

«typing...»

an opera in one act by Apollonio Maiello
2022

comissioned by the Muziekgebouw aan 't IJ
for «*an evening of today 2022*»

Music by Apollonio Maiello
Libretto by Janina Picard

An unforeseen conflict arises between two sisters who live apart when one of them is eager to get in touch with the other on WhatsApp. In this Short opera composer Apollonio Maiello and Librettist Janina Picard reflect upon inter-familiar conflicts and the emotional impact the pandemic has had on family lives.

Katherine Weber | Soprano
Juho Myllylä | Recorders & electric guitar
Hessel Moeselaar | Viola
Francisco Martí | Piano
Apollonio Maiello | electronics & video

The musical score is for the piece "The Great Wall of China" by John Williams. It is written for a chamber ensemble and includes a tape part. The score is in 4/4 time and has a tempo of 70 beats per minute. The key signature has one flat (B-flat).

The instruments and their parts are:

- Bass Recorder:** Plays a continuous eighth-note pattern in the right hand, with dynamics ranging from *f* (forte) to *p* (piano).
- Piano:** Plays a continuous eighth-note pattern in the left hand, with dynamics ranging from *p* to *ff* (fortissimo). The right hand has a few chords and a melodic line.
- Violin:** Remains silent throughout the piece.
- Soprano:** Remains silent throughout the piece.
- Viola:** Plays a continuous eighth-note pattern in the right hand, with dynamics ranging from *f* to *p*. The left hand has a few chords and a melodic line.
- Tape:** Provides a continuous eighth-note pattern in the right hand, with dynamics ranging from *f* to *p*.

The score is marked with a tempo of 70 and a key signature of one flat. The piece is in 4/4 time. The dynamics range from *f* (forte) to *p* (piano). The score is marked with a tempo of 70 and a key signature of one flat.

6

B. Rec.

Pno.

tre corde

Vln.

S.

Vla.

Tape

Measure 6: Bassoon (B. Rec.) plays a sixteenth-note scale starting on B4, moving up to G5. Dynamics: *p*, *ff*. Piano (Pno.) plays a sixteenth-note scale starting on C4, moving up to G5. Dynamics: *f*. Violin (Vln.) plays a half note chord (F#4, C#5) with *ppp* dynamics. Viola (Vla.) plays a sixteenth-note scale starting on C4, moving up to G5. Dynamics: *f*, *p*, *f*, *p*, *f*, *p*, *ff*. Tape is silent.

Measure 7: Bassoon (B. Rec.) continues the scale. Dynamics: *ff*. Piano (Pno.) continues the scale. Dynamics: *f*. Violin (Vln.) continues the chord. Dynamics: *f*. Viola (Vla.) continues the scale. Dynamics: *ff*. Tape is silent.

Measure 8: Bassoon (B. Rec.) continues the scale. Dynamics: *p*, *f*, *fp*. Piano (Pno.) continues the scale. Dynamics: *f*, *p*, *f*. Violin (Vln.) continues the chord. Dynamics: *ff*. Viola (Vla.) continues the scale. Dynamics: *ff*. Tape is silent.

Measure 9: Bassoon (B. Rec.) continues the scale. Dynamics: *f*, *fp*. Piano (Pno.) continues the scale. Dynamics: *p*, *f*. Violin (Vln.) continues the chord. Dynamics: *f*. Viola (Vla.) continues the scale. Dynamics: *f*. Tape is silent.

Measure 10: Bassoon (B. Rec.) continues the scale. Dynamics: *f*, *fp*. Piano (Pno.) continues the scale. Dynamics: *p*, *f*. Violin (Vln.) continues the chord. Dynamics: *ff*. Viola (Vla.) continues the scale. Dynamics: *ff*, *p*. Tape is silent.

Performance Instructions:

- Piano (Pno.):** *tre corde* (measures 7-10).
- Violin (Vln.):** *espress. più vibrato* (measures 8-10), *sul pont.* (measures 9-10), *ord.* (measures 9-10).
- Viola (Vla.):** *arco* (measures 8-10), *espress. più vibrato* (measures 8-10), *sul pont.* (measures 9-10), *ord.* (measures 9-10).

