



MAKROLÓGOS

AN ABRIDGED HISTORY OF THE KNOWN UNIVERSE

for Pierrot ensemble and percussion

David Walters (b. 1982)

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Instrumentation

Flute

Violin

Clarinet in B_b

Cello

Piano [2 EBows]

Percussion

[bass drum, waterphone, vibraphone, sus. cymbal, slapstick
w/ soft mallets, hard mallets, bow]

Program Note

Inspired by cosmology, astronomy, and biology, this work is an effort to faithfully represent scientific facts in music. While certainly referential, Makrológos isn't human-centric; as in, music about how it feels to look up at the stars. This music is about the stars themselves or rather, how they came to be and their inevitable fate. That's not to say there isn't any poeticism. It's just that the poeticism comes from us, and we map it onto the universe instead of the other way around.

Makrológos is in three sections:

Singularity - The Big Bang, birth of stars, formation of planets

Emergence - The evolution of life from abiogenesis

Descent - The last stars, evaporation of black holes, darkness

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♩ = 55 SINGULARITY

The score is for a full orchestra and includes the following parts:

- Flute:** *senza vib.*, *accel.*, *n*, *pppp*, *ppp*, *pp*
- Clarinet in B \flat :** *n*, *pppp*, *ppp*, *pp*
- Vibraphone/Waterphone:** *bowed*, *soft mallets, gently*, *bowed*, *soft mallets, gently*, *bowed*. *n*, *pppp*, *ppp*, *pp*
- Sus. Cymbal/Bass Drum:** Perc. I plays malleted vib. Perc. II plays bowed vib.
- Piano:** (Empty staves)
- Violin:** *senza vib.*, *sul tasto*, *sul pont.*, *upper first*, *n*, *pppp*, *ppp*, *pp*
- Cello:** *senza vib.*, *sul tasto*, *sul pont.*, *lower first*, *n*, *pppp*, *ppp*, *pp*

The score is in 6/4 time, with changes to 5/4, 6/4, and 3/4. It features dynamic markings from *n* to *pppp* and performance instructions like *senza vib.*, *accel.*, *bowed*, and *soft mallets, gently*.

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8

Fl.

upper first *tr*

lower first *tr*

B♭ Cl.

upper first *tr*

lower first *tr*

Vib.
Wat.

soft mallets, *gently*

SC
BD

soft mallets
bass drum

n

Pno.

gliss. on interior strings w/ finger tip

ppp cresc.

Vln.

lower first *tr*

lower first *tr*

3

Vc.

upper first *tr*

upper first *tr*

3

3

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A ♩ = 80 lower first *tr* *mp* *pp* *molto rall.* *mf* *ord.* ♩ = 55 *sub. p* *f*

Fl.

upper first *tr* *mp* *pp* *mf* *sub. p* *f*

B♭ Cl.

13 *f* *sub. p* *f*

Vib. Wat.

13 cymbal soft mallets *n* *mf* *n*

SC BD

13 *f*

Pno.

13 lower first *tr* *mp* *pp* *ord.* *mf* *f* *molto vib.* *3*

Vln.

upper first *tr* *mp* *pp* *ord.* *V* *mf* *sub. p* *f*

Vc.

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20

Fl. *ff* *p* *sffz* *pp* ad lib. air gliss. **B** 5x

B \flat Cl. *ff* *n* 5x

Vib. Wat. L.V. hard mallets *ff* *p* *sfz* *pp* waterphone, bowed slow, gentle rotations, back and forth 5x ad lib. breaks in the rotation, stop and start, less movement

SC BD *ff* *ppp* *p* *ff* *ppp* choke bowed 5x

Pno. begin turning on Ebows with L pick up slapstick with R *ff* *pp* *sffz* 5x slowly turn off Ebows

Vln. *ff* *p* *sffz* 5x pizz. 3 *pp*

Vc. *ff* *p* *pp* ad lib. harmonic gliss. sul G 5x

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26 *poco rall.* **C** ♩ = 50 EMERGENCE

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vib. Wat. *soft mallets*
mp *p* *pppp*
slowly, ad lib. on supplied pitches, indifferent of piano

SC BD
ppp *p* *ppp*

Pno. *sweetly, without hurry*
[A] octave with L,
gently tap interior bass strings with R palm
p
Sus. P. as necessary to maintain clean legato

Vln. *f* *mp* *pp*

Vc.

n

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32 D

Fl.

B \flat Cl.

Vib.
Wat.

SC
BD

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

pp

sempre ppp

pp

6/4 5/4 2/4

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E DESCENT

Fl. white noise [i] [u] n p >math>n</math>

B \flat Cl. *pp* n

Vib. Wat. bowed *p* *pppp* bowed *p*

SC BD

Pno. *p* *pp*

Sost. P.

Vln. *pp* gliss. through end of string sul pont. *n* 2nd time only *pp* gliss. through end of string sul pont. *n*

Vc. *pp* gliss. through end of string sul pont. *n* *pp* gliss. through end of string sul pont. *n*

soft mallets, play pitches once across bracketed measures

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54 3x white noise [i] [u] n < p > n senza vib. ppp

3x pp n

3x soft mallets, play pitches once across bracketed measures ppppp bowed p ppppp soft mallets bowed p rub mallet across drum head

54 3x pp p una corda p

Sost. P. sul tasto sul pont.

54 3rd time only 3x pp n gliss. through end of string sul tasto sul pont.

3x pp n

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69 ord... sputter mostly air

Fl. *pp* ad lib. air gliss. *n*

B♭ Cl. sputter *n* pantomime, without sound

Vib. Wat.

SC BD dry *pp* *n*

Pno. *ppp* *pppp*

Vln. *n* *pp* *n*

Vc.

