

Tsao Shu

**For orchestra
2010
by Jing Jing Luo**

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INSTRUMENTATION

1 flute

1 clarinet in Bb

1 bassoon

1 French horn in F

1 trumpet in Bb

1 bass trombone

1 percussion player: 1 largest tam tam

1 largest grand bass drum

1 largest army crash cymbal/always played in vertical pasture

1 snare drum without snares

1 anvil

1 break drum in medium high register range

1 wind chime

1 grand piano or baby grand piano (played inside of the instrument mostly)

Strings

PROGRAM NOTE

Tsao Shu, Luo's latest composition, was written for the New Juilliard Ensemble and received its world premiere on September 24, 2011 at the Peter Jay Sharp Theater in New York City. The title is the name of a type of 17th-century Chinese calligraphy. Ms. Luo says, "Tsao Shu is about the free motion of strokes in Chinese ink-brush calligraphy. In calligraphy, one stroke often changes its appearance as the ink brush begins to take control over the person who holds it. In my search for simplification, I approach sound similarly, letting one possibility unpredictably become transformed into other possibilities."

(Edited from material provided by the composer.)

Tsao Shu

for Orchestra

Luo, 2011

$\text{♩} = 42$

Flute

Bass Clarinet in B $\flat$

Contrabassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in B $\flat$

Bass Trombone

Percussion

1. Large bass drum

1. xiao luo
(Chinese Beijing Opera gong)

Piano

bang on lowest piano strings with both fists; let sound die away gradually

sfz Ped. Let vib.

Violin I

$\text{♩} = 42$

Sul E sul tasto

For string glissandi in this and similar passages, gliss up and down between approximate pitches, making as airy a sound as possible. Make a circular motion as you draw the bow across the strings so that the bow moves up and down on the string as you play — but not quite as far as *sul tasto* or *sul ponticello*.

Violin II

Sul E sul tasto

Viola

Violoncello

Contrabass

Sul A. Sul tasto with the vibrato gliss. lightly

f p

5 (xiao luo)

Perc. *p* (l.v.)

Pno.

Vln. I s.t.

Vln. II *p*

Vla. col legno ricochet

Vc. s.t. *p*



(Large b.d.)

Perc. *sfz*

Pno. *sffz*

Vln. I col legno *f* *mf* *mp* *p* *pp*

Vln. II col legno *f* *mf* *mp* *p* *pp*

Vla. col legno, ricochet *p* *< f*

Vc.

start with circular breathing, indefinite pitch; at m. 10, gradually to flutter-tongue and airy tone in high register

Flutter-tongue in lowest possible range

10

sfz *p* *sfz*

+=stop bell with hand

p *gliss.*

(insert mute halfway, slowly remove it)

p

(alternate between closing (+) and opening (o) the hole of the mute)

fp *gliss.*

mp (l.v.)

Ad lib.

sfz *pp*

Ped.

A

sfz *p*

pp <

A

(norm.)

Sul E sul pont.

Sul E Sul pont.

pp *p*

col legno ricochet

fp < *mp*

sul pont. molto vib.

p *f* *gliss.*

pp

4

Vln. I *gliss.* *col legno* *8va* *f* *3*

Vln. II *8va* *p* *mf*

Vla. (sim.) *mf*

Vc. (s.p. with harmonic) *mp* *f*

Cb. *p*



15

Pno. *+*: damp string with hand inside piano *with damper pedal on each note* *Ped.* *f*

Vln. I *(8)* *p* *f* *p*

Vln. II *col legno* *8va* *p* *f* *p*

Vla. *sul pont., molto vib.* *p* *f*

Vc. *muffle strings while plucking* *pizz.* *f*

Cb. *f*

[illegible]

6

Fl.

B. Cl.

Cbsn.

Hn.

Tpt.

