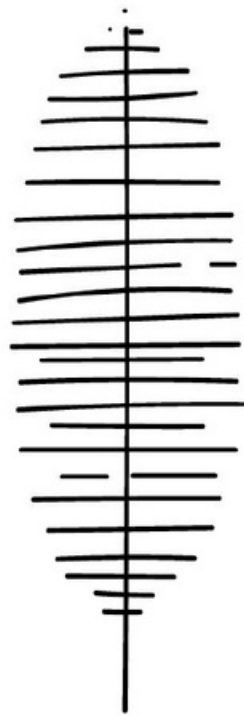


snowfleck

a miniature for wind quintet

Christopher Churcher

(2023)



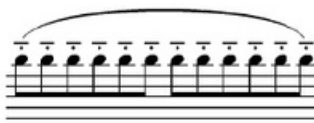
Composed in January 2023

Performers' Notes

Articulation

tenuto-staccato

In general, each quaver should be articulated with a tenuto-staccato effect throughout, as indicated at the opening. What I intend by this is that there is a slight, light detachment between each notes, without any sense that they are sharply separated. Further shaping of lines and subtleties of articulation can be executed at the discretion of the performer.



tenuto

In the middle section of the miniature, the one-note ostinati branch out into various repeating cells, such as the example below. The beginning of each is indicated with a tenuto marking. This is not to say that this quaver should be played with its full duration, rather that the marked note should be given a light accent, and treated as if it were the downbeat of a phrase.



Programme Note

Snowfleck is a fleeting impression of snowfall. The piece is constructed from a series of ostinati in moto perpetuo which appear uniformly at first, before repeated rhythmic cells emerge, and various lines with asynchronous metric emphases dance together with an unaligned, organic euphoria. But snow is itself a fleeting phenomena, and thus as soon as they emerged, these lines vanish, and the pulsing ostinati of the opening return. The opening repeated D in the bassoon closes the piece, giving a sense of structural palindrome.

Duration: 3 minutes

snowfleck

for Ella, Evie, Erin and Tommaso

Very light ♩ = 114

Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in B $\flat$

Horn in F

Bassoon

pp

sim. sempre

pp

5

p cresc.

sim. sempre

mp > *p*

p cresc.

sim. sempre

mp > *p*

p cresc.

mp > *p*

p cresc.

pp cresc.

p cresc.

mp > *p*

pp sub.

10

p cresc. *mp* *mf*

p cresc. *mp* *mf*

p cresc. *mp* *mf*

pp *p cresc.* *mp* *mf*

p cresc. *mp* *mf*

15

p cresc. *mp*

p cresc. *mp*

p sub. *mp*

p sub. *mp*

mp

20

mp *f*

f *p sub.*

f *p sub.*

f *p sub.*

f

23 **A**

pp cresc. p

27

mp p mf

31

p mf

35

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf

B

38

poco marcato

42

dim.

dim.

dim.

p

dim.

p

C

46

p *pp* *f*

f poco marcato

49

cresc. *f*

52

ff *mp dim.* *mp*

55

System 55-58: This system contains measures 55 through 58. It features five staves. The first staff has a whole rest in measure 55, followed by eighth-note patterns in measures 56-58. The second staff has eighth-note patterns in measures 55-57 and a whole rest in measure 58. The third staff has eighth-note patterns in measures 55-57 and a whole rest in measure 58. The fourth staff has a whole rest in measure 55, followed by eighth-note patterns in measures 56-58. The fifth staff has a whole rest in measures 55-57 and an eighth-note pattern in measure 58. Dynamics include *p* (piano) in measures 56, 57, and 58.

59

System 59-62: This system contains measures 59 through 62. It features five staves. The first staff has eighth-note patterns in measures 59-60 and whole rests in measures 61-62. The second staff has whole rests in measures 59-60 and eighth-note patterns in measures 61-62. The third staff has whole rests in measures 59-60 and eighth-note patterns in measures 61-62. The fourth staff has eighth-note patterns in measures 59-60 and whole rests in measures 61-62. The fifth staff has eighth-note patterns in measures 59-62. Dynamics include *p* (piano) in measures 59, 60, and 62.

63

System 63-66: This system contains measures 63 through 66. It features five staves. The first staff has eighth-note patterns in measures 63-66. The second staff has a whole rest in measure 63, followed by eighth-note patterns in measures 64-66. The third staff has eighth-note patterns in measures 63-64 and whole rests in measures 65-66. The fourth staff has eighth-note patterns in measures 63-64 and whole rests in measures 65-66. The fifth staff has eighth-note patterns in measures 63-64 and whole rests in measures 65-66. Dynamics include *mp* (mezzo-piano) in measures 63, 64, and 66, and *p* (piano) in measures 64, 65, and 66. A rehearsal mark (b) is present in measure 66.

67

p *mp* *p* *mp* *p*

p cresc. *mp* *p*

p

71

p *mp* *p* *mp* *p*

p *mp* *p* *mp* *p*

p *mp* *p* *mp* *p*

p cresc. *mp* *p*

cresc. *p*

76 D

pp *pp* *pp* *pp*

pp

pp

79

p cresc.

p cresc.

p cresc.

p cresc.

p cresc.

82

mf *p* *p*

mf *p*

mf *p*

mf *p*

mf *p*

mf *pp* *p*

85

f

mp *f*

f

mp *f*

f *p*

duration: 3'