

Joshua Reed

AURORA
FOR WIND ENSEMBLE

INSTRUMENTATION

Piccolo

2 Flutes

Oboe

Bassoon

3 B♭ Clarinets

B♭ Bass Clarinet

2 E♭ Alto Saxophones

B♭ Tenor Saxophone

E♭ Baritone Saxophone

3 F Horns (*1st calls for mute*)

3 B♭ Trumpets (*calls for harmon mute with stem and cup mute*)

2 E♭ Tenor Horns

3 Trombones (*calls for harmon mute with stem and straight mute*)

Euphonium

Tuba

Timpani (4 drums: 29", 26", 23" and 20")

calls for a cymbal to be balanced on its cup in the centre of a drum head; calls for hard felt mallets (for the drums), yarn wrapped mallets (for the cymbal), and a contrabass bow (to bow the cymbal)

Percussion 1

Glockenspiel, Bass Drum (*kick drum from a drum set is acceptable*)

calls for 2 hard plastic/2 metal mallets (for the glockenspiel) and a contrabass bow

Percussion 2

Clash Cymbals (piatti a due), Triangle

PROGRAMME NOTE

In the far reaches of the north, during the endless night of the arctic winter, solar winds disturb Earth's magnetosphere. On the ground, people look up from the shimmering snow in wonder as the aurora borealis--the northern lights--sparkle in the sky. Capricious, ever-shifting in colour, texture, and shape, they shimmer and dance in the air like magic. The lights coalesce from nothing into a spectacular, ephemeral display before fading again, leaving behind nothing but the stars and a memory of magic.

Aurora was selected as the third place winner in the 2020 Warsaw Wind Ensemble Composition Competition.

ABOUT THE COMPOSER

Joshua Reed is a composer and saxophonist based in southeast England. He has studied composition with Robert Mueller, Philip Parker, Paul Dickinson, and Kenneth Futterer and studied saxophone with Jackie Lamar and Kenneth Futterer. His music has been performed throughout the United Kingdom, United States, South America, Europe, Australia, and Asia.

When he's not composing, practicing, or working he enjoys cooking, gardening, and reading alarming amounts of sci-fi/fantasy literature.

Duration c. 8' 40"

CONDUCTOR'S NOTE

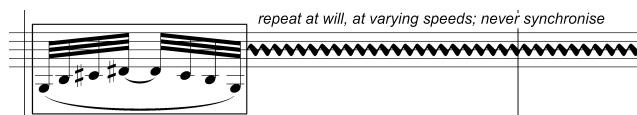
Cymbal on Timpani

In a few passages, the timpanist is asked to balance a cymbal on a timpano and either bow the cymbal or roll it using yarn wrapped mallets. Where the cymbal is bowed, the timpanist should hold the cymbal down in the centre, bow the cymbal, release it, and allow it to vibrate. This is followed by pitch manipulation using the pedal to create an atmospheric effect. Bowing is marked with a crescendo to indicate the duration of the action.

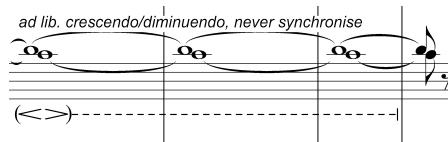
Where the cymbal is rolled, the timpanist should gently roll the cymbal (following any dynamic markings) while manipulating the pitch with the pedal as indicated.

Aleatory

There are several passages throughout that ask the musicians to improvise on certain pitch collections or specific figures. These are notated in a box, immediately followed by a wavy line that indicates duration. This is always accompanied by a directive that reads something like "*repeat at will, never synchronise.*" The musicians should repeat these ideas randomly during the indicated duration (following any dynamic markings) without synchronising with one another, in order to create textural effect. It looks like this:



Also called for is a sort of "wave effect," where sections of the ensemble improvise overlapping crescendi and diminuendi on certain pitch collections. This is accompanied by a directive to "*ad lib. crescendo/diminuendo, never synchronise.*" The markings below denote this, where the dashed line indicates the duration of the effect:



Mutes

The trumpets and trombones often use harmon mutes, with the stem inserted, throughout. They are, in many instances, asked to cover or uncover the opening of the mute with their fingers. Sometimes they are also asked to slowly cover or uncover the opening of the mute. Where they are asked to do this, a + sign indicates covered, while a o indicates open. A dashed line between the two indicates to slowly cover or uncover. Generally, this is used to enhance dynamic effects, though in a few passages it is to alter tone colour.

Where the trombones use straight mutes, I prefer the sound of metal mutes over fibre mutes for this piece.

