

SONGS OF THE NIGHT SKY:
THREE POEMS OF QUENTIN SMITH

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A Thesis

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ABSTRACT

Marilyn Shrude, Advisor

Songs of the Night Sky: Three Poems of Quentin Smith is a setting for soprano and small chamber ensemble consisting of clarinet, cello, and piano. The poet's philosophy concerns cosmology, time, and the meaning of the universe's existence. His basic view toward these subjects is best described as scientific, naturalistic, and Humanistic. His poetry reflects this viewpoint by capturing the wonder and awe experienced when encountering the magnitude and vastness of the universe via the night sky.

Songs of the Night Sky: Three Poems of Quentin Smith complements Smith's poetry by musically portraying its emotional and intellectual states as well as painting the text to further illuminate its meaning. The three poems form a distinct narrative and dramatic progression. The overall form of the piece is analogous to this dramatic shape.

The piece draws on well-known twentieth century vocal/ small ensemble literature. The instrumentation loosely models that of Arnold Schönberg's *Pierrot lunaire*, Op. 21. Pierre Boulez's *Le marteau sans maître* impacts this work through its abstraction of the text and relation of instrumental accompaniment to the text. George Crumb's *Ancient Voices of Children* and *Lux Aeterna* are manifest through the use of extended techniques and complex, evocative timbres. The influence of Luciano Berio is evident in the treatment of text as seen in *Thema: Omaggio a Joyce*, *Visage*, and *Circles*. The final poem presents the emotions the author experienced when listening to Bruckner's *Symphony no. 4*. The third movement's finale quotes extensively from this piece.

Songs of the Night Sky: Three Poems of Quentin Smith is intended as a musical component of and counterpart to the Humanistic philosophy and world view embodied in Smith's philosophy and poetry. It is also intended as a contribution to and extension of the twentieth century vocal/small chamber ensemble tradition.

To Sarah, my love and inspiration

I. OUTSIDE

Blood-flecks in the sky
Red lights on towers
Flash death-warning

Swords of stars
Crash silver blades
On black rocks.

Hard birds arc
Like bombs
Through the night

The wind drives
Against a tree
Like a truck

Without an anchor
A pole
Splashes in the dirt

The sky turns to a wave-crest
Flowing from distant orange suns
And the night breaks

Without a scream
Through the sinews
Of the Earth.

Written 1973, 1974, 2002

II. NIGHT

The night like an infinite wing
Keeps spreading towards the earth

In flowing mirrors that melt and dissolve
The air vanishes below the stars

Beyond the moon's scarred ice-stone
A frozen-orange hall is fading

Onto a field space is pouring
An ocean of eternal silence

Into a ghost mountain's distant glow
A purple shadow gently crashes

On a hill a tombstone breaks
In the light of silver suns

Moonlight splashes on a statuehead
And trickles numbly on its eye-dead face

Near a vine that grows blue around an elm
Starlight rains softly on a marble pond

On an island of a darkened meadow
A rose echoes the deep universe

Written 1974

III. WALKING HOME FROM A MOVIE

The longing glow of the moon
Slid in and out of the scattering clouds,
Illuminating them with a silver-blue radiance...
O everything is infinite! Glorious night!
Stars speckled and so near in your distance
...I have risen beyond myself, beyond the world...
There is no more time, there is only beauty;
Everything is the deepest
And the most fullest eternity of love...
There is no world, I am the infinite...

Written 1971

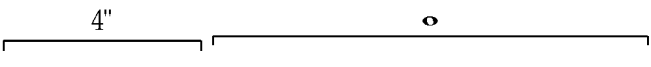
Guide to notation

The following applies throughout the ensemble:

All performers read from score

Accidentals apply throughout a measure; accidentals apply only to the notes they immediately precede where measures are absent; accidentals apply throughout boxed repeated figures

No Meter 

Duration is indicated through brackets: 

