

HARRISON BIRTWISTLE

Ritual Fragment

Preview File Only

score

UNIVERSAL EDITION

## PERFORMANCE NOTES

This piece, which is performed without a conductor, consists of a solo part, played by ten of the players in succession, with those not playing the solo acting as an accompaniment. To begin with the players are seated as in the diagram (overleaf). The piece evolves with each solo instrument moving, in turn, from this initial placement (position I) to the centre to become the soloist until the next instrument comes and takes over. After each solo (which is a continuous line, since the instruments overlap one another), the player moves back to join the accompanying ensemble again, but this time to the place vacated by the current soloist ( position II ). The accompanimental role, though somewhat free in nature, is linked to the solo part by way of reference points or cues. The instruments which are not included in the solo part are the cello, double bass, piano and bass drum. The latter two also supply cues for the other instrumentalists.

Leating

Piano



Preview file only

INSTRUMENTATION

FLUTE  
OBOE  
CLARINET  
BASSOON  
HORN  
TRUMPET  
BASS TRUMPET  
PIANO  
BASS DRUM  
2 VIOLINS  
VIOLA  
CELLO  
DOUBLE BASS

This piece was written for the Michael  
Vyner memorial concert on 6th May 1990  
at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden.  
It was performed by the London Sinfonietta.

duration - c.11 mins.







3

fl.  
ob.  
clar.

bpt.  
hrt.  
bass tpt.

vlr.  
vla.  
vc.  
cb.

3

perc.

BD

bassoon.  
Violin I



Fl. 1:  $\text{♩} = c. 76$ ,  $p$ ,  $\text{trill}$ ,  $\text{repeat.}$

Oboe:  $p$

Clarinet:  $mp$

Trumpet:  $\text{♩} = c. 60$  (consol.),  $mf$

Horn:  $\text{♩} = c. 72$ ,  $mp$ ,  $\text{♩} = 108$ ,  $mf$ ,  $ifp$

Trombone:  $mp$

Violin 2:  $p$

Viola:  $p$

Violoncello:  $can. solo$ ,  $\text{♩} = c. 72$ ,  $mf$ ,  $p$

Double Bass:  $p$ ,  $arco$ ,  $f$ ,  $\text{♩} = c. 120$

Piano:  $mp$

Double Bassoon:  $\text{♩} = c. 76$ ,  $f$ ,  $mp$ ,  $p$ ,  $\text{rit.}$ ,  $\text{tempo}$ ,  $\text{more back}$ ,  $\text{poco accel.}$

Violin 1:  $p$ ,  $mp$ ,  $p$



Fl. *f=c120* *mp*

Ob. *f=c120* *mp*

Cl. *f=c120* *mp*

Bsn. *f=c126* *more back* *pocaf* *pant.* *bass trit.* *(follow bass trit.)*

Vln1 *mp* *pant.* *follow va.*

Vln2 *mp* *pant.*

Vc. *saca sord.* *pant.*

Cb. *3* *8* *1* *10*

pno. *bb* *v. ped.*

BD

Bsn. *bass trit.* *(follow bass trit.)*

Vle. *mf* *pocaf* *pant.* *pocaf*

wind take breaths in the ties and not the slurs.

5

Fl

Ob.

Clar.

Bsn

trpt

horn

bass left

Vln I

Vln II

Vla.

Vcl.

cb

pr

BD

Vla.

Senza cord.

more forward

broad. expansive

tempo  $\text{♩} = c. 120$

more cresc.

8

Handwritten musical score for a symphony orchestra, page 9. The score includes staves for flutes (ff), oboes (ob), clarinets (clar.), bassoons (bso.), light woodwinds (lght.), bassoon (bso.), violins (vln), violas (vln2), violas (vc), cellos (cb), piano (pno), horn (hrn.), and viola (vla.).

Key annotations and markings include:

- Flutes (ff):** *ff*, *b*, *l=c.60*, *l=c.72*, *l=c.60*.
- Oboes (ob):** *l=c.60*, *l=c.72*, *l=c.60*.
- Clarinet (clar.):** *l=c.60*, *l=c.72*, *l=c.60*.
- Bassoon (bso.):** *l=c.60*, *l=c.72*, *l=c.60*.
- Light Woodwinds (lght.):** *l=c.60*.
- Bassoon (bso.):** *not longer than*.
- Violins (vln):** *#*.
- Violas (vln2):** *#*.
- Viola (vc):** *l=c.60*, *sovereign*, *fffz*, *mp*, *ff*, *p*, *lgt*.
- Cello (cb):** *l=c.60*, *l=c.72*, *l=c.60*.
- Piano (pno):** *8-ped*.
- Horn (hrn.):** *(l=c.120)*, *short*, *fffz*, *l=c.90*, *open*.
- Viola (vla.):** *move back*, *fffz*.

General performance instructions:

- together, take cue from clar.*
- f each time louder.*

Tempo markings: *l=c.60*, *l=c.72*, *l=c.60*, *(l=c.120)*, *l=c.90*.

Dynamic markings: *ff*, *fffz*, *mp*, *ff*, *p*, *lgt*.

Other markings: *#*, *b*, *lgt*, *open*, *move back*, *short*.

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