

Jake Adams

Confetti for the Outcasts

for ryūteki, hichiriki, cello, piano and koto

Performance Details

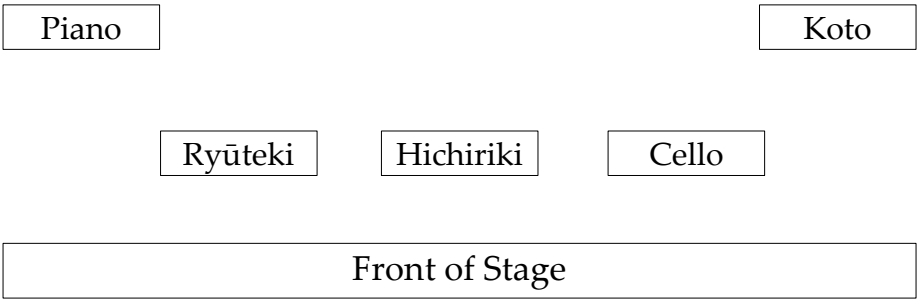
Introduction for performers:

The overall duration of this piece is approximately 10 minutes, with each page being equivalent to somewhere between 20 and 35 seconds of music. The exception to this is section E, where each bar ends with an approximate duration. The piece should be played freely, using the proportional notation as an approximate guide to duration.

One of the most important aspects of this piece are the elaborations to the melodic lines played by the ryūteki, hichiriki and cello. Ornaments should be added to sustained pitches tastefully based on the judgement of the performers (a list of usable ornaments is provided on the following pages). This piece is composed in the hyōjō mode and all non-notated ornaments should be performed within this mode (the pitch classes within this mode can be seen in the koto tuning section). Pitch classes F# and C# should be treated as tonal areas within this mode when ornamenting these lines, meaning that they can be substituted by F natural, F quarter sharp or G in the case of F# or C natural, C quarter sharp or D in the case of C#. The pitch classes within this mode should be embellished to different levels based of their importance within this piece. The hierarchy of pitch importance is shown in the following table:

	Pitch Class
Least ornamentation	E
	B
	A
	D
Most ornamentation	C, C#, F, F#, G

Staging:



Symbols:

-  Sustain pitch with optional elaborations based on hyōjō mode
-  Allow the note to ring out and decay naturally
-  The greater the number of flags in the beam, the faster the material in the gesture should be played
-  Gesture to accelerate to the speed of the final number of flags
-  Gesture to slow down progressively from the first number of flags
-  Tremolo on one note. If multiple notes are written in the cello, tremolo as a spread chord. If notehead is followed by sustain line, sustain tremolo for the duration of the line. **(Koto only)** If a note in the tremolo is changed with an oshide, the tremolo should be continued whilst the string is pressed



(Koto only) Cross-string tremolo A sustain line for each note will be used to indicate the duration of the tremolo. If a note in the tremolo is changed with an oshide, the tremolo should be continued whilst the string is pressed



Spread chord in the direction indicated. **(Koto only)** In chords with more than three notes, the left hand should be used for the lower pitches



Short rest



Medium rest



Long rest



Notes to be played together



Use the note the line is coming from as a cue



Smoothly transition from current technique to the next



Pitch bend/glissando



(Koto only) Original pitch of string



(Koto only) Pitch of pressed string



(Koto only) Left hand pizzicato

p.o.

Position ordinary

s.p.

(Cello only) Sul ponticello

s.t.

(Cello only) Sul tasto

m.s.p.

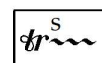
(Cello only) Molto sul ponticello

N.R.

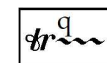
(Koto only) Near the Ryūhaku

Off R.

(Koto only) Off the Ryūhaku



Freely add trills a semitone above the written pitch. Trills should be played as fast as possible. Trill does not have to be sustained and can be mixed in with the sustained pitch. **(Hichiriki only)** Trills should be performed through adjusting the embouchure



Freely add trills a quarter tone above the written pitch. Perform the same as the semitone trill



Quarter sharp

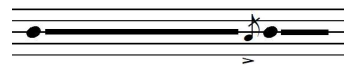
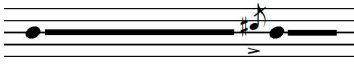
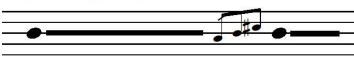