AURORA

Joshua Reed

Con calma (♩ = c. 60)

Piccolo
1st & 2nd Flute
Oboe
Bassoon
1st B♭ Clarinet
2nd B♭ Clarinet
3rd B♭ Clarinet
B♭ Bass Clarinet
1st & 2nd E♭ Alto Saxophone
B♭ Tenor Saxophone
E♭ Baritone Saxophone

Con calma (♩ = c. 60)

1st F Horn
2nd & 3rd F Horn
1st B♭ Trumpet
2nd & 3rd B♭ Trumpet
1st & 2nd E♭ Tenor Horn
1st Trombone
2nd & 3rd Trombone
Euphonium
Tuba
Timpani
Percussion 1
Percussion 2

AURORA

11

Picc.

Fl. 1 & 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Cl. 3

B. Cl.

1st & 2nd A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Hn. 1

Hn. 2 & 3

harmon mute (stem out)

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2 & 3

(*p* espr.)

(insert stem into mute)

T. Hn. 1 & 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2 & 3

(*ad lib. crescendo/diminuendo, never synchronise*)

Euph.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

pp

repeat at will, at varying speeds; never synchronise

pp fluido

repeat at will, at varying speeds; never synchronise

pp sempre, fluido

repeat at will, at varying speeds; never synchronise

pp sempre, fluido

pp sotto voce

pp sotto voce

ad lib. crescendo/diminuendo, never synchronise

pp

switch to metal mallets

pp

19

Picc.

Fl. 1 & 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Cl. 3

B. Cl.

1st & 2nd A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

24

19

Hn. 1

Hn. 2 & 3

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2 & 3

T. Hn. 1 & 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2 & 3

Euph.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

24

harmon mute (stem in)

(slowly uncover and cover opening of mute with fingers, as directed)

harmon mute (stem in)

(slowly uncover and cover opening of mute with fingers, as directed)

insert harmon mute with stem

harmon mute (stem in)

p

harmon mute (stem in)

p

p

harmon mute (stem in)

p

improvisationally: sparkling groups of notes, rhythm is not important

metal mallets

sempre l.v.

switch to bow

Picc.

Fl. 1 & 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Cl. 3

B. Cl.

1st & 2nd A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Hn. 1

Hn. 2 & 3

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2 & 3

T. Hn. 1 & 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2 & 3

Euph.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

1. solo

pp

mp

p

n

pp

#

25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34

36 poco più mosso ($\bullet = \text{c. 72}$)

Picc.

Fl. 1 & 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Cl. 3

B. Cl.

1st & 2nd A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

The musical score consists of ten staves. The top staff is Picc., followed by Flutes 1 & 2, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinet 1, Clarinet 2, Clarinet 3, Bass Clarinet, and two Alto Saxes. The B. Sax. staff is at the bottom. The Flutes play eighth-note patterns. The Oboe has a solo section with dynamics *mp*, *espr.*, *mf*, *p*, and *pp*. The Bassoon and Bass Clarinet play eighth-note patterns. The Alto Saxes play eighth-note patterns. The B. Sax. staff is empty.

36 poco più mosso ($\bullet = c. 72$)

35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43

Hn. 1

Hn. 2 & 3
(harmon mute with stem)

Tpt. 1
pp *mf* pp

Tpt. 2 & 3

T. Hn. 1 & 2
pp p

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2 & 3
quickly and randomly cover and uncover opening of mute with fingers, never synchronise
(harmon mute with stem)

Euph.

Tba.
pp p

Timp.
26" drum: with a cymbal balanced on its cup in the centre of the drumhead, bow the cymbal through the cresc. marking, let vibrate, then manipulate pitch as marked

Perc. 1

Perc. 2
GLOCKENSPIEL bowed

44 meno mosso (rubato)**48 a tempo (♩ = c. 72)**

Picc.

Fl. 1 & 2 *fp* — *n*

Ob.

Bsn. *fp* — *n* *fp* — *n* *fp* — *n*

Cl. 1 *#p* — *n* *#p* — *n*

Cl. 2 *p* — *n* *fp* — *n*

Cl. 3 *#p* — *n* *#p* — *n*

B. Cl.

1st & 2nd A. Sax. 2. *fp* — *n* *fp* — *n* *fp* — *n* *pp* — *f* — *pp*

T. Sax. *fp* — *n* *fp* — *n* *fp* — *n* *pp* — *f* — *pp*

B. Sax. *fp* — *n* *fp* — *n* *pp* — *f* — *pp*

44 meno mosso (rubato)**48 a tempo (♩ = c. 72)**

Hn. 1

Hn. 2 & 3 (slowly cover opening of mute with fingers) *pp* — *mf* — *p* (—>) — *p* (—>) —