B. Tbn.

Pno.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

f

mf

mp

f

sfz

p

sfp

sim.

f

p

mf

p

mf

mp

f

p

sfz

sfz

Ed.

multiphononic
adjust pitch/
fingering as
desired/necessary

play regular notehead;
hum diamond note
(or vice-versa)

both hands slap on the higher
register strings (inside piano);
random notes

(birdlike)

(birdlike)

25 bend pitch;
hum F# while
playing E

Fl. *mf* *f*

B. Cl. bend pitch, norm.
pp *f*

Hn. mute off
sfz *f* *sfz* *f*

Tpt. mute off
sfz *f* *sfz* *f*

B. Tbn. mute off
sfz *f* *sfz* *f*

Perc. bass drum
sfz

Pno. right hand:
fast gliss down
on keys
sfz gliss
trem. on high strings
w/ fingernails or metal object
p *Ped.*
left hand:
fast gliss. up
on strings
(inside piano) *sfz* 8^{va}

let all the piano sounds of
m. 25 vibrate until the
sound dies out completely

Vln. I sul G;
fast glisses
ff *sfz*

Vln. II sul G;
fast glisses
ff *sfz*

Vc. arco
sul C
ff *sfz*

Cb. arco
sul D
ff *sfz*

Scratch tam tam
in circular motion
with metal object.

Let vib.

sfz (l.v.)

Scratch low strings
with thumbnail to create
a creepy, scratchy sound

pinch string
with fingernails
and slide forward

mp *sfz* *gliss.* *ff* *Red.*

With the bow hair flat against the string
sul G while exerting pressure, the result being
a rough, raspy tone — "scratch tone"

p (scratch tone)

sul E

p



30

Hn. *p* *sfz*

Tpt. *p* *sfz*

B. Tbn. *p* *sfz*

Pno. *sfz* 5

Vln. I sul G *f* *sfp* *sfz* scratch tone, sul D *sfz*

Vln. II sul G *f* *sfp* *sfz* scratch tone, sul D *sfz*

Vla. scratch tone, sul C *sfz*

Vc. (continue scratch tone) sul C *sfz*

Cb. (continue scratch tone) sul E *sfz* col legno, ricochet *sfz* *ff* *p*

9

let vib. until it dies away

Perc. **Let vib.**

Vln. I **col legno, ricochet**

Vln. II

Vla. **molto vib., sul tasto touch highest possible harmonic at end of bowing**

Vc. **sul G**

Cb. **sul G**

Fl. sfz ff pp Let vib. until sound dies away pp

B. Cl. sfz ff pp Let vib. until sound dies away pp

Cbsn. ff pp Let vib. until sound dies away pp

Hn. f ff pp Let vib. until sound dies away pp

Tpt. ff pp Let vib. until sound dies away pp

B. Tbn. f ff pp Let vib. until sound dies away pp

Perc. (crash cymbal) ff f (l.v.) pp Let vib. until sound dies away pp

Pno. fff pp Let vib. until sound dies away sfz 3 3

Red. (l.v.)

Vln. I arco, divisi ff pp Let vib. until sound dies away pp

Vln. II ff pp Let vib. until sound dies away pp

Vla. arco, normale, divisi ff pp Let vib. until sound dies away pp

Vc. arco, divisi ff pp Let vib. until sound dies away pp

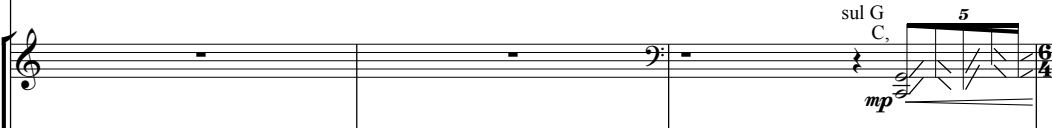
Cb. arco, divisi ff pp Let vib. until sound dies away pp

