

PIANO

JEFFREY RYAN

ELEMENTAL

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Instrumentation:

Violin
Violoncello
Piano (+ Ocarina)


Performance notes:

Total performance time ca. 11 minutes.

A grand piano is required, due to the inside-the-piano playing in the third movement.

The pianist also plays an ocarina at the opening of the piece. Any ocarina sounding in the approximate range indicated will be satisfactory.

All glissandi begin immediately after the first pitch is sounded; glissandi of duration greater than a quarter note are notated with an opening eighth note along with the required duration. Stems are added for clarity when needed.

 strings: note ends with no bow change.

Other performance notes are given as required in the score and/or part.

Programme note:

The four movements of this sonata for piano trio depict the four elements of Earth, Water, Air, and Fire. Musically, the movements are connected in a way similar to the elements they represent: Earth emphasises the lifesource using primordial drones; Water springs forth from Earth, then evaporates and ascends into Air, which in turn provides the sustenance for Fire, whose blaze replenishes the Earth. This cycle of energy is reflected in the progression from low to high register, and with the delicate central movements framed by the vigorous and percussive outer movements.

ELEMENTAL

Earth

1 *Slow and spacious* ♩ = 48

change bow as necessary

A III non-vib. vib. → molto vib. non-vib.

n. mf n.

1 *Slow and spacious* ♩ = 48

OCARINA (approx. pitch)

A

mf > pp

8 B III vib. non-vib. → vib.

IV gl. mf ppp f gl. (♩)

n. mf ppp

slow → fast

8 B

15 C → non-vib. ord. → sul pont. D

repeat pattern p moderate → fast → slow ppp pp

pizz. mf 6 pp

15 C OCARINA PIANO D

mf > pp

pp 6 5

20

(non-vib.)
ord.

20

mf > *pp* *mf* > *pp* *pp* < *mf* *fp*

tr *tr* *tr* *tr*

23

repeat D-B gliss. grad. faster

23

f *pp* *f* *pp* *mf* *p*

tr *tr* *tr* *tr*

25

gl. *ff* *p*

arco *p sempre*

E

25

mf *p* *f* *f*

E

28 **F**

28 **F**

32

32

36 **G**

36 **G**

40 **H**

ff *sul pont.* *ord.* 6 6 6 *sfp < ff*

40 **H**

ff *p* *ff* *p sub.* *ff* *p sub.*

42 **J**

6 7 *sfp* *fff* 3 *sfp*

42 **J**

f *p sub.* *fff* 3 5

45

fff *ff* *gl. (o)* *fff* *gl. (o)* *fff* *p sub.* *ffff*

45

p *tr.* *ffff*

Water

1 $\bullet = 96$ Fluidly
sul tasto
non-vib.

ppp
sul tasto 0

1 $\bullet = 96$ Fluidly

5

p *ppp*

5

9

mp *ppp*

9

13

mf pp

mf pp

Detailed description: This system contains measures 13 through 16. The piano staff (top) features a melodic line with eighth-note patterns, starting in 3/4 time and changing to 4/4 at measure 14. The bass staff (bottom) provides a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth-note chords. Dynamic markings include *mf* and *pp*.

13

pp

Detailed description: This system shows the grand staff for measures 13-16. The piano part is mostly silent, with rests in both staves. The bass staff has a few notes, including a half note with a sharp sign in measure 15. A *pp* dynamic marking is present in measure 15.

17

B

ord. (pp) ord. (pp)

Detailed description: This system contains measures 17 through 20. Measure 17 is in 3/4 time, 18 in 3/4, 19 in 7/16, and 20 in 4/4. The piano staff has a melodic line with slurs and accents. The bass staff has a rhythmic accompaniment. Dynamic markings include *pp* and *ord.* (ordine). A section marker 'B' is at the end of measure 19.

17

B

mp p sub.

hold pedal down

Detailed description: This system shows the grand staff for measures 17-20. The piano part is mostly silent. The bass staff has notes, including a half note with a sharp sign in measure 17. Dynamic markings include *mp* and *p sub.* (piano subito). A 'hold pedal down' instruction with an arrow is at the bottom right.

21

Detailed description: This system contains measures 21 through 24. The piano staff has a melodic line with eighth-note patterns. The bass staff has a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth-note chords.

21

pp

Detailed description: This system shows the grand staff for measures 21-24. The piano part has a melodic line with slurs and accents. The bass staff has a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth-note chords. A *pp* dynamic marking is present in measure 21.

25 **C**

25 **C**

29 **D**

29 **D**

33 **E**

33 **E**

36

pp f sfp

Musical notation for measures 36-38. The upper staff features a melodic line with dynamics *pp*, *f*, and *sfp*. The lower staff provides a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes.

36

Piano accompaniment for measures 36-38, consisting of two staves with a steady eighth-note accompaniment.