Arrows are used to indicate cues between parts 

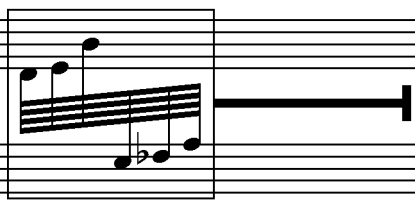
Dashed barlines indicate points of simultaneity 

Small notes are used to indicate release, used to cue another player 

A group of beamed notes with a slash indicates that the figure should be played as fast as possible 

A line between notes indicates sustain (same as a tie) 

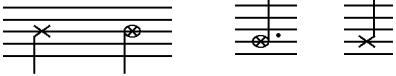
The termination of a line indicates a release 

Any boxed figure should be repeated until the end of the bold line 

Symbols used in the voice part:

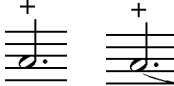
“X” noteheads indicate an unvoiced whisper or a sustained fricative (may be voiced or unvoiced depending on the text)

mp whisper



Fla - sh cks s

Notes marked with a “+” indicate a sustained consonant (nasal or semi-vowel)



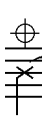
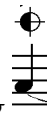
m B(l)



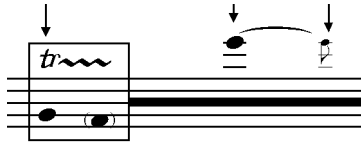
Indicates the following pitch should be sung a quarter tone lower than the already flatted pitch

The vocalist is also asked to play bamboo wind chimes, finger cymbals, and a large Chinese wind gong (Feng Luo) (strike with large, soft tam-tam mallet)

Symbols used in the clarinet part:

Notes marked as such:  should consist entirely of breath noise, while the marking  indicates a mixture of tone and breath noise

Multiphonics are designated as follows:  and will always include a suggested fingering (see *The Clarinet of the Twenty-First Century* by E. Michael Richards for information on multiphonics)

A register key trill with upper multiphonic is shown:  (see *The Clarinet of the Twenty-First Century* by E. Michael Richards)

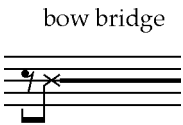
An “X” above a note indicates a slap-tongue 

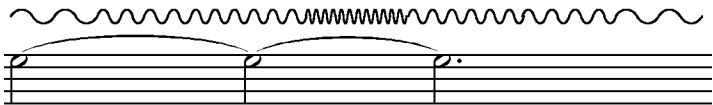
Multiphonics produced through singing and playing are shown as follows:  the small noteheads are transposed and are to be sung in the octave most comfortable for the performer

Glissandi are indicated as follows:  Glissandi covering wide ranges should use both changes in embouchure and fingering, at the performer’s discretion

Symbols used in the cello part:

Small pitch bends on open strings  are obtained by applying pressure to the strings behind the bridge, thereby raising their pitch slightly

An “X” notehead indicates to bow the bridge 

Variation in vibrato speed is shown graphically, as such: 

Glissandi are indicated as follows:  Every attempt should be made to perform each glissandi entirely on a single string; exceptions to this are left to the performer’s discretion

Artificial or stopped harmonics are indicated 

A triangular notehead indicates the highest possible stopped pitch on a given string 

A diamond notehead above a triangular notehead  indicates the highest possible stopped harmonic on a given string

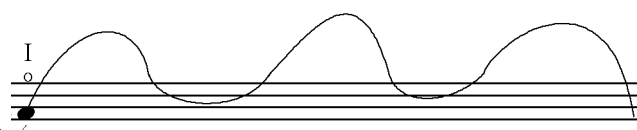
A triangular notehead marked with a circle indicates the highest possible natural (or touch) harmonic possible on a given string 

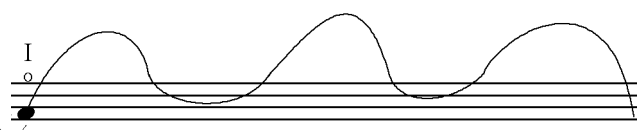
A “+” above a note indicates a left hand pizzicati 