11

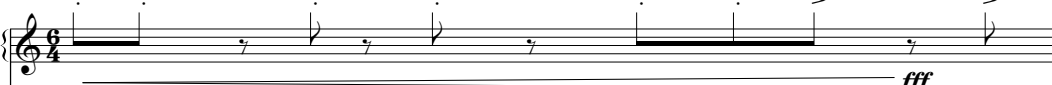
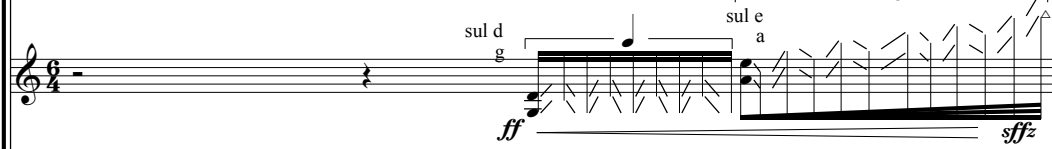
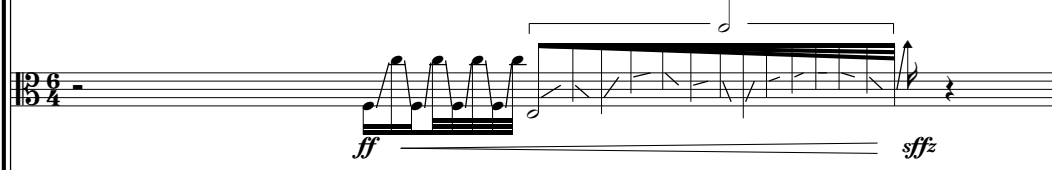
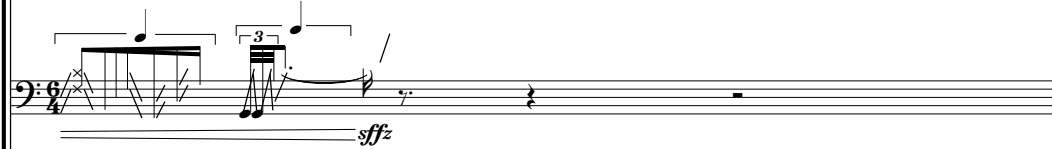
12

(45)
(solo)
Pno. 
mp



(45)
Pno. 
sfz p ff p f p f pf p
Vc. 
sul G C, mp
Cb. 



(45)
Pno. 
fff
Vln. I 
sul d g ff
Vln. II 
sul e a sfz
Vla. 
ff sfz
Vc. 
ff sfz
Cb. 
f ff sfz

45 13

Fl. *ff*

B. Cl. *ff*

Cbsn. *ff* *f*

Hn. *f* 5 3 5

Tpt. *f* 5 3 5

B. Tbn. *f* 5 3 5

crash cymbal (non vib.)

Perc. *f* 5 3 5

both hands slap on the keyboard in upper registers on random chords, loudly

Pno. *sfz* 5 3 5

Vln. I *sfz* div.

Vln. II *sfz* div.

Vla. *sfz* div.

Vc. *sfz* div.

Cb. *sfz* div.

[illegible]

$\text{♩} = 40$

Fl.

B. Cl.

Cbsn.

Hn.

Tpt.

B. Tbn.

Perc.

Pno.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

large bass drum

sfz

bang on lowest piano strings
with both arms and fists;
let sound vibrate until it dies out;
as loud as possible

ffz *Let vib.*

sul E,
sul tasto

pp

gliss upward in random
strokes as indicated, sul pont.

p *f*

sul pont.

p *f*

16

Vln. I *gliss.* 50 *gliss.*
 Vln. II *Sul E*
sul tasto *pp*
 Vc. *p*



Vln. I *gliss.* *p*
 Vln. II *gliss.* *pp*
 Vc. *p*



Vln. I *gliss.*
 Vln. II *p*
 Vc. *gliss.* *p*



Perc. 55 Xiao Luo *p* *let vib.*
 Vln. I *p*
 Vln. II *3*