

THOMAS ADÈS
Chamber Symphony

FOR FIFTEEN
PLAYERS

(1990)

Op.2

FABER *ff* MUSIC

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The first performance of the *Chamber Symphony* was given by
the Contemporary Music Festival Ensemble conducted by the composer
in the West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge as part of the
Cambridge Festival of Contemporary Music on 24 February 1991

The first professional performance was given by the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra
conducted by Matthias Bamert at the same venue on 9 March 1993

Duration: 13 minutes

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ENSEMBLE


Flute (= piccolo & alto flute)

Oboe

Basset Clarinet in A

Bass Clarinet in B \flat

Horn in F

Trumpet (= wine bottle )

Trombone

Percussion (2 players)

small wood chimes, small shell chimes (optional), bell tree,
very small triangle, cow bell, hi-hat cymbal, small wood block,
large guiro, 3 tam-tams, 2 small finger drums, snare drum, flexatone,
crotales, marimba

Piano (= Accordion)

2 violins

Viola

Cello


Double bass (4 string)

The score is written in C

Preview File Only

PERFORMANCE NOTES

† = ¼ tone sharp

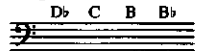
Woodwind and brass:  suggested manner of performance is tongue-stopped

▲ = highest possible note


Double bass: Tuning-down instructions for a 4 string bass without a C extension are given in brackets.


The Accordion part is simple and does not require a trained player.

Piano: Notes on Preparation (see between M and S)

1. The four strings  are stopped with an eraser (8mm thick)

pushed under the B♭, over the B and C, down under the D♭.


The notation for these notes is: 

2. The notes  are prepared by placing a screw between the middle and

right-hand strings of each note (as in Cage), producing the pitches 

The screws must be 40–80mm long. The *una corde* pedal must be depressed to silence


the unprepared string. The notation for these notes is: 


If screws cannot be used the two pitches  are finger-stopped *at pitch* on the

strings, between the dampers and the keyboard.

Percussion

Player 1

- very small triangle
- cow bell (straight)
- small wood block
- snare drum
- hi-hat cymbal †
- large guiro
- 2 small finger drums (high-pitched)
- 3 tam-tams
- crotale (from player 2) 

† hi-hat notation:  when struck allow plates to touch and gently vibrate together

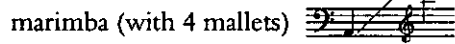
Player 2

small wood chimes

small shell chimes (optionally can be replaced by small wood chimes)

bell tree

lowest tam-tam (from player 1)



† A small strip of felt should be affixed to the steel plate of the flexatone with tape to dampen all resonance and to obtain 'dead' sound. This must be quickly detachable.

Preview File Only

CHAMBER SYMPHONY

THOMAS ADÈS

I ♩ = 120-132 (Beat quavers until **M**)

Alto Flute

Oboe

Basset Clarinet

Bass Clarinet

Horn

Trumpet

Trombone

Wood block Cymbal

Percussion 1

Percussion 2

Piano

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Double bass

pp sempre

pizz.

p

3 3 3 5 5 6 7:8

Preview File Only

A. Fl. *pp* *pp* *p*

Ob.

Bsst. Cl.

Bass Cl. *pp*

Hn.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Perc. Cym. *3* *3* *3* *3* *5* *5* *6*

Vln. I *ppp* *pp* *ppp* *ppp*

Vln. II *ppp* *pp* *ppp*

Vla. *pp* *pp* *p*

Vc. *pizz.* *p*

Db. *mp*

* slur indicates left hand glissando: do not pluck note at end of slur

11

A. Fl. *ppp* *p* *ppp* (*ppp*)

Ob.

Bsst. Cl. *pp* *ppp*

Bass Cl. *pp*

Hn.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Perc. *ppp* Marimba *ppp*

Vln. I *pp* *ppp* *p* *ppp*

Vln. II *pp* *ppp* *p* *ppp*

Vla. *ppp* *p* *ppp* (*ppp*)

Vc. *p* *mp*

Db. *pp* *mf*

7:8 3 3 3 5 3 7:8 7:8

Preview File Only

25

B

A. Fl.

Ob.

Bsst. Cl.

Bass Cl.