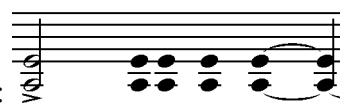


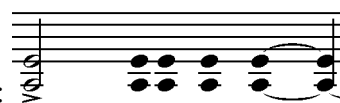
The marking  indicates the strings should be muted using any free left hand fingers in order to produce bow noise, with no actual tone

The marking  above a note indicates it should be muted as above, but lightly, as to create a combination of bow noise and tone



The following:  indicates free glissandi through the natural harmonics available on the given string



Ricochet bowing is indicated as such:  When followed by sustain, the final bounce should begin the sustain

The cellist is also asked to use a plectrum. A standard guitar plectrum is appropriate.

Symbols used in the piano part:

Muted strings are indicated with a “+” 

Harmonics are shown as follows: 

A diamond notehead  indicates the key(s) should be depressed silently

Tone clusters are indicated as follows  and should include all chromatic pitches between the two given pitches

Indications to play on the keyboard or on the inside of the piano are made as such: Keyboard Inside

The pianist is also asked to scrape a wire brush (the type typically used by jazz drummers) both lengthwise and across (as if strumming) the strings (see page 22-24 of the score)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to thank my advisor, Dr. Marilyn Shrude for her invaluable insight and guidance that has proved crucial to the completion of this work. I would also like to thank my committee members Dr. Elaine Lillios and Dr. Burton Beerman for their bountiful assistance throughout the creative process. Further acknowledgement must be given to my friends and family members, too numerous to name individually, but all deserving of recognition for their support and encouragement. Finally, I thank my wife Sarah. Her patience and encouragement makes possible all that I do.

Transposed Score

Songs of the Night Sky: Three Poems of Quentin Smith

Quentin Smith

I. Outside

Lee Scott Price (2005)

Dark, mysterious
 ♩ = 72

Voice
 m ————— ah m B(l)

Clarinet
pp *mp* *pp* *sfz* *pp*

Cello
 bow as necessary
ppp
 LH pizz. III
pp *mf* *pp*

Piano
pp
 mute string
pp *mp* *pp*

Musical score for a vocal and instrumental ensemble. The score includes parts for Voice (Vox), Clarinet (Cl.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Piano (Pno.).

Vox (Voice): Lyrics: ood fleck s in the sky Re d lights on tow - er s Fla - sh. Dynamics: *mf*, *mp*, *mp* whisper.

Cl. (Clarinet): Performance instructions: randomly trill keys, ⊕ blow air through horn. Dynamics: *p*, *mp*, *f*, *p*, *mf*.

Vc. (Violoncello): Dynamics: *mf*, *mp*, *pp*, *p*, *mf*, *pp*.

Pno. (Piano): Performance instructions: 8va, 15ma. Dynamics: *mf*, *mp*, *pp*, *p*, *mf*, *pp*.

Vox
f *norm.* *p* *p* *mp* *f*
 de a th w ar n ing

Cl.

Vc.

Pno.
 Inside
 pizz.
 Keyboard
pp *f*

Red.

p
 Vox S - wor d s _____ of stars *mp* Cra sh sil - ver blade - s *p* *pp* On _____ bla ck rock - s. *mp* *p*

Cl. *sfpp* slap tongue *mp* sing: *mf* key clicks *mf* *p* *pp* airy sound (add breath noise to tone)

Vc. arco norm. *pizz.* *mp* *ppp* *pizz.* *p* *mf* *ppp* arco norm.

Pno. *pp* 15^{ma} *pp* *ppp* Inside 15^{ma} sweep finger across strings Keyboard 3 *pp*

(Ped.) *mp* *pp*

6''

Vox: $\text{♩} = 96$ Harsh, obsessively
f
 H ard _____ birds arc _____ Like bomb - - - - s

Cl.: freely alternate between trill notes norm.
tr

Vc.: pizz. rasp. *pp* arco *ff* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf*

Pno.: *pp* *ff* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp* *tr* *f* *mp*
 play given note in erratic rhythm

Vox

Th rough the night

Cl.

mp *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf*

Vc.

mf *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf*

Pno.

mp *mf* *f*

fast to slow

tr

Ritard...