11

B. Rec.

Pno.

Vln.

S.

Vla.

Tape

*molto espress.
sul pont.*

*molto espress.
sul pont.*

voicemessage:
Hi Kai just wanting to say hi...
it's been a while... its been ages
actually haha. do you still
remember my face
I, umm, have you know
I have some news. Call me back?
I miss you. Robert's saying hi

B $\text{♩} = 60$
17

B. Rec. *dolce*
p *legato*

Pno. *p* *ppp* *p* *una corda*

Vln. *p*

S. *pp* *p < mf > p*
i feel _____ like... ...like_ i can't breathe

$\text{♩} = 60$
B *sul pont.* *5* *molto rubato* *tremolo* *punta d'arco* *pizz. alla chitarra* *arco flautando*
p *legato* *ppp* *p* *p*

Tape

25

B. Rec.

Pno.

Vln.

S.

Vla.

Tape

fp *f* *fp* *p* *f* *ff* *p*

p *ff* *p*

flautando *p* pizz. *ff* sul pont. arco *ppp*

mf *p < f > p* *p* *p*

i want to talk to you but i can't breath i need

pizz. *ff* sul pont. arco *ppp*

start end

$\text{♩} = 56$
32 **C**

B. Rec. ff *rfz* ff p ff p ff p f

Pno. ff p ff p ff p f

Vln. p f 3

S. ff mf f 3
you_ but_ i am

$\text{♩} = 56$
C spiccato

Vla. fp ff p fp ff p fp ff p fp 5 5 5 5

Tape $\frac{4}{4}$

36

B. Rec. *ff* *f* to Sopranino Recorder

Pno. *ff*

Vln. *f* *ff*

S. *< ff*
suf - fo - cat - ing o - ver here.

Vla. *fp* *ff*

Tape *start*

39

Sop. Rec.

Pno.

Vln.

S.

Vla.

Tape

ff *p* *f* *8^{va}*

f *p*

espress. *ff* *p*

give me spa ce

mf *sul pont.*

45

Sop. Rec.

Pno.

Vln.

S.

Vla.

Tape

f *ff*

ff *p*

f *espress.*

for christ's sake i need some air

51 **D**

Sop. Rec.

Pno.

Vln.

S.

Vla.

Tape

fff

f

ff

più vib.

gliss.

ff

f

ff

f

ff

f

ff

ff

f

ff

end

Katherine: takes selfie

i need some air

62

Sop. Rec.

fff

Pno.

rfz

Vln.

S.

Katherine
Rehearsal, talk later

Vla.

fff

Tape

68

Sop. Rec.

Pno.

Vln.

S.

Vla.

Tape

flz.

nat.

rfz

V

The musical score for measures 68-72 is written for a multi-instrument ensemble. The Soprano Recorder (Sop. Rec.) part begins with a melodic line in measure 68, featuring a series of eighth notes and a final note marked 'nat.'. The Piano (Pno.) part has a complex texture, with arpeggiated figures in the right hand and a more active line in the left hand. A 'rfz' (rhythmically forced) section is indicated in measure 70. The Violin (Vln.) part has a melodic line in measure 68, followed by a rest in measure 69, and then a melodic line in measure 70. The Saxophone (S.) part is silent throughout. The Viola (Vla.) part has a melodic line in measure 68, followed by a rest in measure 69, and then a melodic line in measure 70. The Tape part is silent throughout.

73

Sop. Rec.

Pno.

Vln.

S.

Vla.

Tape

ff *p*

fff

f *gliss.* *più vib.* *port.* *fff*

f *and of* *fff*

and of

77

Sop. Rec.

ff $\rightarrow$ *p*

electronics playback

Pno.

Vln.

ppp

S.

p $\rightarrow$ *f*

p *molto legato* *mf* *f* *espress.* *p* $\rightarrow$ *ff* $\rightarrow$ *p*

course I re-mem-ber your face are you kid - ding _____ that ti-ny lit-tle face that looks just like mine pur-er may-be _____

Vla.

Tape

start

86

Sop. Rec.

Pno.

Vln.

S.

Vla.

Tape

f *p* *f* *pp* *p* *più espress.*

more in - no-cent may - be _____ that chee-ky smile of yours that chee_ ky_ smile

92

Sop. Rec.