Hn.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Perc.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

Harmon mute, stem 1/2-out

p lontano e dolciss.

ord.

sul pont. γ

ppp < f

f < ff

ppp < mf

pp

pp

p < mf > pp

pp

p

pp

pp

p < mf > pp

p

mf

p

ppp

ppp

p

ppp

mf

pp

pp

mf > pp

pp

mf > p

pp

mp

pp

mf

p

pp

mp

mf

28

A. Fl. *to Flute*

Ob.

Bsst. Cl. *ff* *mf* *f* *ff*

Bass Cl.

Hn. *pp* *mf* *p*

Tpt. *pp* *mf* *p*

Tbn. *pp* *mf* *p*

Perc. Cym. *f* *sfz* *ff*

Mar.

Vln. I *pp* *ff* *pp* *ppp*

Vln. II *pp* *ff* *pp* *ppp*

Vla. *ord.* *pp* *ff* *pp* *ppp*

Vc. *pp* *ff* *pp*

Db. *p* *pp* *mp* *mf* *p* *pp*

31

Fl. *pp*

Ob. *pp* < *espr.* > *ppp*

Bsst. Cl. *pp* < *mf* < *ff*

Bass Cl. *mp* *mp* *mf* > *mp* < *f* (<) *ff*

Hn. *pp*

Tpt. *mf* *poco*

Tbn. *pp*

Perc. *pp sempre* *poco* *f*

Pno. *ppp*

Vln. I *ppp*

Vln. II *ppp*

Vla. *ppp*

Vc. *p* *sul tasto*

Db. *mp* *mf* *pp* *mp* *pp* < *p* *mp* *mf* *pp*

34

Fl. *ppp sempre* *mf* *f* to Piccolo

Ob. *ppp sempre* *mf* *f*

Bsst. Cl. *< > mf* *f* *ff* *grazioso* *f ma dolce*

Bass Cl. *ff* *mp* *poco f*

Hn. *f* *poco f*

Tpt. *stem out* *p* *mf*

Tbn. *f* *mf* *p* *f*

Perc. Cym. *poco f! sub.* *p* *pp* *Mar.* *pp* *mf*

Vln. I *mf* *p* *mf* *f*

Vln. II *mf* *p* *mf* *f*

Vla. *sul pont. v* *f* *pizz.* *mf* *p* *f* *mf* *f*

Vc. *sul pont. v* *f* *pizz.* *poco f* *mf* *p*

Db. *poco f* *mp* *ff sempre*

C *Dolcissimo sempre* $\text{♩} = 60-66$

39

Picc. *mf* *f > p* *pp*

Ob. *< mp* *pp*

Bsst. Cl. *ff* *f* *pp* *legg.*

Bass Cl. *< mp* *f ma dolce* 14

Hn. *< mp*

Tpt. *pp* *< mp*

Tbn. *pp* *< mp*

Perc. Cym. strike, then gradually depress foot. SD W.bl. Cow bell Triangle SD snares off Guiro. Flexatone (dampened) Small Wood chimes (blow) *mf* *mf* *ppp* *pp* *p*

Pno. *mp* *p*
una corda sempre

Vln. I *pizz.* *ff* *arco* *p* *pizz.* *p*

Vln. II *pizz.* *ff* *arco* *p* *pizz. (h)* *p*

Vla. *ff* *arco saltato* *ppp*

Vc. *ff* *(pizz.)* *arco* *pp* *ppp*

Db. *arco* *p* *< mf* *IV pizz.* *(tune string IV down to Eb)* *mf* *pp*

42

Picc. *ppp*

Ob. *pp* *ppp*

Bsst. Cl. *p* *ppp*

Bass Cl.

Hn.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Perc. *pp < mp > ppp* *pp* *pp* *ppp*

Crotale *ppp*

loco Mar. *p*

Pno. *mp* *p* *mp* *p* *mp* *p* *mp*

Vln. I *pp* *pp* *ppp* *pp*

Vln. II *pp* *pp* *ppp* *pp*

Vla. *ppp* *ppp* *ppp* *pp*

Vc. *< mf* *ppp* *pizz.* *p* *ppp* *ppp* *ppp*

Db. *ppp* *pp* *p* *mp*

quasi con sord. molto espr.

arco *pizz.*

(lift fingers)

45

Picc. *ppp* *p*

Ob. *pp* *p*

Bsst. Cl. *ppp* *p*

Bass Cl.

