

afterglow I
for clarinet in Bb, violoncello, and piano

Cameron McArthur
2023

Composer's Note

'afterglow I' is a piece about shadows, shifting perspectives, and things obscured from view. It is the second in a trio of works: it follows *'Ex Umbra...'*, for solo clarinet, which was recorded by Dov Goldberg for *Psappha* ensemble in May 2023, and precedes *afterglow II*, a work for pierrot ensemble and percussion, which will be completed in the spring of this year. All of the works in this set relate to a common musical line; however, each make their own individual exploration of the energy within the line. The extent to which that line can be heard varies significantly from piece to piece, depending on particularities of shape, form, and desires for musical momentum.

afterglow I

Full Score
(Clarinet at sounding pitch)

for clarinet, cello, and piano

Cameron McArthur

flexible, but with purpose (♩=c.60)

Clarinet in B $\flat$

pp play like a folk tune, as though from memory

Violoncello

Piano

5

Cl.

mp *pp* *mf*

9

Cl.

pp *mf* *pp* *p* *pp* *p*

13

Cl.

f *pp*

16

Cl.

mp *pp* *ppp* *mp*

Vc.

ppp *mp* *ppp*

molto sul tasto molto flautando

Pno.

ppp *p* *ppp* *p*

19 *poco rall.* - - - cold; slower (♩=48)

Clt. *ppp mp pp mf ppp*

Vc. *mp ppp mp pp* *s.t.* *pizz.*

Pno. *ppp p ppp p*

22

Clt. *ppp p pp mp*

Vc. *arco pp mf pp mp* *pizz.* *arco pp*

Pno. *pp* **ppp*

**very soft attack; like a sympathetic reverberation*

26 *accel.*

Clt. *pp f mp* *5*

Vc. *mf p f mp* *norm.* *5*

Pno. *pp f mp* *5*

Ped.

skittish (♩=68)

29

Clt.

ff 6 5 3 3

Vc.

ff 6 5 3 3

Pno.

ff 6 5 3 3

overblown multiphonic gliss.

31

Clt.

5 *pp* *ppp* *pp* *f*

Vc.

ppp *f*

Pno.

3 *p* *ppp*

m.s.p. 'nasty'
heavy and slow bow
rapid light touch left hand tremolo

frozen time; vast

*durations are at performers' discretion

pay attention to dynamic swells and the sense of momentum

barlines are for coordination only

34 **B**

Clt.

Vc.

Pno.

s.p.

ppp *mf* *ppp* *ppp* *mf*

pp *2ed.*

gradually building intensity

rapid double finger trills

37

Clt.

Vc.

Pno.

mp *mp* *p* *mf*

ppp *mf* *ppp* *mf* *ppp* *mf* *ppp*

p *cresc. poco a poco*

40

Clt.

tr

mp

Vc.

mf *ppp* *mf* (s.p.) m.s.p.

Pno.

mp *mf*

42

Clt.

tr

mf *f* *pp* *fff* accel. flz.

Vc.

ppp norm. *mf p* *f*

Pno.

f p *ff* *va*

45 **C** angular and rhythmic (♩=152)

45 **C** angular and rhythmic (♩=152)

Clt.

Vc.

Pno.

pizz.

f

mp

f

3

3

49

Clt.

Vc.

Pno.

mf

f

mp

5

6

53

Clt.

Vc.

Pno.

p

f

pizz.

3

57

Clt.

Vc.

Pno.

p *f* *p* *f* *p*

mp *f* *mf* *ff*

61

Clt.

Vc.

Pno.

f *mp* *p*

mp *p*

65 flz. **D** chaotic

Clt.

Vc.

Pno.

ff *mp* *ff*

arco *ff*

f *ff*

f edgy and unpredictable

68

Clt.

Vc.

Pno.

pizz. *f* *p* *ff* *pizz.* *arco*

mf *f* *mp* *f*

Measures 68-70. The Clarinet (Clt.) and Violoncello (Vc.) parts are marked *pizz.* (pizzicato). The Piano (Pno.) part features a complex arpeggiated figure in the right hand, with dynamics *mf*, *f*, *mp*, and *f*. The Violoncello (Vc.) part has dynamics *p*, *ff*, and *pizz.* (pizzicato). The Clarinet (Clt.) part has dynamics *p*, *ff*, and *pizz.* (pizzicato). The Violoncello (Vc.) part has dynamics *mf*, *f*, and *mp*. The Piano (Pno.) part has dynamics *mf*, *f*, *mp*, and *f*.

71

Clt.

Vc.

Pno.

p *f* *f* *mp*

5 *6* *ff* *mp*

Measures 71-73. The Clarinet (Clt.) part has dynamics *p* and *f*. The Violoncello (Vc.) part has dynamics *f* and *mp*. The Piano (Pno.) part has dynamics *ff* and *mp*. The Violoncello (Vc.) part has dynamics *5* and *6*. The Piano (Pno.) part has dynamics *5* and *6*.

74

Clt.

Vc.

Pno.

ff *pp*

5 *6* *7*

Measures 74-76. The Clarinet (Clt.) part has dynamics *ff* and *pp*. The Violoncello (Vc.) part is silent. The Piano (Pno.) part is silent. The Clarinet (Clt.) part has dynamics *5*, *6*, and *7*.

77 **E** flz.

Clt. *f* *mp* *ff* 3

Vc. arco 'seagull effect' *p* *f* 3

Pno. *f* 6 *ff* 6

80

Clt. *p* *f* 3 *p* *ff* pizz. arco pizz.

Vc. *mf* 3 *f* *mf* *ff* *mp* 5 *f*

Pno. *mf* *ff* *mp* *f* 6 6 6 6

83

Clt. *p* *f*

Vc. 5 6 *f* arco

Pno. 5 *ff* *f* 6 6 6 *fff*

86

Clt.

f *3* *ff* *5* *mp* *6* *molto rit.*

overpressure

Vc.

ff

Pno.

89

Clt.

pp *3* *pp* *accel.*

Vc.

pp

Pno.

pp *3*

fragile, fleeting ($\text{♩} = \text{c.60}$)

93

Clt.

mp *mf* *pp* *3*

Vc.

mp

Pno.

p *3*

95

Clt. *mf* *pp* *mp* *p*

Vc. *p*

Pno. *p* *pp* *p*

98

Clt. *mf* *p* *pp* *mf* *p*

Vc. *pp* *mf*

Pno. *pp* *mf* *pp*

**allow resonance to decay*

Red.

101 **a fraction slower** (♩=56)

Clt. *mf* *pp* *mp*

Vc.

Pno.

gradually increase air in sound

norm.

75% air
25% pitch

103

Clt.

Vc.

Pno.

pp

mf

pp

ppp

pp

p

pp

mf

Red.

106

Clt.

Vc.

Pno.

ppp

ppp

ppp

m.s.p.

ppp