Tpt. 1 (slowly cover opening of mute with fingers) *fp* — *n* *pp* — *mf* — *p* (—>) —

Tpt. 2 & 3 (slowly cover opening of mute with fingers) *fp* — *n* *pp* — *mf* — *p* (—>) —

T. Hn. 1 & 2 *a2* *mp* — *n* *mp* — *n* *mp* — *n* *mp* — *n* *pp* — *mf* — *p* (—>) —

Tbn. 1 (slowly cover opening of mute with fingers) *fp* — *n* *pp* — *pp* — *pp* —

Tbn. 2 & 3 (slowly cover opening of mute with fingers) *fp* — *n* *pp* — *pp* — *pp* —

Euph. *fp* — *n*

Tba.

Tim. (let sound fade, then retune drum up to D; switch to yarn mallets; leave cymbal in place)

Perc. 1 switch to metal mallets *mf* — *p* — *ppp*

Perc. 2

56

Picc.

Fl. & 2
mp

(solo) *f breathy*

tutti, a2 *f*

Bsn. *pp*

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Cl. 3 *pp* repeat at will; never synchronise *tr(♯)*

B. Cl.

1st & 2nd A. Sax. *pp f pp* a2 *pp* repeat at will; never synchronise *tr(♯)*

T. Sax. *pp f pp*

B. Sax. *pp f pp*

Hn. 1 *p f pp*

Hn. 2 & 3 *p f pp*

Tpt. 1 (harmon mute with stem) *pp < f*

Tpt. 2 & 3 (harmon mute with stem) *pp < f*

T. Hn. 1 & 2 1. *p f pp*

Tbn. 1 *f pp fp pp remove mute*

Tbn. 2 & 3 *f pp fp pp remove mute*

Euph.

Tba. *pp*

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

AURORA

64 a tempo

Picc.

Fl. 1 & 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Cl. 3

B. Cl.

1st & 2nd A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Hn. 1

Hn. 2 & 3

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2 & 3

T. Hn. 1 & 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2 & 3

Euph.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

64 a tempo

p luttuoso

1. solo mp

cue: bass clar.

insert mute

insert cup mute

insert harmon mute with stem

(roll cymbal)

remove cymbal, retune 26" drum to D

62 63 64 65 66

Picc.

Fl. 1 & 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Cl. 3

B. Cl.

1st & 2nd A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Hn. 1

Hn. 2 & 3

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2 & 3

T. Hn. 1 & 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2 & 3

Euph.

Tba.

Tim.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

72 73 74 75 76 77 78

79

Picc.

Fl. 1 & 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

repeat the notated figures at will, rapidly and randomly; never synchronise

Cl. 3

B. Cl.

1st & 2nd A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Hn. 1

open

mp molto espr.

a2

cresc.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2 & 3

T. Hn. 1 & 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2 & 3

Euph.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1

mp

mp espr.

TRIANGLE

f

Perc. 2

rall.

88 a tempo, largamente e sonore

Picc.

Fl. 1 & 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Cl. 3

B. Cl.

1st & 2nd A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

5

4

rall.

88 a tempo, largamente e sonore

Hn. 1

Hn. 2 & 3

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2 & 3

T. Hn. 1 & 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2 & 3

Euph.

Tba.

5

4

hard felt mallets

pp cresc.

BASS DRUM

CLASH CYMBALS

6

4

AURORA

Musical score for orchestra and percussion, page 14, measures 90-92.

The score consists of 21 staves, each with a large black number indicating the measure number (6, 5, or 4) and a circled measure number (6, 5, or 4). The instruments listed are:

- Picc.
- Fl. 1 & 2
- Ob.
- Bsn.
- Cl. 1
- Cl. 2
- Cl. 3
- B. Cl.
- 1st & 2nd A. Sax.
- T. Sax.
- B. Sax.
- Hn. 1
- Hn. 2 & 3
- Tpt. 1
- Tpt. 2 & 3
- T. Hn. 1 & 2
- Tbn. 1
- Tbn. 2 & 3
- Euph.
- Tba.
- Timp.
- Perc. 1
- Perc. 2

Measure 90: Picc., Fl. 1 & 2, Ob., Bsn., Cl. 1, Cl. 2, Cl. 3, B. Cl., 1st & 2nd A. Sax., T. Sax., B. Sax., Hn. 1, Hn. 2 & 3, Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2 & 3, T. Hn. 1 & 2, Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2 & 3, Euph., Tba., Timp., Perc. 1, Perc. 2. Measures 91-92: Same instrumentation as measure 90, with measure numbers 6, 5, and 4 appearing at various points.