Pno.

Vln.

S.

Vla.

Tape

mf

p *meno espress.*

pp

chee__ ky__ smile

of__ yours

2/4

101 $\text{♩} = 180$

Sop. Rec. ff p f ff p

Pno. *una corda* p f ff p

Vln.

S. $\frac{2}{4}$ *pizz.* ff p f

Vla. $\text{♩} = 180$ *pizz.* ff p f ff

Tape $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{7}{8}$ $\frac{6}{8}$ $\frac{6}{8}$

end

Laura:
Why is that every time I call u you're busy?

106 **D**

Sop. Rec.

f *ff* *ff* *p* *ff* *p* *p* *ff* *p*

Pno.

p *f* *pp* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *fp* *fp* *ff* *p*

Vln.

arco *f* pizz.

S.

Katherine:
typing - I'll call you back, just can't answer right now

I'm bu - sy

Vla.

arco sul pont. **D** *ff* *p* *ff* *pp* *ff* *spiccato*

legato

Tape

112

Sop. Rec. Tenor Recorder *f*

Pno. *tre corde*
ff *p* *ff* *p* *p* *ff* *una corda* *p*
8^{va}

Vln.

S. *ff* *p* *ff* *p* *molto espress.* *f* *ff*
 find-ing my-self and talk-ing to an-y of you re - minds me of all the ver - sions of my -

Vla. *molto vib.* *f* *ff* *f* *ff* *p* *f* *ff* *arco pizz.* *arco pizz.* *p dolce*

Tape

119

T. Rec.

poco vib.

f

ff $\rightarrow$ *p*

Pno.

p

fp

f

tre corde

Vln.

f $\rightarrow$ *pp*

arco 5

S.

p

p $\rightarrow$ *ff*

f $\leftarrow$ *ff*

mf $\rightarrow$
dolce

self

i dont want to be

a-ny more_

any_

Laura:
I called u Tuesday, then called u
Thursday. u never called back..

Vla.

a *p* *a* *p* *a* *p* *a* *p*

poco vib.

arco

fp *fp* *fp* *fp* *fp* *fp* *f*

molto vib.

Tape

126

T. Rec.

ff *p* *ff* *p* *ff* *p*

Pno.

una corda

p

Vln.

f *pp* *f* *pp*

S.

1st time only

pp

more

Vla.

molto flautando sul tasto

arco

ff *p* *ff* *p*

Tape

start

end

Laura:
mom said you guys talked yesterday??

129 flz. To S. Rec. **E** Soprano Recorder

T. Rec. *f* *ff* *p*

Pno. *f* *pp* *f* *pp* *f* *pp* *f* *pp* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *pp*

Vln. *pizz.* *p*

S. *mf* *f* *p* **E** *pizz.* *ff* *p*

Jeez Lau - ra Peo-ple have rea-sons for not call-ing back

Laura: why are you avoiding me??

Vla. *ff* *p* *ff* *p*

Tape **start**

136

S. Rec.

ff *p* *ff* *p* *f* *ff*

Pno.

tre corde *p* *ff* *p* *p* *ff* *mf* *pp* *mf* *pp* *mf* *pp* *mf* *pp*

Vln.

arco *p* *ff* *poco vib.* *p*

S.

Vla.

sul tasto no vib. arco *ff* *p* *ff* *p* *ff* *ff* *sul pont.* *f* *pp* *f* *pp*

Tape

end start

144

S. Rec.

ff *p* *f* flz.

To Cb. Rec.

Pno.

f *as much legato as possible* *sfz*

Vln.

ff

S.

Laura
I can see you're online btw.

Vla.

ff

Tape

end

148 **F**

S. Rec.

Pno. *una corda*

Vln.

S. Katherine:
on a quick break right now

dolce
p
keep a cool head keep cool

F *espress.*
molto vib.

legato

Vla.

Tape

153

sputato
Contrabass Recorder

S. Rec. *ff*

Pno. *f* *una corda*

Vln.

S. Phone vibrates - Laura calling Voice mail:
This is Katherine, please leave a message
after the tone and I'll get back to you. Thank you!

