

# 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

♩ = 144

(8va is only applicable to the upper staff)

8va

Let all notes ring throughout

♩ = 136

♩ = 128

**A** ♩ = 120

♩ = 112

♩ = 104

**B** ♩ = 96

♩ = 88

22

Pno.

Vib.

♩ = 80

25 *f*

27 **C** ♩ = 72

30 ♩ = 64

33 ♩ = 56

36 **D** ♩ = ♩ (= 96)

3

3

Harp

40  $\text{♩} = 88$   $\text{♩} = 80$

*mf*

44 **E**  $\text{♩} = 72$

**E**  $\text{♩} = 72$

49  $\text{♩} = 64$   $\text{♩} = 56$

$\text{♩} = 64$   $\text{♩} = 56$

53 **F**  $\text{♩} = \text{♩} (= 96)$   $\text{♩} = 88$

**F**  $\text{♩} = \text{♩} (= 96)$   $\text{♩} = 88$

*mp*

59  $\text{♩} = 80$

$\text{♩} = 80$



Harp

83  $\text{♩} = 64$

Musical notation for measures 83-87. Treble clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 83 starts with a whole rest. Measures 84-85 contain two triplet eighth notes. Measures 86-87 contain eighth notes with slurs. Bass clef has whole rests.

88  $\text{♩} = 56$  **J**  $\text{♩} = 48$

Musical notation for measures 88-91. Treble clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 88 starts with a whole rest. Measures 89-90 contain triplet eighth notes. Measure 91 has an 8va note. Bass clef has whole rests.

92  $\text{♩} = 40$

Musical notation for measures 92-96. Treble clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 92 starts with a whole rest. Measures 93-94 contain triplet eighth notes. Measure 95 has a 7th fret. Measure 96 has a 5th fret. Dynamics *pp* and *ppp* are indicated. Bass clef has whole rests.

97  $\text{♩} = 32$   $\text{♩} = 24$

Musical notation for measures 97-101. Treble clef, key signature of two flats. Measure 97 starts with a whole rest. Measure 98 has a single eighth note. Measure 99 has a whole rest. Measure 100 has a whole note. Measure 101 has a whole rest. Bass clef has whole rests.