Picc.

Fl. 1 & 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Cl. 3

B. Cl.

1st & 2nd A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Hn. 1

Hn. 2 & 3

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2 & 3

T. Hn. 1 & 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2 & 3

Euph.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1

GLOCKENSPIEL metal mallets
ff (l.v.)

Perc. 2

rall.

rit.

Picc.  

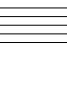
Fl. 1 & 2  

Ob.  

Bsn.  

Cl. 1  

Cl. 2  

Cl. 3  

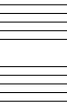
B. Cl.  

1st & 2nd A. Sax.  

T. Sax.  

B. Sax.  

Hn. 1  

Hn. 2 & 3  

Tpt. 1  

Tpt. 2 & 3

T. Hn. 1 & 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2 & 3

Euph.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1

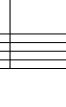
Perc. 2

rit.

6  

4  

6  

4  

rit.

Hn. 1  

Hn. 2 & 3  

Tpt. 1  

Tpt. 2 & 3  

T. Hn. 1 & 2  

Tbn. 1  

Tbn. 2 & 3  

Euph.  

Tba.  

Timp.  

Perc. 1  

Perc. 2  

insert harmon mute with stem

insert straight mute

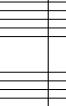
very slow downward gliss.

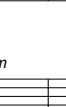
26" drum: glissando, E not struck

tune 23" drum up to F₄, balance a cymbal on its cup in the centre of the drum

mf  

pp  

p  

p  

n  

103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110

111 Tempo I° (♩ = c. 60)

Picc.

Fl. 1 & 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

pp sognante, misurato

Cl. 3

pp sognante, misurato

B. Cl.

1st & 2nd A. Sax.

pp sost.

T. Sax.

pp sost.

B. Sax.

111 Tempo I° (♩ = c. 60)

Hn. 1

Hn. 2 & 3

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2 & 3

T. Hn. 1 & 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2 & 3

Euph.

Tba.

Timp.

GLOCKENSPIEL plastic mallets

pp semper i.v.

repeat these figures at will, in any order or octave, randomly and gently

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Picc.

Fl. 1 & 2
fp → p

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1
5 5 5 5

Cl. 2
3 3 3 3

Cl. 3
3 3 3 3

B. Cl.

1st & 2nd A. Sax.
fp → pp

T. Sax.
fp → pp

B. Sax.

Hn. 1

Hn. 2 & 3

Tpt. 1
harmon mute (with stem)
pp → mf

Tpt. 2 & 3
harmon mute (with stem)
pp → mf

T. Hn. 1 & 2

Tbn. 1
(straight mute)
p

Tbn. 2 & 3
(straight mute)
a2
p

Euph.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1
slowing, fading away

Perc. 2

23" drum: bow the cymbal through the cresc. marking,
let vibrate, then manipulate the pitch as indicated

127

morendo

Picc.

Fl. 1 & 2

Ob.

Bsn.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Cl. 3

B. Cl.

1st & 2nd A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

This section shows woodwind instruments (Piccolo, Flutes 1&2, Oboe, Bassoon) and brass instruments (Clarinet 1, Clarinet 2, Clarinet 3, Bass Clarinet, Alto Sax 1&2, Tenor Sax, Bass Sax) playing sustained notes. The dynamics are marked with *p* and *n*. Measures 127-129 show a transition where the bassoon and bass clarinet play sustained notes. Measures 130-131 show the bassoon and bass clarinet continuing their sustained notes while other instruments like oboe and bassoon play eighth-note patterns.

127

morendo

Hn. 1

Hn. 2 & 3

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2 & 3

T. Hn. 1 & 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2 & 3

Euph.

Tba.

Tim.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

This section shows brass instruments (Horns 1, Horns 2&3, Trombones 1, Trombones 2&3, Trombones 1, Trombones 2&3, Euphonium, Bass Trombone) and percussion (Timpani, Percussion 1, Percussion 2) playing sustained notes and rhythmic patterns. The dynamics are marked with *p*, *n*, *mp*, and *bowed*. Measures 127-129 show sustained notes from the brass. Measures 130-131 show sustained notes from the brass and rhythmic patterns from the timpani and percussion. Measure 132 shows sustained notes from the brass and rhythmic patterns from the timpani and percussion. Measure 133 shows sustained notes from the brass and rhythmic patterns from the timpani and percussion.