

Bird, Lake, Stone, River

for 4 to 8 Double Basses

Michael Hynes

A: Perform each note once, in any order, with each note lasting from 5-10" and a short pause (2") between events

A

TUTTI

ppp sul tasto *ppp* ord. *ppp* *ppp* *ppp* sul tasto

B: Emerge from previous texture and sustain final note into new texture

B

SOLO

ord. *mp* *p*

p *mp* *pp*

♩ = 80

C: Perform each pair of notes once, in any order, sustaining last note of each pair from 5-10" and a short pause (2") between figures

C

TUTTI

pp sul tasto *pp* sul tasto *pp* sul tasto *pp* sul tasto *pp* sul tasto

♩ = 80

D: Emerge from previous texture

D

SOLO

flag. *mp* *p* *p*

pizz. (ord.)

gliss. *gliss. sim.*

espressivo

♩ = 72

♩ = 76

BIRD, LAKE, STONE, RIVER

for 4 - 8 Double Basses

Duration: c. 7 minutes

PERFORMANCE NOTES

■ **Bird, Lake, Stone, River** consists of five ensemble and four solo sections. There are no individual parts and all players read from the same score which unfolds as a juxtaposition of an aleatoric ensemble texture followed by a more defined solo texture. Ideally there should be no preconception of which player takes which solo, the decisions being made on the spur of the moment although conceivably, there could be one soloist set against an ensemble. After each solo the soloist rejoins the ensemble.

■ The piece should not be rehearsed as a group before performance and the textures should very much depend on the ambience of the space.

A TUTTI: Perform each of the 5 notes once, in any order. The texture should be very delicate and soft. There should be no attempt at co-ordination between the players.

B SOLO: Sustain the first note until all the performers have finished section A. At the end of the solo hold until someone begins B, then fade and rejoin ensemble texture.

C TUTTI: The ensemble begins after the soloist reaches the last note of B. Perform each of the five pairs of notes once, in any order. As in A there should be no attempt at co-ordination, but there will be a more melodic texture to this section.

D SOLO: As with B, emerge from the ensemble texture. This solo should move forward slightly more. The glissandi should be areas of blurred pitch.

E TUTTI: As before, there should be no attempt at co-ordination. The gestures may be performed sul tasto (over the fingerboard) or sul ponticello (at the bridge).

F SOLO: Begin when E has been completed, with perhaps two or three seconds of silence.

G TUTTI: The ensemble begin after the soloist reaches the final note of F. As before, there should be no attempt at co-ordination.

H SOLO: Begin as G is fading.

I TUTTI: The ensemble begin after the soloist reaches the last note of H. The texture should be very delicate and there should be a rhythmic freedom as before.

Bird, Lake, Stone, River is a musical translation of the poem and etching 'The Fourth Hunter' by Canadian poet and artist Michael Two Rivers and was Highly Commended in the 2001 BIBF Composition Contest. It was premiered at **Bass-Fest 2002** on 6 April 2002 (Downe House School, Newbury, UK) by David Heyes, Jeff Bradetich, Mette Hanskov, Thierry Barbé, Peter Leerdam, Teppo Hauta-aho, Jonathan Poad and Nic Hyde.

Michael Hynes (Toronto, 2001)