$\text{♩} = 72$ Cool, distant, objective

p

Vox

Cl.

Vc.

Pno.

bow bridge

highest possible stopped pitch

III

Depress keys silently; secure with sostenuto pedal

SOS_____

mp *pp* *pp* *f* *mp* *pp*

Score for Vox, Cl., Vc., and Pno. The score is written in 2/4, 3/4, 3/8, 4/4, and 5/8 time signatures. The lyrics are: - s A - gai - n - st a tree Like a tru - ck

Vox: *p* *mp* *mf* *f*

Cl.: *p* *mf* *f*

Vc.: *pp* *pp* *f* *pp* *f*

Pno.: *f* (sos)

Annotations: bow bridge, III, bow bridge, IV, *tasto* → *pont.*

f *mp* whisper *f* norm. Lighter, confident

Vox With - out an an - chor A pole Spla - - - shes in the dirt The

Vc.

Pno. *mf* (Red.)

sky turns to a wave cre - st Flow

mf sfz mf mp

(Ped.)

• = 58 Calm, Warm, Sincere
pp

Vox
And the n - ight breaks
Wi - th - out a s - cream

Cl.
ff
breathe as necessary
ff mp ppp

Vc.
ff
Ricochet (begin sustain on last bounce; bow as necessary) bend string behind bridge
ff mp ppp

Pno.
ff
ff mp ppp
(Red.)

(Red.)

Th- rough the si - n - ew - s Of the Ear - - th.

Bamboo Wind Chimes

ppp

(Red.)

II. Night

Score for "The Night Like an Indian" by John Cage

Tempo and Mood: ♩ = 66 Deliberate, confident

Instrumentation: Vox (Voice), Finger Cymbals, Cl. (Clarinet), Vc. (Violoncello), Pno. (Piano), and Ped. (Pedal).

Key Performance Instructions:

- Vox:** *mf* *pp*, *mf* *pp*, *mf* *pp*. Lyrics: "The night like an Indian".
- Finger Cymbals:** *mf* (first measure).
- Cl.:** *timbral trill* (third measure).
- Vc.:** *pizz. with plectrum* (first measure), *vib. rate: arco* (third measure), *ppp* (third measure).
- Pno.:** *mf* (first measure), *ppp* (third measure), *Depress keys silently; secure with sostenuto pedal* (fourth measure), *Inside* (fourth measure).

Dynamic Markings: *mf*, *pp*, *ppp*, *p*, *mp*.

Structural Elements: The score is divided into measures by vertical dashed lines. The vocal part is in the upper system, and the instrumental parts are in the lower system. The tempo is marked as 66 beats per minute, and the mood is "Deliberate, confident".

musical score for Vox, Cl., Vc., and Pno. with lyrics and performance instructions.

Vox: - fi - nite wing Keeps spread - ing tow-ards the ear - th In flow -

Cl.: (tr) timbral trill

Vc.: ppp

Pno.: Keyboard, Inside, sweep across strings with fingernail

Dynamic markings: ppp, p, p, mp, ppp, 2", mp, ppp, pp

Performance instructions: (sos), timbral trill, sweep across strings with fingernail

Increasingly agitated

Vox: - ing mir - rors that melt ³ and dis - solve The air van - i - shes ³ be - low the

Cl. *ppp* slowly and gradually crescendo...

Vc. *ppp* slowly and gradually crescendo...

Pno. *ppp* slowly and gradually crescendo...

mf *mp* whisper *mf* norm.

Red.

* Synchronicity between parts is approximated in this section.

Vox *f*
stars

Cl.

