff pp f ff

N

105

PICC. 1 (fl. 3) f pp

PICC. 2 (fl. 4) f pp

CLS. f pp

B. CL. (cl. 4) f pp

BSN. 1 f p

BSN. 2 f p

BSN. 3 f p

CBSN. f ff p

TPT. 1

TBN. 1 p giss pp 5 ff f

TIMP. p giss p ppp p

GLOCK.

TUB. B. ff To vibraphone

T. GONGS p

PNO. f Trombone resonance

HP. ff ff

N

VLN. I f

VLN. II f

VLA.

VC. ord pp ff pp

CB. pp ff pp

O

III.3

PICC. (fl. 3) f pp f pp f pp f pp f pp

PICC. 2 (fl. 4) f pp f pp f pp f pp

CLS. pp f pp f

B. CL. (cl. 4) ff

BSN. 1 ff

BSN. 2 ff

BSN. 3 ff

CBSN. ff

TPT. 1

TBN. 1 Play into piano gliss. pp f pp f

TIME gliss. PPP p PPP p

GLOCK.

TUB. B. To crotalites

T. GONGS

PNO. Trombone resonance

HP

O

VLN. I f f f f f f senza sord.

VLN. II 3 3 3 senza sord.

VLA. 5 5 5

VC. 5 5 5 ord. 5 5 5

CB. 3 3 pp ff 3

To Picc. Tpt.

trombone resonance

IV

Q

129

PICC. 2
(fl. 4)

FLS

OBS

Ex CL.
(cl. 3)

CL.

CL. 2

B. CL.
(cl. 4)

BSNS

CBSN

HN

PICC. TPT
(ptp. 1)

TPT

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

TBA

TMPI

3 T-TAM

VIB

CROT

PNO

HP

Q

VLN. I

VLN. II

VLA

VC

CB

R

137

PICC. 2 (fl. 4)

FLS.

OBS.

Eb CL. (cl. 3)

CL. 1

CL. 2

B. CL. (cl. 4)

BSNS.

CBSN

HN.

PICC. TPT (pt. 1)

TPT

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

TBA.

TIIMP.

3 T-TAM

VIB.

CROT.

PNO.

HP.

R

VLN. I

VLN. II

VLA.

VC.

CB.

Detailed description: This is a double-page spread of a musical score for orchestra and piano. The top half (page 18) shows parts for Flute 2 (Piccolo 2), Flute 3, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinet 1, Clarinet 2, Bass Clarinet (Bassoon), Bassoon, Bassoon/Corno, Horn, Piccolo Trumpet (Pt. 1), Trumpet, Trombone 1, Trombone 2, Trombone 3, Trombone 4, Tromba, Timpani, Three Tam-tams, Vibraphone, Crotal, and Piano. The bottom half (page 19) shows parts for Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, and Double Bass. The score is filled with dense musical notation, including many slurs, grace notes, and dynamic markings like *f*, *p*, *ff*, *fff*, *pp*, and *ppp*. There are also specific instructions such as 'overblow' and 'rapid unsynchronised gliss. on nat. harm.'.

S

145

PICC. 2 (fl. 4) overblow

FLS

OBS. ff

Eb CL. (cl. 3)

CLS.

B. CL. (cl. 4)

BSNS. 1.2.3. ff

CBSN. ff

HN. ff

PICC. TPT. (pt. 1) ff

TPT. ff

TBN. 1 ff

TBN. 2 ff

TBN. 3 ff

TBN. 4 ff

TBA. ff

TIMP. ff

3 T-TAM.

VIB. ff

CROT.

PNO. ff

HP. ff

S

VLN. I ff

VLN. II ff

VLA. ff

VC. ff

CB. ff

T

153

PICC. 2 (fl. 4)

FLS

OBS.

Cl. CL. (cl. 4)

CL.S.

B. CL. (cl. 4)

BSNS

CBSN

HN

PICC. TPT (ptp. 1)

TPT

TBN. 1

TBA

TIMP

3 T-TAM

VIB

CROT

PNO

HP

T

VLN. I

(60°)

VLN. II

VLA

VC

CB

V

166

PICC. 2 (fl. 4)

CBSN

PICC. TPT. (pt. 1)

TBN. 1

TBA

Triangles

4 TRI.

B. D. (p.2)

B. D. (p.3)

PNO.

HP

CB.

W

174

PICC. 2 (fl. 4)

CBSN

PICC. TPT. (pt. 1)

TBN. 1

TBA

Triangles

4 TRI.

B. D. (p.2)

B. D. (p.3)

PNO.

X

182

PICC. 2 (fl. 4)

FLS

A. FL. (fl. 2)

PICC. TPT. (pt. 1)

TBN. 1

TIMP

Triangles

4 TRI.

B. D. (p.2)

TUB. B.

PNO.

Y

190

PICC. 2 (fl. 4) *p* *f* *f* *f*

FL.S. *W.T. ad lib.* *pp*

A. FL. (fl. 2) *W.T. ad lib.* *pp* *senz vib.* *lip bend -3*

CBSN. *fff*

PICC. TPT. (pt. 1) *Play into mouth* *p* *fff*

TBN. 1 *p* *p* *p* *fff*

TBA. *overtone gliss.* *ppp* *p* *fff*

TIMP. *ppp* *p* *ppp* *p*

Triangles *p* *3 Tam-tams scrape* *p* *scrape* *damp (if necessary)*

B. D. (p. 2) *ppp* *p* *ppp* *af* *(damp)* *ppp* *damp (if necessary)*

TUB. B. *p*

PNO. C. *trumpet resonance* *trombone resonance*

HP. *p* *ff*

Y

VLA. constant change of bow position: *msp -> mst* *ppp flautando*

VC. constant change of bow position: *msp -> mst* *ppp flautando*

[DESK 1] *mp* *f*

[DESK 2] *ppp* *f* *ppp*

CB. [DESK 3] *div.* *f* *ppp*

[DESK 4] *ppp* *f* *ppp*