39

pp

Musical notation for measures 39-41. The upper staff has a melodic line with a *pp* dynamic. The lower staff continues the eighth-note accompaniment.

39

Piano accompaniment for measures 39-41, continuing the eighth-note accompaniment in two staves.

42

F f ff

Musical notation for measures 42-44. The upper staff begins with a forte *F* dynamic and ends with *ff*. The lower staff features a melodic line with a *f* dynamic.

42

F sub. pp sub.

Piano accompaniment for measures 42-44. The upper staff starts with a forte *F* dynamic. The lower staff includes dynamics *f sub.* and *pp sub.*

48 **G**

pp *f*

sfp *ff* *f*

f sub.

54 **H**

pp *f*

pp *pp* *f*

pp sub. *f* *pp*

dolce

59 **J**

pp *f* *pp* *f* *p* *f*

pp *f* *pp* *f* *p*

f *pp* *f* *pp* *f*

8va

(8^{va})

65

p *pp* *n.*

65

pp *mf* *pp* *mf* *pp*

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- piano -

Air

Inside piano*

MIDDLE

1 tap on strings with 3 fingertips

*Typically, the iron frame of the piano divides the front edge (nearest the player) into four segments. The highest segment does not include dampers, and is not used in this movement. The lower three segments cover the lowest register with the woundstrings ("LOW"), the MIDDLE register (usually the widest), and a smaller HIGH register, all with dampers.

In the three-line staff used here, the lowest notes represent the lowest strings in each segment, and the highest notes the highest strings, again within each segment. No specific pitches inside the piano are required. As indicated, the pedal remains down throughout most of the movement; all sounds should be allowed to ring.

In some models of piano, the MIDDLE register is divided by a smaller stress bar. In this case, the performer may adapt the MIDDLE passages as necessary, and may need to jump over that extra bar, or use two hands inside the piano.

20 **C** *tap with back of nails* *single strum with back of nails* *tap with 3 fingertips*

LOW *sim.* 5

pp *mf* *pp < p* *pp < mf* *pp < f* *p*

25 **D** *fast as poss.* *palm slap on strings*

mf *p* *f* *pp* *p*

30 **MIDDLE** *tap with 3 fingertips*

pp *f* *pp* *f* *pp* *f*

34 **E HIGH** *(still fingertip taps)* *grad. curl fingers* *nails* *tips*

f *pp < f*

38

42

F

42

F

*silently depress these keys**

MIDDLE *sweep back and forth with pads of fingers*

mp 6 *senza ped.*

fff *fff*

**if middle segment is divided by an extra frame bar, choose a different inversion of this chord*

47

47

switch to these keys

HIGH *single strum with fingertips*

p *senza ped.*

release held pitches with violoncello

mp 6 *mp* 6

(to catch resonance of previous chord)

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Fire

1 ♩ = 138 *Savagely*

1 ♩ = 138 *Savagely*

4

4

10

10

B

Musical notation for measures 13-14, staves 1 and 2. Includes dynamics *mf*, *ff*, *gl.*, *ord.*, and *sul pont.*

B

Musical notation for measures 13-14, staves 3 and 4. Includes dynamics *ff*, *p sub.*, and *sul pont.*

C

Musical notation for measures 17-18, staves 1 and 2. Includes dynamics *mf*, *ff*, *gl.*, and *ord.*

C

Musical notation for measures 17-18, staves 3 and 4. Includes dynamics *f*, *p*, *ff*, and *mf*

Musical notation for measures 21-22, staves 1 and 2. Includes dynamics *gl.*

Musical notation for measures 21-22, staves 3 and 4. Includes dynamics *ff*, *mf*, and *ff*

25

gl.

D

mf *ff* *ff*

29

p *ff* *ff*

29

ff *p* *f*

33

gl. (♩) to highest pitch

E

f *p*

33

ff *ff*

36

tr *p*

tr (b) tr (b) tr (b) tr (b) tr (b) tr (b) tr (b)

36

p

+ u.c.

40

gl (a)

non-tr.

40

44 **F**

f

f

44 **F**

f

f

- u.c.

47

ff

ff

ff

G

50

p sub.

p sub.

fff

p

6

6

54

ff

ff

ff

H

H

57

Measures 57-58. Treble and bass clefs. Dynamics: *f*, *sfp*. Performance markings: *gl. (o)*, *gl. (o)*.

57

Piano accompaniment for measures 57-58. Dynamics: *pp*.



60 J

Measures 60-61. Treble and bass clefs. Dynamics: *ff*, *ff*. Performance marking: *J*.

60 J

Piano accompaniment for measures 60-61. Dynamics: *ff*, *p*. Performance marking: *J*, *clusters*.



64

Measures 64-65. Treble and bass clefs. Dynamics: *fff*, *fff*. Performance markings: *gl.*, *gl.*.

64

Piano accompaniment for measures 64-65. Dynamics: *ff*, *fff*. Performance markings: *8va*, *8vb*.