Vc. *f* *diminuendo...*

Pno. *(Seq.)*

Musical score for "The Moon's Shimmer" by David Lang. The score is for a vocal soloist (Vox), Clarinet (Cl.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Piano (Pno.). The tempo is marked as ♩ = 66, with a character of "Warm, fragile, ethereal". The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The score is divided into two systems. The first system includes a 4-measure rest for the vocal soloist. The second system features the vocal soloist's entry with the lyrics "Be - yond the moon's s-carred". The piano part includes a "Ritard..." section and a "diminuendo..." section. The score is marked with various dynamics including *ppp*, *ff*, *mp*, and *sfz*. The vocal soloist's part is marked with *mp* and "s-carred". The piano part includes a "Ricochet (begin sustain on last bounce; bow as necessary)" section. The score is marked with "Red." at the bottom of the first system.

i - ce- s - tone A fro - zen- or - ange hall is fad - ing

sfz *p* *sfz* *p* *sfz* *p* *sfz* *p*

7 5 6 5

4"

(Ped.)

Lighter, driving, liberated
♩ = 72

Vox
p 3 On - to a field space is pour - ing An o-cean of e - ter - nal si - lence
mf
ppp 2" *p* 3 In - to a

Cl.

Vc.
sfz *p*
sfz *p* *ppp*

Pno.
mp
mp *ppp* 5" *mp* *ppp* *mp* *ppp*

(Ped.)

Depress keys silently;
secure with sostenuto pedal
sos

Vox *mp* *mf* *mp*
 ghost moun - tain's dis - tant glow A pur - ple shad - ow gent-ly cra - she -

Cl. *p*
 Slur throughout; do not rearticulate each repetition
 ⊕ breathe as necessary

Vc. *p*
 bow as necessary
 ⊕ mute strings while bowing to create noise
 slightly mute strings while bowing to create noisy tone

Pno. *p*
 Inside Scrape bass strings secured with sos. ped. lengthwise with wire brush
 away from endpin 5
 near endpin 3
 Keyboard
 8^{vb} *p*

3"

3

5:4

3

Vox

- s

On a hill a tomb - stone breaks In the light of sil - ver suns

Cl.

norm.

Vc.

norm.

Pno.

8vb

8vb

8va

strum across strings with wire brush

(sos)

The musical score is written for four parts: Vox (Vocal), Cl. (Clarinet), Vc. (Violoncello), and Pno. (Piano). The Vox part features a melody with lyrics: "- s", "On a hill a tomb - stone breaks", "In the light of sil - ver suns". The Cl. part has a single note marked "norm.". The Vc. part has a single note marked "norm.". The Pno. part has a bass line with a "8vb" marking and a treble line with a "8va" marking. The score includes various musical notations such as triplets, 5:4 time signatures, and dynamic markings.

Ecstatic, warm

Vox
Moon - - - light - - - spla 6:5 - - shes on a stat-ue-head - - And trick-les numb -

Cl.
growl

Vc.
freely gliss through natural harmonics

Pno.
Keyboard

Dynamic Markings:
 - Vox: *ff*, *f*, *mf*, *mp*
 - Cl.: *ff*, *mp*
 - Vc.: *ff*, *p*
 - Pno.: *ff*

Performance Instructions:
 - Cl.: growl
 - Vc.: freely gliss through natural harmonics
 - Pno.: Keyboard

Musical score for three systems, featuring four staves: Vox (Vocal), Cl. (Clarinet), Vc. (Violoncello), and Pno. (Piano). The score is divided into three measures by vertical dashed lines.

Measure 1:

- Vox:** Lyrics: "- ly on its eye— dead face". Dynamics: *p* (piano).
- Cl.:** Dynamics: *ff* (fortissimo) to *mp* (mezzo-piano). Includes a fingering diagram for the right hand (R) and left hand (L).
- Vc.:** Dynamics: *ff* to *p*. Includes a fingering diagram for the right hand (R) and left hand (L).
- Pno.:** Dynamics: *ff*. Includes a fingering diagram for the right hand (R) and left hand (L).

Measure 2:

- Vox:** Lyrics: "Near a vine that grows blue a-round an elm". Dynamics: *p* (piano).
- Cl.:** Dynamics: *ff* to *mp*.
- Vc.:** Dynamics: *ff* to *p*.
- Pno.:** Dynamics: *ff*.

