IN THE BURIED CITY, I HEARD THE WIND

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A Thesis

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ABSTRACT

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_In the buried city, I heard the wind_ is an eight-minute single movement orchestral piece scored for 1 piccolo, 2 flutes, 2 oboes, 1 English horn, 3 clarinets (3rd doubling bass clarinet), 3 bassoons (3rd doubling contrabassoon), 4 horns, 3 trumpets, 3 trombones, 1 tuba, timpani, 3 percussion, harp, piano/celesta, and strings. The work, inspired by the poem _Listening to the flute sound at the frontier_ by Gao Shi (Tang Dynasty, 618-907), is in five sections with three distinct musical characters: rhythmic percussion, strings and woodwinds to create the battlefield scene; an oboe solo and the resounding tonal melody to express the feeling of sadness; and atonal language to express the tension, fear and hesitation of a people moving toward war.
For Gao Shi (Tang Dynasty)
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INSTRUMENTATION

1 Piccolo
2 Flutes
2 Oboes
1 English Horn
2 Clarinets
1 Bass Clarinet
3 Bassoons (3rd doubling Cbsn)
4 Horns
3 Trumpets
3 Trombones
1 Tuba
Timpani

Percussion (3 players)
1: Snare Drum, Tenor Drum, Concert Toms, Woodblocks, Vibraphone
2: Crash Cymbal, Suspended Cymbal, Tam-tam, Xylophone, Marimba
3: Concert Bass Drum, Triangle, Wind Chimes

Harp

Piano/ Celeste (one player)

Strings

Duration: about 7.5 minutes

Decrescendo to/from nothing or as soft as possible
Gradual transformation (e.g., Sul pont to Sul tasto.)
Spoken with “sh”
Bow vibraphone
Snare stick moving in a circular motion on the tam-tam
Chromatic cluster; play all notes from a1-a2 (lowest octave)
Glissando following the general shape indicated
Striking the string with the wood of the bow