

JOHN WOOLRICH

*Music from a House
of Crossed Desires*

FOR CHAMBER ENSEMBLE
OF FOURTEEN PLAYERS

(1996)

FABER *ff* MUSIC

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Music processed by the composer
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Music from a House of Crossed Desires was first performed
by the Brunel Ensemble, conducted by Christopher Austin,
in the Purcell Room, London on 5 January 1997

Duration: 8 minutes


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INSTRUMENTATION

piccolo (doubling school bell)
oboe
clarinet in Eb (doubling soprano saxophone and clarinet in Bb)
bass clarinet
contrabassoon

horn in F (doubling whistle)
trumpet in C (doubling whistle)
trombone
tuba

percussion (2 players)
bass drum, pedal bass drum, log drum, tam-tam, suspended cymbal,
10 or so tin cans (a wide range – the lowest: dustbins, others: ghee, oil or paint tins),
2 temple blocks (high + low), claves, whip, 4 whistles, guero,
2 school bells (or any loud handbell – no specific pitch), crotales, 7 gongs: 

piano (doubling whistle)

cello
double bass

Percussion distribution:

Player 1

bass drum (shared with player 2), crotales,
10 or so tin cans, 2 temple blocks, gongs, whistle

Player 2

tam-tam (shared with player 1), suspended cymbal (shared with player 1),
pedal bass drum (shared with player 1), guero,
log drum, claves, whip, school bell

Score in C

Instrumental parts available on hire from the publishers

PERFORMANCE NOTES

♯ = highest possible note

Double bass harmonics sound one octave lower than written

PROGRAMME NOTE

This is a short fantasy drawn from the music for *In the House of Crossed Desires*,
a chamber opera I wrote in 1995 with the author Marina Warner.
A clock chimes, a girl weaves her wedding dress from thistles and straw, a treadmill grinds,
someone falls downstairs and, in the dark, a donkey brays ...

JW

Music from a House of Crossed Desires

JOHN WOOLRICH

$\text{♩} = 120$

The score is written for a large ensemble. The top section includes Piccolo, Oboe, Clarinet in Eb, Bass Clarinet, and Contrabassoon. The middle section includes Horn in F (with Whistle to Horn), Trumpet in C (with Whistle to Trumpet), Trombone, and Tuba. The bottom section includes Percussion 1 (Bass Drum and Crotales), Percussion 2 (Tam-tam), Piano, Violoncello, and Double bass. The score is in 4/8 time and features various dynamics such as *pp*, *fff*, and *p*. A large blue watermark "Preview File Only" is overlaid diagonally across the score.

6

A

Picc.

fff

E♭ Cl.

B. Cl.

fff

Cbsn

fff

Hn

Tbn.

pp

Tba

fff

Perc. 1

Crotales

ffff

Perc. 2

Suspended Cymbal

p — *fff*

Pno

fff

15

8

Red.

A

Vc.

pizz.

fffz

Db.

pizz.

fffz

10

Picc. *fff*

Ob. *fff*

E♭ Cl. *fff* solo *tr* *tr^b*

B. Cl. *pp* *fff*

Cbsn *pp* *fff*

Tbn. *fff*

Tba *pp* *fff*

Perc. 1 *fff* Tin Cans distribute notes freely between the tin cans

Perc. 2 Pedal Bass Drum *fff*

Pno *fff* *fff*

Vc. *arco* *fff*

Db. *arco* *fff*

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14

Picc.

Ob.

E♭ Cl.

B. Cl.

Cbsn

Hn

Tbn.

Perc. 1 (Tin Cans)

Perc. 2 (Ped. B.D.)

Pno

Vc.

Db.

pp *fff* *pp* *fff*

p *f* *p*

pizz. *fff* *pizz.* *fff*

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18

Picc. *fff*

Ob. *pp* *fff* *fff* *pp* *fff* *fff*

E♭ Cl. *fff* *tr*

B. Cl.

Cbsn

Hn *pp* *f*

Tpt. *flz.* *ff* *f* *pp* *f*

Tbn. *ff* *p* *f*

Tba *ff*

Perc. 1 (Tin Cans)

Perc. 2 (Ped. B.D.)

Pno (8) *fff* *trem.* *loco* *sfz* *sfz* (8)

Vc. *fff*

Db. *fff*

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23

Picc. *fff*

Ob. *pp* — *fff* *pp* — *fff* *pp* — *fff*

E♭ Cl. *tr*

B. Cl. *fff*

Hr. *pp* — *fff*

Tpt. *f* *pp* — *sf* *pp*

Tbn. *pp* — *fff*

Perc. 1 (Tin Cans)

Perc. 2 (Ped. B.D.)

Pno

Vc. *fff*

Db. *fff*

B

30

Picc. *tr* *b* (b) *ff*

Ob. *tr* *b* (b) *ff*

E♭ Cl. *tr* *b* (b) *ff*

B. Cl. *ff*

Cbsn *tr* *b* (b) *ff*

Hn *ff*

Tpt *tr* *b* (b) *ff*

Tbn. *ff*

Tba *tr* *b* (b) *ff*

Perc. 1 (Tin Cans)

Perc. 2 (Ped. B.D.) *f* Tam-tam

Pno *ff*

B

Vc. *ff*

Db. *ff*

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37

Picc. *ff*

Ob. *ff*

Eb Cl. *ff* to Soprano Saxophone

B. Cl.

Cbsn

Hn

Tpt

Tbn. *ff*

Tba

Perc. 1 Crotales *fff*

Perc. 2 Suspended Cymbal *p* — *fff*

Pno *fff*

Vc.

Db.

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