Vla. *pizz.* *p* *f* *gliss.* *p* *f* *gliss.*

Tape

161

Cb. Rec.

ff *p*

Pno.

2nd time only
f *legato*

Vln.

f *pp*

S.

2nd time only
p
all those

Vla.

col legno battuto
p

3

pizz.

Tape

start

5

163 $\text{♩} = 81$

Cb. Rec.

Synthesizer playback

Pno.

Vln.

sul pont.

ord.

pp *mf*

f *pp* *p* *pp* *f* *mf* *più espress.* *f* *pp < f* *p*

S.

hap-py fa-ces__ i'mwonder-ring will this e-ver be me__ the lit-tle girl__ in me__ still long-ing for a hap-py home

Vla.

$\text{♩} = 81$

Tape

172

Cb. Rec.

Pno.

Vln.

S.

Vla.

Tape

moltissimo sul pont.

ord.

molto sul pont.

pp

ppp < ff

p *ff* *p*

p *pp* *p*

all those hap-py fac-es

will this e-ver be me

e-ver be me

e-ver be_____



182

2nd time only

Cb. Rec. *f*

Pno. *p* *una corda* *5* *3* *ff* *p* *ff* *p*

Vln.

S. *mf* *f* *p*

Laura:
rejecting my calls, classy kot classy !!!

2nd time only

Laura:
I thought we got over this years ago

some times i feel like you're trying to

Katherine:
I'm at a fucking rehearsal, can you please respect th

Vla. *con sord.* *arco* *no vib.* *sul tasto* *2nd time only* *legato* *p* *f* *p* *pp* *f* *fp*

Tape

189

Sop. Rec. *Electric Guitar distortion* *delay* *sem* *ppp* *pre* *cre*

Pno. *p* *ff* *p* *f* *5* *3* *3* *5* *3* *3* *5* *3*

Vln.

S. *f* *p* *almost spoken* *ff* *hi* *jack* *my* *ca* *ree* *r* *for* *real*

Vla. *f* *p* *ff* *molto vib.* *p* *fff* *mf* *fff*

Tape *end*

Katherine:
Sometimes I think you're trying to hijack my career, for real like wtf

200

E. Gtr. distortion pm *f* *ff* delay off

Pno. *ff* *p* *mf* *p* *f* *mf dolce* *p* 5

Vln. *fp* *fff* *f* *molto espress.*

S. ree - r my ca - reer *p* *f* *ff*

Vla. *fff* *f* *fff* *f* *molto sul pont.* *secco* *poco vib.* *no vib.* *sul pont.* *fff* *mf* *ff* 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6

Tape

205

E. Gtr. *f* *ff* *distortion*

Pno. *ff* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p*

Vln. *p* *ff* *f* *mf*

S. *p* *ff*
my care

Vla. *ff* *f*

Tape

The musical score for measures 205-208 is as follows:

- E. Gtr.:** Measure 205 starts with a triplet of eighth notes (F4, G4, A4) marked *f*. Measure 206 continues with a triplet (B4, C5, D5) marked *ff*. Measure 207 features a five-note distortion effect (E4, F4, G4, A4, B4) marked *distortion*. Measure 208 continues with a five-note distortion effect (C5, D5, E5, F5, G5) marked *ff*.
- Pno.:** Measure 205 has a complex arpeggiated figure in the right hand and a triplet of eighth notes in the left hand. Measure 206 continues with a similar arpeggiated figure in the right hand and a triplet of eighth notes in the left hand. Measure 207 features a five-note distortion effect in the right hand and a five-note distortion effect in the left hand. Measure 208 continues with a five-note distortion effect in the right hand and a five-note distortion effect in the left hand.
- Vln.:** Measure 205 has a melodic line starting on F4, marked *p*. Measure 206 continues with a melodic line starting on G4, marked *ff*. Measure 207 features a melodic line starting on A4, marked *f*. Measure 208 continues with a melodic line starting on B4, marked *mf*.
- S.:** Measure 205 has a vocal line starting on F4, marked *p*, with the lyric 'my'. Measure 206 continues with a vocal line starting on G4, marked *ff*, with the lyric 'care'. Measure 207 and 208 have no vocal lines.
- Vla.:** Measure 205 has a sixteenth-note pattern marked *ff*. Measure 206 continues with a sixteenth-note pattern marked *ff*. Measure 207 features a sixteenth-note pattern marked *f*. Measure 208 continues with a sixteenth-note pattern marked *f*.
- Tape:** Measure 205 has a long sustained note marked *ff*. Measure 206 continues with a long sustained note marked *ff*. Measure 207 features a long sustained note marked *f*. Measure 208 continues with a long sustained note marked *f*.

