fossilized memories, splintered futures

2024

Max I Chung

Full Score

For violin, viola, cello, flute, clarinet in B-flat, piano, and percussion

PIECE TITLE: fossilized memories, splintered futures

DURATION: ca. 9'-0"

INSTRUMENTATION: violin, viola, cello, flute, clarinet in B-flat, piano, percussion

PERCUSSION INSTRUMENTS: bass drum, (crash) cymbal, low and high tom-toms, hi-hat, snare

PERCUSSION STICKS: sticks, yarn mallets, bow

PROGRAM NOTES:.

Fossilized memories, splintered futures explores the tension between two contrasting sonic landscapes: one that drives forward with an anxious and frenetic rhythmic pulse symbolizing the future, and the other that evokes a dreamlike state with a sense of stillness and longing, embodying the past. This composition navigates the delicate equilibrium and inherent friction between these two forces, culminating in a final dramatic clash.

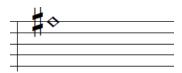
The piece uses four pitch sets which change throughout the first section, based on polychords consisting of seven or more notes, established by the piano. I explored jazz-inspired polychords which used dominant seventh chords with extensions, leading to scales which have sounds resembling diminished scales. Throughout this, multiple layers of hocketing between instruments, with moments of ensemble unity creates contrast to the linear phrases.

Over the arc of the piece, long glissandos which foreshadow the middle section and delay the beginning of each new phrase in the piece with a glissando. The keyclicks and other extended techniques create a gentle texture that builds over time. Pizzicato and slap tongue are also used to contrast the long tones in the texture and reinforce the melody of the opening of the piece. As the arc of the piece closes, pairs of instruments are introduced with lengthened and embellished melodies that echo the first section of the septet. The final section focuses on contrasting the material in the first and second half, but with frequent disruptions between these diverse motifs with a powerful crescendo that reflects the instability and clash of these two forces in our psyche.

PERFORMANCE NOTES AND KEY: This piece flips between two moods—one which is frantic, constantly driving forward, and filled with fragmented lines (the future), and one which is eternal and frozen (the past). The piece explores the equilibrium between the two. This comes to a peak at the end, where they switch rapidly, noted by quickly alternating tempo markings.

Trills should be whole step trills. Accidentals do not carry over the bar, and naturals are only used as courtesy accidentals.

Violin, Viola and Cello



<u>Harmonics clarification</u>: diamond noteheads indicate the note that should be touched for the harmonic. There are no written artificial harmonics in this piece, but artificial harmonics may be used for convenience. If the harmonic is tied over to a note, slowly add pressure until the new tone comes out.

Sliding from pitch to pitch should start immediately and go at a constant rate.

Flute and Clarinet

The key for extended techniques is as follows. All extended techniques are accompanied by their respective name.

Jetwhistle (Flute only): the jetwhistle will always be from more to less energy.



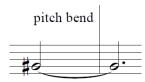
Tongue ram (Flute only)



Slap Tongue: more percussive sound is preferred over more pitch.



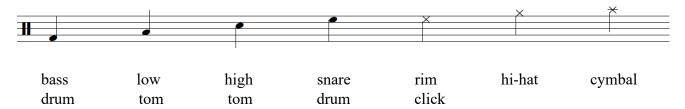
Pitch Bend: the pitch bending should waver above and below the note at an arbitrary rate, at a semitone above or below or less back and forth.



Piano:

<u>Pedaling:</u> Sections A – F should be relatively dry while sections H – K should be heavily pedaled. In parts after K, anything "Angular, Disraught" should be pedaled as little as possible while during "Eternal, Ethereal" sections, the pedal should be held down, even if not playing.

Percussion:



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2024 Angular, Precise (= 166) Flute Clarinet in B pizz. Violin pizz. Viola pizz. Cello mpSticks Bow Percussion mp > nPiano © Max Chung, 2024





