Three-quarter sharp

All notes to be played as naturals unless indicated directly before the note

Ornamentation options:

Ornamentation should be added freely and tastefully to sustained notes in the ryūteki, hichiriki and cello according to the previously shown hierarchy of pitches. Ornaments should always return to the original pitch. Note that although all the examples below show the ornaments performed to the tone above or below, semitones or quarter tones may also be used

Tataku	Ugoku
	
Turn	Inverted Turn
	
Short upper trill	Short upper trill
	

Koto Tuning:



Programme Note:

In 2021, the 'Strictly Come Dancing' finalists consisted of Rose Aisling-Ellis (a deaf woman), John Whaite (an openly gay man) and AJ Odudu (a working class, black woman). Acknowledging the significance of one of the UK's biggest television events of the year featuring such a diverse group, Whaite posted a photo himself and his dance partner Johannes Radebe in their show dance, surrounded by confetti, stating that 'What started life as an entertainment show has this year provided solace for so many outcasts.'. This image and statement inspired me to compose a new work that explored and celebrated the beauty of difference and diversity in our world.

Confetti for the Outcasts is a synthesis of ideas from my own training as a western classical music and Javanese gamelan player with instruments and elements from the Japanese gagaku tradition. Each of the instruments in the ensemble have a unique method of sound production, leading to distinct voices and timbral colours in the piece. The musical material of the piece is based around four small motifs that each of the instruments explore through melodic and/or harmonic expressions. Elaboration on the melodic materials found in the ryūteki, hichiriki and cello is key to these expressions, helping to develop the motifs organically through each performer's unique voice. Microtonal inflections around particular pitch classes are used to expand the harmonic language of the music. Of particular interest to me whilst composing this piece was the microtonal embellishments used between the ryūteki and hichiriki in gagaku music, where the hichiriki will slide to its pitch an octave lower than the stable ryūteki note, resulting in the first harmonic of the hichiriki beating against the fundamental of the ryūteki. This effect is key to *Confetti for the Outcasts*, being seen frequently between the ryūteki, hichiriki and cello.

This piece was composed for Thomas Piercy, Lish Lindsey, Masayo Ishiguri, Daniel Hass and Tengku Irfan and was premiered in New York on October 10th 2022.

Confetti for the Outcasts

Jake Adams

A

Slow and light

Ryūteki

Musical staff for Ryūteki. It begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). The staff contains a single note on the first line (F#4) with a dynamic marking of *p*. A slur covers the note. A fermata is placed over the note. A crescendo hairpin is shown below the staff, starting from the beginning of the slur and ending at the fermata. A dashed line connects the end of the slur to the beginning of the next staff.

Hichiriki

Musical staff for Hichiriki. It begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). The staff contains a single note on the second line (D#4) with a dynamic marking of *p*. A slur covers the note. A fermata is placed over the note. A crescendo hairpin is shown below the staff, starting from the beginning of the slur and ending at the fermata. A dashed line connects the end of the slur to the beginning of the next staff.

Violoncello

Musical staff for Violoncello. It begins with a bass clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). The staff contains a single note on the second line (D#3) with a dynamic marking of *ppp*. A slur covers the note. A fermata is placed over the note. A crescendo hairpin is shown below the staff, starting from the beginning of the slur and ending at the fermata. A dashed line connects the end of the slur to the beginning of the next staff.

Piano

Musical staff for Piano. It begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). The staff contains a single note on the first line (F#4) with a dynamic marking of *p*. A slur covers the note. A fermata is placed over the note. A crescendo hairpin is shown below the staff, starting from the beginning of the slur and ending at the fermata. A dashed line connects the end of the slur to the beginning of the next staff.

Koto

Musical staff for Koto. It begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). The staff contains a single note on the first line (F#4) with a dynamic marking of *p*. A slur covers the note. A fermata is placed over the note. A crescendo hairpin is shown below the staff, starting from the beginning of the slur and ending at the fermata. A dashed line connects the end of the slur to the beginning of the next staff.

Ryū.

Hi.

Vc.

Pno.

Koto

Off R.

p.o.

p

ppp

mp

m.s.p.

Ryū.

Hi.

Vc.

Pno.

Koto

Off R.

p.o.

Off R.

p

mp

pp

mp

p

mp

s.t.

