

Dark Sky Soliloquy

for String Orchestra

by Stephanie Ann Boyd

Complete Instrumentation

1 - Full Score

10 - Violin I

10 - Violin II

8 - Viola

8 - Cello

6 - Contrabass

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About the Music –

Performance Notes

- Duration of glissandi between two notes: Musicians should begin their glissandi at the beginning of the first note and end at the beginning of the second note
- All notes are to be played with a legato bow unless otherwise specified
- All accidentals are only applicable in the octave and measure in which they appear
- Approximate duration of the piece is seven minutes

About the Piece

I had the opportunity this spring to visit my one and only childhood best friend, Jane, for the first time in 10 years. Jane and her mother Mary have both been tremendously influential in my artistic endeavors, and now they have something very special in common: they both study the stars; Mary as a brilliant astrologer and Jane as an NYU Gallatin School astronomy student. This piece is both dedicated to their influence and inspired by their shared fascination with our universe. This piece was aptly written over four consecutive late spring evenings in my childhood bedroom with the windows open, letting in the eerie voices of the highway close by. I grew up listening to the night choir of the highway, hearing its melodies and eagerly absorbing its unearthly harmonies, many of which have been incorporated into this piece.

*And as the hosts spin round and round
the ethereal sound of the heavens is spun
the melody, in fourths and thirds
is given in ancient tempo*

About the Composer -

Lauded by conductor Cliff Colnot as "a composer set to become one of the most distinctive and important voices of her generation," 24 year old American composer Stephanie Ann Boyd endeavors to write music that brings whimsical worlds to life, that is meaningful to audience and performer alike, and that refreshes and strengthens the creative spirit. An advocate of the innate creativity in young people, she has brought composition programs to schools and music festivals in three countries. She maintains a studio of international composition students, with studio recitals being held twice a year in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and New York City.



Stephanie's 2015/2016 season includes being composer-in-residence for the Calliope Septet, commissions for a new set of lullabies for tenor Rafael Helbig-Kostka, a cello concerto for Alan Toda-Ambaras, and a co-commission involving 50 violinists across America. Last season's highlights involved co-directing the Tuesday Night New Music concert series, winning the Donald Martino Prize, being chosen as the NEC/BMOP Competition winner,

and having her violin concerto premiered in Jordan Hall by recent Michael Hill International Competition prize-winner Eunae Koh under the baton of Australian conductor Nathan Aspinall.

A two-time winner of the CCPA Vector Project, Stephanie's music has been played on New York City's 89.9 WKCR, Chicago's 98.7 WFMT, and WRBC The Blaze Radio. Her orchestral music has been performed by the Boston Modern Orchestra Project, the JVL Festival Orchestra, the Cremona Academy Festival Orchestra, the CCPA Symphony Orchestra, the Grammy-winning Pioneer Symphony Orchestra, the New England Conservatory Orchestra, and Eighth Hour Encore. Her string orchestra works are published by TRN Music. When not composing, Ms. Boyd secretly enjoys screaming trumpet music, openly enjoys John William Waterhouse paintings, and will never pass up a London Fog latte. Boyd resides in Inwood, Manhattan.

Dark Sky Soliloquy

Score in C

Stephanie Ann Boyd

With curiosity, excitement

♩ = 100

2

3

4

5

6

Stand by stand change to tremolo

Unis. tremolo

Musical score for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, and Contrabass, measures 1-6. The score is in 4/4 time and includes dynamic markings such as *ppp*, *p*, and *pp*. Performance instructions include "Stand by stand change to tremolo" and "Unis. tremolo". A "Solo" instruction is present for the Cello in measure 6. A large watermark "TRN MUSIC PUBLISHER, INC." is overlaid on the score.

7

8

9

10

11

Musical score for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, and Contrabass, measures 7-11. The score includes dynamic markings such as *mp* and *mf*. Performance instructions include "Div." and "Unis.". A large watermark "TRN MUSIC PUBLISHER, INC." is overlaid on the score.