Measure 3:

- Vox:** Lyrics: "Star - light rains soft -". Dynamics: *p* (piano) to *mp* (mezzo-piano) to *p* (piano).
- Cl.:** Dynamics: *ff* to *mp*.
- Vc.:** Dynamics: *ff* to *p*.
- Pno.:** Dynamics: *ff*.

Rallentando ad. lib.
(independent of ensemble)

pp

f

mf

Vox

ly on a mar - ble pond On an is - land of a dark-ened mead-ow A rose ech - oes the deep

Finger Cymbals

Cl.

ff *mp*

Vc.

ff *mp*

Pno.

ff *ff* *ff*

(*sed.*)

4/4

4/4

4/4

4/4

Musical score for Vox, Cl., Vc., and Pno. in 4/4 time. The score includes lyrics and dynamic markings.

Vox: u - - - - ni - - - - verse

Cl.:

- First entry: $\leftarrow \text{half note} = \text{half note} \rightarrow (\text{half note} = 44)$, *pp*
- Second entry: $\leftarrow \text{half note} = \text{half note} \rightarrow (\text{half note} = 22)$, *ppp*
- Third entry: *pppp* (soft as possible), with instruction: "Slur throughout; do not rearticulate each repetition"

Vc.:

- First entry: *pppp* (soft as possible)

Pno.:

- First entry: *p*, *8va*
- Second entry: *pp*, *8va*
- Third entry: *ppp*, *8va*, $\leftarrow \text{half note} = \text{half note} \rightarrow (\text{half note} = 7.34)$
- Fourth entry: *pppp* (soft as possible), *8vb*

(Fed.)

III. Walking Home from a Movie

ϕ ♩ = 72 Precise, mechanical, imminent

7"

Cl.

sfz *pp*

Vc.

sfz *pp*

Pno.

mp

The musical score is for a piece titled "III. Walking Home from a Movie". It features three staves: Clarinet (Cl.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Piano (Pno.). The tempo is marked as 72 beats per minute, and the mood is "Precise, mechanical, imminent". The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The Clarinet and Violoncello parts begin with a forte dynamic (*sfz*) and then move to a pianissimo dynamic (*pp*). The Piano part begins with a mezzo-piano dynamic (*mp*). The score includes a 7-second time signature. The Piano part features a complex rhythmic pattern with many sixteenth notes. The Clarinet and Violoncello parts have long, sustained notes. The score ends with a double bar line and a right-pointing arrow.

Cl. *mp* 5" *f* 9"

Vc. *mp* *f*

Pno. *f*

The musical score is written for three instruments: Clarinet (Cl.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Piano (Pno.). The Clarinet part features two melodic phrases. The first phrase is 5 measures long, starting with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic and ending with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The second phrase is 9 measures long, starting with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The Violoncello part has a melodic line that begins with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic and transitions to a forte (*f*) dynamic. The Piano part consists of a sustained chord marked with a forte (*f*) dynamic.

13" 17" Urgent yet calm, controlled *mp*

Vox

Cl.

Vc.

Pno.

mf *mf* *mp* *mp* *mp*

The long - - - ing glow of the moon

The musical score for "The Clouds" by John Cage is presented in a multi-staff format. The top staff is for the Voice (Vox), the middle staff is for the Clarinet (Cl.), and the bottom staff is for the Piano (Pno.). The score includes lyrics and dynamic markings.

Vox (Voice):

- Lyrics: S-l-id in and out of the scat - ter - ing clouds, Il - lu - mi-na-ting them with a s - il - ver- blue ra - di-ance...
- Dynamics: *mp*, *mf*, *mp*, *mp*, *f*, *mf*, *ff*
- Tempo/Performance: 2", 3", 3"

Cl. (Clarinet):

- Trill with register key (indicated by a box and a trill symbol)

Vc. (Violoncello):

- Trill with register key (indicated by a box and a trill symbol)

Pno. (Piano):

- Trill with register key (indicated by a box and a trill symbol)

Ecstatic, powerful, absolute

ff *mf* *f* *ff* *f*

4"

Vox

O e - very - thing is in - fi - nite! Glo - ri - ous

Cl.