The musical score is arranged in five staves. The top staff, Ryū, begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. It features a long, sweeping melodic line starting on a whole note, moving through half notes and quarter notes, ending with a fermata. The dynamics are marked *p* and *mp*. The second staff, Hi, also starts with a treble clef and one flat, mirroring the Ryū staff's melodic contour with similar dynamics. The third staff, Vc, uses a bass clef and one flat, providing a harmonic foundation with a long, sustained note and a dynamic range from *pp* to *mp*. The fourth staff, Pno, consists of two staves with treble and bass clefs, one flat, and a key signature of one flat. It includes various musical figures, including chords and single notes, with dynamics *p*, *mp*, and *p*. The bottom staff, Koto, is written on a single staff with a treble clef and one flat. It includes specific performance instructions: 'Off R.' (Off Right) and 'p.o.' (piano). The Koto part features a series of notes and rests, with dynamics *p*, *mp*, and *p*.

Ryū.

Hi.

Vc.

Pno.

Koto

pp *mf* *sfz* *pp*

pp *mp*

m.s.p. p.o.

ppp *mp*

p

p.o. N.R.

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

Ryū.

Hi.

Vc.

Pno.

Koto

10

Ryū.

Hi.

Vc.

Pno.

Koto

mf

p

mp

pp

mp

pp

mp

mp

p

mp

m.s.p. → p.o.

p.o.

p.o.

The musical score is written for five instruments: Ryū (flute), Hi (oboe), Vc. (violin), Pno. (piano), and Koto. The score is in 4/4 time and features a variety of dynamics and articulations. The Ryū part begins with a melodic line marked *mf*, followed by a rest and then a phrase marked *p* and *mp*. The Hi part enters with a phrase marked *pp* and *mp*, followed by a rest and then a phrase marked *pp* and *mp*. The Vc. part enters with a phrase marked *pp* and *mp*, followed by a rest and then a phrase marked *mp*. The Pno. part enters with a phrase marked *mp* and *p*, followed by a rest and then a phrase marked *mp*. The Koto part enters with a phrase marked *p.o.* and *#*, followed by a rest and then a phrase marked *p.o.* and *#*. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, beams, and slurs, as well as dynamic markings and articulations.

B

Slightly faster, still calm

Ryū.

Hi.

Vc.

Pno.

Koto

The musical score is written for five instruments: Ryū, Hi, Vc, Pno, and Koto. The notation is as follows:

- Ryū:** Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). The first measure contains a whole note chord (F#4, A4, C5) with a fermata. The second measure is empty.
- Hi:** Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). The first measure contains a whole note chord (F#4, A4, C5) with a fermata. The second measure contains a half note chord (F#4, A4, C5) with a fermata, marked *pp*.
- Vc:** Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). The first measure contains a whole note chord (F#4, A4, C5) with a fermata. The second measure is empty.
- Pno:** Grand staff (treble and bass clefs), key signature of one sharp (F#). The first measure contains a whole note chord (F#4, A4, C5) with a fermata, marked *p*. The second measure contains a half note chord (F#4, A4, C5) with a fermata, marked *mp*.
- Koto:** Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). The first measure contains a whole note chord (F#4, A4, C5) with a fermata. The second measure is empty.

The score is divided into two measures by a double bar line. The first measure contains musical notation for all instruments. The second measure is mostly empty, with a final note in the Hi part and a final chord in the Pno part. Dynamics include *p*, *mp*, and *pp*. A tempo instruction "Slightly faster, still calm" is present above the first measure. A section marker "B" is at the top, and the page number "11" is at the top right.

Ryū.

Hi.

Vc.

Pno.

Koto

ff

pp

fp

fp

mp

fp

ff

Ryū.

Hi.

Vc.

Pno.

Koto

N.R. —————> Off R.

p.o.

ppp *f* *p* *mf*

p *f* *p* *mf*

f *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

p *fp* *f* *mf* *p* *f*

The musical score is written for five instruments: Ryū, Hi, Vc, Pno, and Koto. The Ryū staff begins with a piano introduction marked *ppp*, followed by a melodic line with a forte *f* dynamic, then a piano *p* section, and finally a mezzo-forte *mf* section. The Hi staff has a long rest, then enters with a piano *p* dynamic, followed by a forte *f* section, a piano *p* section, and a mezzo-forte *mf* section. The Vc staff is mostly empty, with a dashed line indicating a connection from the Pno staff. The Pno staff features a complex bass line with dynamics *f*, *mp*, *f*, *mp*, and *f*. The Koto staff includes performance instructions: "N.R." (No Right Hand) and "Off R." (Off Right Hand) with upward arrows, and "p.o." (piano ostinato) with a downward arrow. The Koto dynamics are *p*, *fp*, *f*, *mf*, *p*, and *f*.