Dark Sky Soliloquy

12 13 14 15 16 17

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Unis.

pp

pp

p *mf* *subito p*

mp *mf* *subito p*

18 19 20 21 22

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

mp

mp

mp

mp

mf

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23 24 25 26 27

Vln. I *mf* *p*

Vln. II *mf* *p*

Vla. *mf* *p*

Vc. *mf* *p*

Cb. *p*

28 29 30 31 32

Vln. I *f* *p*

Vln. II *f* *mf*

Vla. *f* *mf* *mp*

Vc. *f* *mf*

Cb. *f*

Dark Sky Soliloquy

33 34 35 36

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

f

mp

f

mp

f

mp

mp

f

37 38 39 40 41

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

mp

mf

Div. pizz.

f

mf

mp

mf

f

mp

mf

f

3

42 43 44 45 46 47

Vln. I *f* *mf*

Vln. II *f* *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *mp* *mf*

Cb. *mp* *mf*

arco

48 49 50 51

Vln. I *p*

Vln. II *f*

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *mp*

Cb. *mp*

Unis.

Dark Sky Soliloquy

52 53 54 55 56

Vln. I *f* Div.

Vln. II Div.

Vla. *f* Div.

Vc. *f*

Cb. *f*

57 58 59 60 61 62 63

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc. *f*

Cb. *f*

Dark Sky Soliloquy

64 65 66 67 68 69

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

subito p

f

Solo

First two stands only

f

p

70 71 72 73 74

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

p

Unis.

Unis.

Unis.

First three stands only

Tutti

p

ff

Dark Sky Soliloquy

Powerful, with awe

75 76 gliss. 77 78 gliss. 79 80 81 gliss. 82 83 gliss.

Vln. I *ff* *mf*

Vln. II *ff* *mf*

Vla. *ff* *mf*

Vc. *ff* *f*

Cb. *ff* *f*

84 85 86 87 88 Stand by stand change to tremolo 89

Vln. I *p*

Vln. II *p*

Vla. *p*

Vc. *f* *p* *mp*

Cb. *p*

Stand by stand change to tremolo

Dark Sky Soliloquy

90 91 92 93 94

Vln. I Unis. tremolo *mp* *mf*

Vln. II Unis. tremolo Div. *mp* *mf*

Vla. Unis. tremolo *mp* *mf*

Vc. Tutti *mp* *mf*

Cb. Unis. tremolo *mp* *mf*

95 96 97 98 99

Vln. I *mf*

Vln. II (Div.) *mf*

Vla. Div. Unis. *mp*

Vc. *f* *p*

Cb. *mf*

Dark Sky Soliloquy

100 101 102 103 *Calm, awake* 104 105

Unis. *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf*

p *mf*

mf *mf*

mf

mf

mf

106 107 108 109 110

f *f* *f* *f* *f*

Dark Sky Soliloquy

111 112 113 114 115 116

(8^{va})

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

p *mp* *p* *mp* *p* *mp*

117 118 119 120 121

(8^{va})

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

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Dark Sky Soliloquy

122 (8va) loco Div. 123 124 125 126

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

p

p

p

p

p

127 128 129 Div. 130 Unis. 131 132

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf

Dark Sky Soliloquy

133 134 135 136

Vln. I *pp* *mf*

Vln. II *pp* *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *pp* *mf*

Cb. *pp* *mf*

137 Div. 138 139 140 141

Vln. I *fp*

Vln. II *fp* Unis.

Vla. *fp*

Vc. *fp* Unis. *mf*

Cb. *fp*

142 143 144 145

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

pp

pp

mp

mp

146 147 Div. 148 149

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

mf

mf

mf

mf

mp

mf

With grace, delicate

150 151 152 153 154

Musical score for measures 150-154. The score is for five instruments: Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., and Cb. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. Measures 150-152 are in 3/4 time, and measures 153-154 are in 3/4 time. Dynamics include *mp*, *pp*, and *p*. Glissando markings are present in measures 153 and 154. A large red watermark 'TRN' is overlaid on the score.

155 156 157 158 159 160

Musical score for measures 155-160. The score is for five instruments: Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., and Cb. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. Measures 155-160 are in 3/4 time. Dynamics include *pp* and *p*. Glissando markings are present in measures 156 and 159. A large red watermark 'TRN' is overlaid on the score.

Dark Sky Soliloquy

161 162 163 164 165 166

Slight rit. to end

Musical score for measures 161-166. The score includes staves for Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., and Cb. with various dynamics and performance instructions.

- Vln. I:** Measures 162-163: *pp*. Measures 165-166: *ppp*.
- Vln. II:** Measures 162-163: *pp*. Measures 165-166: *ppp*.
- Vla.:** Measures 162-163: *pp*. Measures 165-166: *ppp*.
- Vc.:** Measures 161-163: *p*. Measures 164-166: *ppp*. Instruction: "free gliss. up the string" above measure 164.
- Cb.:** Measures 161-163: *p*. Measures 164-166: *ppp*.

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