

B

BRITISH MUSIC INFORMATION CENTRE
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Alan Bullard

SINFONIETTA

for brass, percussion, and strings

(1987)

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E A S T E R N

Arts

SUPPORTED BY THE EASTERN ARTS ASSOCIATION

ORCHESTRATION

2 HORNS IN F

2 TRUMPETS IN Bb

TIMPANI (3) 1 PLAYER
(doubling Claves)

PERCUSSION 1 or 2 PLAYERS

Tom Tom, Snare Drum, Suspended Cymbal, Triangle,
Cymbals (clashed and suspended) Gong, Woodblock,
Claves (can be taken by Timp. player),
Xylophone, Celesta, Marimba (optional)

VIOLINS 1 AND 2

VIOLAS

VOLONCELLOS

DOUBLEBASSES

PROGRAMME NOTE by the composer

My *Sinfonietta* for brass, percussion and strings was commissioned by Colchester Chamber Orchestra with funds from the Eastern Arts Association, and was written in the autumn of 1987.

The starting point for the piece is the opposition of the brass (horns and trumpets only) and the strings, defined by their fundamental keys: B flat (particularly) and F for the brass, and E (particularly), A, D, G, and C — the open strings of the string group.

The first movement, marked "fast and precise" introduces some basic ideas common to the whole work, and then moves into a fugal section, finally dissolving into almost nothing.

The rather darkly expressive second movement, marked "slow and mournfully" consists of a number of overlapping melodic lines which again are in the fundamental keys of the different instruments.

Any feeling of despair left by this movement is dispelled by the bright and rhythmic final movement (marked "fast and lively") which presents material we have already heard in a direct and more dance-like manner. Shortly before the end a short interlude for the brass at least brings together the opposing keys of B flat and E, and from then on the music accelerates to a noisy conclusion.

FIRST PERFORMED BY COLCHESTER CHAMBER ORCHESTRA, CONDUCTOR CHRISTOPHER PHELPS,
IN ST. BATOLPH'S CHURCH, COLCHESTER ON 8 FEBRUARY 1988.

SINFONIETTA

for brass, percussion and strings

Alan Bullard
(1987)

Fast and precise

The score is written for a chamber orchestra and includes the following parts:

- 2 Trumpets in F**: Part 1 (top staff), Part 2 (second staff). Part 2 has a dynamic marking of *p* at the end.
- Percussion**: Includes **Tenor Drum** (marked *f*) and **Timpani** (marked *f*).
- String Section**:
 - Cellos div.**: Two staves, marked *f con forza*.
 - Double Basses div.**: Two staves, marked *f con forza*.
- Horn and Trombone**:
 - Horn**: One staff.
 - Tpts**: One staff.
- Percussion and Timpani**:
 - Perc**: Snare drum part, marked *f*, with a note *T. D. (S. D. without snares)*.
 - Timp**: Timpani part, marked *f*.
- Violins**:
 - Vc.**: Violin part, marked *f*.
 - DB**: Double Bass part, marked *f*.

The score features various musical notations including dynamics (*f*, *p*, *f con forza*), articulation marks, and performance instructions. A large blue watermark "Preview File Only" is overlaid diagonally across the score.

2

Handwritten musical score for the first system, measures 1-4. The staves include:

- Hrns:** Horns, playing a melodic line with accents and dynamics *p*.
- Tpts:** Trumpets, playing a similar melodic line with dynamics *mp* and *p*.
- Perc:** Percussion, with markings *T.D.* and *S.D.*.
- Timp:** Timpani, playing a rhythmic pattern.
- Vc.:** Violins, playing a rhythmic accompaniment.
- DB:** Double Basses, playing a rhythmic accompaniment.

Handwritten annotations include a circled '2' at the end of the system and a blue watermark 'Preview File Only' across the center.

3

Handwritten musical score for the second system, measures 5-8. The staves include:

- Hrns:** Horns, playing a melodic line with dynamics *pp*.
- Tpts:** Trumpets, playing a melodic line with dynamics *pp*.
- Perc:** Percussion, with markings *T.D.* and *S.D.*.
- Timp:** Timpani, playing a rhythmic pattern.
- Violin 1:** Violin I, playing a melodic line with dynamics *p* and markings *con sord.*, *div.*, and *gliss.*
- Violin 2:** Violin II, playing a melodic line with dynamics *p* and markings *con sord.*, *div.*
- Viola:** Viola, playing a melodic line with dynamics *p* and markings *con sord.*, *div.*
- Vc.:** Violins, playing a rhythmic accompaniment.
- DB:** Double Basses, playing a rhythmic accompaniment.

Handwritten annotations include a circled '3' at the end of the system and a blue watermark 'Preview File Only' across the center.

Musical score for strings and woodwinds. Instruments include Horns (Hns), Trumpets (Tp 15), Trombones (Timp), Percussion (Perc.), Violins 1 (Vn 1), Violins 2 (Vn 2), Viola (Va), Violoncello (Vc), and Double Bass (DB). The score features dynamic markings such as *p*, *mp*, and *mf*. A specific instruction for the Cello part reads "con sord. div.".

Continuation of the musical score. It includes a section for Horns (Hns) and Trumpets (Tpt) with a dynamic marking of *f*. The Percussion (Perc.) part includes the instruction "(with S.D. in mar)" and a dynamic marking of *f*. The string section (Vn 1, Vn 2, Va, Vc, DB) includes performance instructions: "pizz" (pizzicato), "senza sord" (without mutes), and "arco" (arco). The dynamic marking *ff* is used for the strings in this section.

Musical score for the first system, measures 1-4. Instruments include Hrn., Tpts., Trimp., Perc., Vn 1, Vn 2, Vla., Vc., and DB. Dynamics include *mf* and *p*.

Musical score for the second system, measures 5-8. Instruments include Hrn., Tpts., Trimp., and Perc. Dynamics include *p* and *f*. A circled number 5 is present above the Hrn. staff.

Musical score for the third system, measures 9-12. Instruments include Vn 1, Vn 2, Vla., Vc. (div.), and DB. Dynamics include *p* and *f*. A circled number 5 is present above the Vn 1 staff.

Trpt
Tpt
Timp
Perc
Vn 1
Vn 2
Va
Vc
DB

Trpt
Tpt
Timp
Perc

Vn 1
Vn 2
Va
Vc
DB

6

7

Mus
Tprs

Timip
Perc

7

Vn 1
Vn 2
Va
Vc
DB

Preview File Only

Mus
Tprs

Timip
Perc

8

Vn 1
Vn 2
Va
Vc
DB