14

Ryū.

Hi.

Vc.

Pno.

Koto

C

Barely contained energy

*pp**pp*

s.t.

*pp**mp**f**mp**mf**p**mp*

Off R.

Barely contained energy

Score for Ryū, Hi, Vc, Pno, and Koto.

Ryū: Treble clef, *mp* (mezzo-piano). The staff shows a long note with a fermata, followed by a rest.

Hi: Treble clef, *mp* (mezzo-piano). The staff shows a long note with a fermata, followed by a rest.

Vc: Treble clef, *mp* (mezzo-piano). The staff shows a long note with a fermata, followed by a rest.

Pno: Grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The staff is empty.

Koto: Treble clef. The staff shows a sequence of notes with a crescendo from *p* (piano) to *mf* (mezzo-forte), followed by a rest. The staff also shows a sequence of notes with a crescendo from *p* to *f* (forte), followed by a rest. The staff also shows a sequence of notes with a crescendo from *p* to *f*, followed by a rest.

Dynamic markings: *mp*, *p*, *mf*, *f*.

16

Ryū.

Hi.

Vc.

Pno.

Koto

Measure 16: Ryū plays a sixteenth-note scale (G4-A4-B4-C5-D5-E5-F#5-G5) marked *mf*. Hi plays a sustained note (G4) marked *mf*. Vc plays a sustained harmonic background marked *mf*. Koto plays a sustained note (G4) marked *mf*.

Measure 17: Ryū plays a sustained note (G4) marked *pp*, then a melodic line (G4-A4-B4-C5-D5-E5-F#5-G5) marked *mp*. Hi plays a sustained note (G4) marked *pp*, then a melodic line (G4-A4-B4-C5-D5-E5-F#5-G5) marked *mp*. Vc plays a sustained harmonic background marked *pp*, then a melodic line (G4-A4-B4-C5-D5-E5-F#5-G5) marked *mp*. Koto plays a sustained note (G4) marked *p*, then a melodic line (G4-A4-B4-C5-D5-E5-F#5-G5) marked *mp*.

Measure 18: Ryū plays a sustained note (G4) marked *pp*. Hi plays a sustained note (G4) marked *pp*. Vc plays a sustained harmonic background marked *pp*. Koto plays a sustained note (G4) marked *mp*.

Score for Ryū, Hi, Vc., Pno., and Koto.

Ryū: Treble clef. Dynamics: *mf*, *p*, *mp*. A slur covers the first three measures, and a fermata is at the end.

Hi: Treble clef. Dynamics: *mf*, *p*, *mp*. A slur covers the first three measures, and a fermata is at the end.

Vc.: Treble clef. Dynamics: *mf*, *p*, *mp*, *pp*, *mf*. Performance markings: *s.p.* (sustained pedal) and *s.t.* (sustained tone). A slur covers the first three measures, and a fermata is at the end. A dashed line connects the *pp* dynamic to the Koto part.

Pno.: Grand staff (treble and bass clefs). No notation is present.

Koto: Treble clef. Dynamics: *f*. A slur covers the first three measures, and a fermata is at the end. A dashed line connects the *pp* dynamic to the Koto part.

18

Ryū.

Hi.

Vc.

Pno.

Koto

Musical score for measures 18-19, featuring five staves: Ryū, Hi, Vc, Pno, and Koto.

Ryū: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 18 starts with a whole note F#4, followed by a half note G#4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. A slur covers measures 18-19, with dynamics *ppp*, *mf*, *p*, *fp*, *mp*, and *mf* indicated below. A fermata is placed over the final note in measure 19.

Hi: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 18 starts with a whole note F#4, followed by a half note G#4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. A slur covers measures 18-19, with dynamics *mp* and *pp* indicated below. A fermata is placed over the final note in measure 19.