Hn. *p maestoso*

Tpt. *p maestoso*

Tbn. without mute *p maestoso*

Perc. Tri. *mp* *pp* Guiro *pp* W.bl. *p* Bell Tree *ppp* Shell chimes (blow) *ppp*

* If no bell tree, quick light gliss. with triangle beater over four highest "white note" crotales

Pno. *pp* *p* *p* *pp* *mp*

Vln. I *ppp* *legato mp* *pizz. mp*

Vln. II *ppp* *legato mp* *pizz. mp*

Vla. *mp* *pp* *pizz. mp*

Vc. *mp* *arco pp* *pizz. mp*

Db. *mp* *mp* *mp*

48

Picc. *ppp* *legato* *pp* *ppp* *pp*

Ob. *pp* *ppp* *ppp* *pp*

Bsst. Cl. *legato (h)* *pp* *mf* *p* *ppp* *ppp* *poch.*

Bass Cl. *legato* *pp* *mf* *p* *ppp* *pp < mf* *p*

Hn. *p* *ppp*

Tpt. *mf* *ppp* *poch.*

Tbn. *pp*

Perc. Cym. SD C. bell. W. ch. Mar. *mp* *pp* *pp < mp* *pp* *p* *ppp* *ppp* *< mf >* *p* *mf*

Pno. *ppp* *mp* *ppp* *ppp*

Vln. I *arco* *poco f* *sub. - 3* *pp* *ppp* *pp*

Vln. II *arco II* *ppp dolciss.* *p* *ppp* *pp*

Vla. *arco sul pont. v* *mf (sf)* *nat. III* *dolciss.* *ppp* *pp* *ppp*

Vc. *arco sul pont. v* *mf (sf)* *nat. II* *pp* *ppp* *pp*

Db. (retune IV to Eb) *mf* *f* *pp* *pp < mf* *pp*

D

51 *to Flute*

Picc. *ppp* *>*

Ob. *ppp* *< espr. >* *ppp*

Bsst. Cl. *ppp* *< ppp* *pp*

Bass Cl. *< f >* *poco f*

Hn. *mf (dolce)* *pp* *pp maestoso*

Tpt. *mf (dolce)* *pp* *pp maestoso*

Tbn. *mf (dolce)* *pp* *pp maestoso*

Perc. *Tri.* *Guero* *pp < mp* *pp* *SD snares on* *p* *ppp* *pp* *ppp* *ppp* *3* *3*

Mar. *< f* *Crot.* *loco* *ppp* *Mar.* *pp*

Pno. *p* *tre corde* *Ped.*

Vln. I *ppp* *pp* *pp* *pizz.*

Vln. II *ppp* *pp* *pp* *pizz.*

Vla. *pizz.* *p* *arco* *pp* *solo* *pp* *p* *pizz.* *arco*

Vc. *p* *pp* *p* *ppp* *p* *pizz.* *arco*

Db. *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pizz.* *arco*

55

Fl. *p* *pp < p*

Ob. *pp* *pp < p* *ppp*

Bsst. Cl. *mf* *mf (dolce)* *p*

Bass Cl. *rinf.* *poco f* *f* *mf*

Hn. *mf* *p* *ppp* *f* *p sonore dolce e pesante*

Tpt. *straight mute* *pp* *ppp < p* *pp*

Tbn. *mf* *p* *f* *p sonore dolce e pesante*

Perc. *< pp* *ppp* *< pp ppp* *pp ppp* *< pp ppp*

Pno. *ppp* *silently depress* *pp* *pesante*

Vln. I *arco* *pizz.* *arco* *ppp < p* *pizz.* *pp*

Vln. II *arco* *pizz.* *arco* *ppp < p* *pizz.* *pp*

Vla. *arco* *pizz.* *arco* *ppp < p* *pizz.* *pp*

Vc. *pizz.* *arco* *pizz.* *arco poco sul tasto* *pp* *ord.* *pp*

Db. *pizz.* *arco* *pizz.* *pp* *arco* *ppp*

u.c. sempre

8