

Entropy

Jordan Nobles

ABOUT THE PIECE

- Entropy was written in March 2009 in North Vancouver and Montreal.
- The duration of the piece is about 6 minutes.

PERFORMANCE NOTES

In Entropy the tempo is not steady but constantly decelerates throughout the piece as the harmonic process slowly breaks down. In fact for most of the piece (from Section B onwards) the piece decelerates to half of its tempo every 18 measures.

There is a simple Metric Modulation (♩ = ♪) at Sections D, F and I to allow for the constant deceleration as the pulse would become too slow to follow otherwise.

The deceleration should be very smooth throughout the piece.

The tempi given are just approximations but should be used as a guide. They are also handy when starting the piece in the middle during rehearsals.

PROGRAMME NOTES

One of the ideas involved in the concept of entropy is that nature tends from order to disorder in isolated systems. More energy is always required to create than to destroy. As Entropy increases energy and order are lost. Degeneration is inevitable. The centre cannot hold.

This piece is dedicated to my two year old son Julian who, as it turns out, is an agent of entropy himself.

Perpetual Decelerando

Jordan Nobles

♩ = 144

♩ = 136

5

f

5

♩ = 128

9

A ♩ = 120

12

♩ = 112

14

♩ = 104

17

B ♩ = 96

mf

21

♩ = 88

23

♩ = 80

Violin II

28 **C** ♩ = 72

Musical staff 28-29: Treble clef, C major key signature. Measures 28-29 contain eighth-note patterns with slurs.

30 ♩ = 64

Musical staff 30: Treble clef, C major key signature. Measure 30 contains eighth-note patterns with slurs.

32

Musical staff 32: Treble clef, D major key signature. Measures 32-33 contain eighth-note patterns with slurs.

♩ = ♩ (= 96)

34 ♩ = 56

D

Musical staff 34: Treble clef, D major key signature. Measure 34 starts with a double bar line and a fermata. Measure 35 begins with a *mp* dynamic and contains triplet eighth notes.

39 ♩ = 88

Musical staff 39: Treble clef, D major key signature. Measures 39-42 contain triplet eighth notes with slurs.

43 ♩ = 80

E ♩ = 72

Musical staff 43: Treble clef, E major key signature. Measures 43-44 contain triplet eighth notes with slurs. Measure 45 is a whole rest. Measures 46-47 contain eighth-note patterns with slurs.

48 ♩ = 64

♩ = 56

Musical staff 48: Treble clef, E major key signature. Measures 48-52 contain eighth-note patterns with slurs.

♩ = ♩ (= 96)

F

con sord.

♩ = 88

Musical staff 53: Treble clef, F major key signature. Measure 53 starts with a double bar line and a fermata. Measure 54 begins with a *p* dynamic and contains triplet eighth notes with slurs.

Violin II

59 $\text{♩} = 80$

64 **G** $\text{♩} = 72$ $\text{♩} = 64$

69 $\text{♩} = 56$ **H** $\text{♩} = \text{♩} (= 96)$ *pp*

74 $\text{♩} = 88$

79 $\text{♩} = 80$ **I** $\text{♩} = 72$

84 $\text{♩} = 64$ $\text{♩} = 56$

89 **J** $\text{♩} = 48$ *ppp*

94 $\text{♩} = 40$ $\text{♩} = 32$ $\text{♩} = 24$ **2**