208 To Sopranino Recorder

E. Gtr. *ff* 3 5 *fp*

Pno. *ff* *subito p* *una corda* 3 3 3 3 5 5 *ff* 8^{va}

Vln. *ff*

S. *ff* *f più espress.* me

Vla. *ff* 6 6 *p* *mf* *ff* *pizz.* *arco* *fp* *ff*

Tape

212

Sop. Rec.

Pno.

una corda

Vln.

no vib

S.

voice message:
Ok Kat what's going on here?

pp

my men - tal health is what's go - ing on___

Vla.

legato
espress.
molto vib.

ff

no vib.

Tape

p

p

pp

pp

pp

ff

p

$\text{♩} = 60$
H
 216 poco vib. To T. Rec. Tenor Recorder

Sop. Rec. *p*

Pno. *una corda*
pp *p* *pp* *p* *mf*

Vln.

voice message
 I've been trying to reach you for months now.
 You didn't show up for Christmas.

S. *mf* *pp* *f* *p* *mf*
 my flights forChrist - mas were can-celled you're four thou-sand miles and o-ceansa - way you're right it's been a while

voice message:
 when was the last time you made a
 fucking effort to come to New York and be with us?

cont'd
 it's been three years now.
 Mom is getting so old.

Vla. $\text{♩} = 60$
H
flautando sul tasto
no vib.
p

end

Tape

221

T. Rec.

poco vib.

flattement -----

p *mf*

Pno.

Vln.

S.

p *<ff>* *p* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *pp* *pp* *mf* *pp*

voice message:
You should see her
trying to just make breakfast.

cnt'd
yesterday
she put juice
in her coffee
instead of milk

oh i told you put her in a nurs-ing home itwilbe the best_____ for her for all of us

Vla.

Tape

226

T. Rec. *nat.* *pp* *fp* *nat. no vib.* *pp* *fp*

Pno. *t.c.* *f* *pp* *u.c.* *8va* *f*

Vln. *poco vib.* *p* *V* *no vib.* *p*

S. *cant'd*
and for Christ's sake I'm alone with all this.
Robert's working all day,
and I'm here all by myself trying to keep our mother
from being put in a fucking nursing home.
And you can't spare 5 minutes of your precious time?
legato pp *f* *pp* *pp* *p dolce*
i want to i... do you re

Vla. *s.p. no vib.* *pizz.* *molto vib. arco nat.* *p* *ppp* *V no vib.* *p*

Tape

234 flattement nat. flattement nat.

T. Rec.

p

Pno.

pp

Vln.

p

S.

mem-ber that ap-ple-tree in grand-pa's gar-den we used to hide in its shade used to watch it shed itdeaves in fall

mf *p*

Vla.

mf *pp* *ff* *ppp*

Tape

start

240

T. Rec. *ff* *poco vib.* *p*

Pno. *ppp* *ff*

Vln. *ff*

S. *ff* almost spoken
we took eve-ry thing for gran-ted

Vla. *arco sul pont. ff p* *molto sul pont. V p ff ppp* *sul pont. ff p*

Tape

249

T. Rec.

Pno.

Vln.

S.

Vla.

Tape

f

p

f

p

f

pp

f

pp

f

p

ff

p

f

pizz.

pizz.

una corda

8va

sul pont.

all i want-ed was watch-ing the leaves fall while smell-ing the

254

T. Rec. *p* flattement -----> nat. *p*

Pno. *p* *ppp* no accents until the end

Vln. arco no vib. *p* pizz.

S. *ff* *f* *pp* ap-ples burn _____ i just can't deal with my bro-ken heart right now

Vla. arco no vib. *p* pizz. *p*

Tape