ff

Vc.

ff

Pno.

ff

ff

ff

6

The musical score for "The Stars" by John Adams is presented in a multi-staff format. The vocal part (Vox) is written in treble clef and includes lyrics. The instrumental parts include Clarinet (Cl.), Violoncello (Vc.), Piano (Pno.), and Double Bass (Bd.). The score is divided into three main sections by vertical dashed lines. The first section (measures 1-5) is marked *ff* and includes a performance instruction: "Slur throughout; do not rearticulate each repetition". The second section (measures 6-12) is marked *mf* and includes a performance instruction: "Reflective, awestruck". The third section (measures 13-19) is marked *p* and includes a performance instruction: "Introspective, affirmative". The score includes various dynamic markings (*ff*, *mf*, *p*, *pp*, *f*, *mp*) and performance instructions such as "quasi recitative" and "3". The lyrics are: "night! Stars speck - led and so near in your dis - tance ...I have ri-sen be - yond my-self, be-yond the".

musical score for Vox, Cl., Vc., and Pno.

Vox: world... *pp*

Cl.: *pp* *Accelerando...* *crescendo...*

Vc.: pizz. *pp* *crescendo...* arco

Pno.: *pp* *crescendo...*

Red. _____

$\text{♩} = 82$ Ecstatic, boundless
ff

Vox

There is no more time, _____ there is

Cl.

..ff

Vc.

..ff

Pno.

..ff

(Rea.) _____

Musical score for four parts: Vox, Cl. (Clarinet), Vc. (Violoncello), and Pno. (Piano). The score is in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time.

Vox (Vocal): The lyrics are: "on - ly beau - ty; E - - - very - thing is the deep-est And the most full-est e - ter-ni-ty _____ of". The melody features several triplet markings (3) and a long melisma on "e - ter-ni-ty".

Cl. (Clarinet): The part begins with a rest, followed by a triplet of eighth notes (3) and a melisma.

Vc. (Violoncello): The part begins with a triplet of eighth notes (3) and a melisma.

Pno. (Piano): The part begins with a rest, followed by a triplet of eighth notes (3) and a melisma. A box highlights a section with the instruction "do not play first time".

The score includes various musical notations such as rests, triplets, and melismas, indicating a complex and expressive piece.

Score for Vox, Cl., Vc., Pno., and (Reo.) with musical notation and performance markings.

Vox: love... ah... ah... ah... ah... ah... ah... *fff* *mf*

Cl.: [Musical notation: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 8/8 time. First measure contains two triplet eighth notes. The rest of the staff is a solid black line.]

Vc.: [Musical notation: Bass clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 8/8 time. First measure contains two triplet eighth notes. The rest of the staff is a solid black line. A final triplet eighth note appears at the end of the staff.]

Pno.: [Musical notation: Grand staff, key signature of one sharp (F#), 8/8 time. First measure contains two triplet eighth notes. The rest of the staff is a solid black line. A final triplet eighth note appears at the end of the staff.]

(Reo.): [Musical notation: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 8/8 time. First measure contains two triplet eighth notes. The rest of the staff is a solid black line.]

Performance markings include a bracket labeled "8" above the first vocal phrase, and brackets labeled "3" and "5" above the second vocal phrase. A crescendo hairpin is shown above the second vocal phrase, transitioning from *fff* to *mf*.

Score for "The Infinite" by John Adams

Vox: 13" 13" Comforting, inward Freely *pp*
There is no world, I am the in - - fi - - nite...

Cl.: *Ritard to end...* (independent of ensemble) *diminuendo...* ... *pp* *diminuendo...* *tr* *tr* *tr*

Vc.: *Ritard to end...* (independent of ensemble) *diminuendo...* freely gliss through natural harmonics II ... *pp* *diminuendo...* highest possible natural harmonic *ppp* *n*

Pno.: *Ritard to end...* (independent of ensemble) *diminuendo...* ... *pp* *diminuendo...* *ppp* *n*

Large Chinese Wind Gong: Indefinite, ad lib. *f*