Vc: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 18 starts with a whole note F#4, followed by a half note G#4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. A slur covers measures 18-19, with dynamics *ppp*, *p*, *mp*, and *pp* indicated below. A fermata is placed over the final note in measure 19.

Pno: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 18 starts with a whole note F#4, followed by a half note G#4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. A slur covers measures 18-19, with dynamics *ppp*, *p*, *mp*, and *pp* indicated below. A fermata is placed over the final note in measure 19.

Koto: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 18 starts with a whole note F#4, followed by a half note G#4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. A slur covers measures 18-19, with dynamics *p*, *fp*, *fp*, and *mf* indicated below. A fermata is placed over the final note in measure 19.

Ryū.

pp *fp* *mf*

Hi.

f

Vc.

→ s.t. p.o. → s.p.

mf *p* *mf* *p* *f*

Pno.

f *p* *f*

Koto

pp *mp*

D

Driving forward, sudden releasing of energy

19

Ryū.

Hi.

Vc.

Pno.

Koto

p *ff* *p* *mf* *mp*

p *ff* *p* *mf* *mp*

p *f* *mp* *f* *p* *mf*

p *f* *p* *f*

pp *f* *mf*

tr^s

p.o.

Score for Ryū, Hi, Vc., Pno., and Koto.

Ryū: Treble clef. Dynamics: *ff*, *p*, *ff*, *p*, *fp*, *fp*. Trills marked *tr^s*.

Hi: Treble clef. Dynamics: *ff*, *p*, *ff*, *p*. Trills marked *tr^s* and *tr^q*.

Vc.: Bass clef. Dynamics: *mp*, *ff*, *fp*, *mp*, *pp*, *ff*.

Pno.: Grand staff. Dynamics: *p*, *f*. Includes a piano reduction of the Koto part.

Koto: Treble clef. Dynamics: *ff*, *fp*, *ff*, *mf*, *f*. Includes performance markings: N.R. (Natural Release), p.o. (pedal on), and various articulation symbols (accents, slurs, and breath marks).

Ryū.

Hi.

Vc.

Pno.

Koto

→ N.R. → p.o.

pp *f* *mp* *ff* *mf* *fp* *f*

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

ppp *mf* *pp* *f* *p*

p *ff* *p* *f*

N.R. p.o.

N.R. p.o.

The musical score is written for five instruments: Ryū. (flute), Hi. (harp), Vc. (violin), Pno. (piano), and Koto. The Ryū. and Hi. staves are in treble clef, while the Vc. staff is in bass clef. The Pno. staff is in grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The Koto staff is in treble clef. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings. A dashed line connects the Koto staff to the Pno. staff, and another dashed line connects the Koto staff to the Hi. staff.

Ryū.

Hi.

Vc.

Pno.

Koto

N.R. —→ p.o.

ff *mp* *fp* *ff*

ff *mp* *ff*

f *p* *mf* *fp* *mf* *p*

p *ff* *mp* *f*

fp *f* *p* *ff*

E

24

Sudden stasis, focus completely on timbre and decay - no ornamentation

Score for Ryū, Hi, Vc., Pno., and Koto, measures 24-26.

Ryū: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 24: *f*, *s* (sustained), $\approx 15''$. Measure 25: *f*, *sim.* (sustained), $\approx 15''$. Measure 26: *f*, $\approx 12''$.

Hi: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 24: *f*, $\approx 15''$. Measure 25: *f*, *sim.* (sustained), $\approx 15''$. Measure 26: *f*, $\approx 12''$.

Vc.: Bass clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 24: *pizz.*, *f*, $\approx 15''$. Measure 25: *f*, *sim.* (sustained), $\approx 15''$. Measure 26: *f*, $\approx 12''$.

Pno.: Grand staff (treble and bass clefs), key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 24: *f*, $\approx 15''$. Measure 25: *f*, *sim.* (sustained), $\approx 15''$. Measure 26: *f*, $\approx 12''$.

Koto: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 24: *f*, $\approx 15''$. Measure 25: *f*, *sim.* (sustained), $\approx 15''$. Measure 26: *f*, $\approx 12''$.

Score for Ryū, Hi, Vc., Pno., and Koto.

Ryū: Treble clef, 8va. Dynamics: *ff*, *fff*, *f*, *f*. Performance markings: $\approx 12''$, $\approx 20''$, $\approx 15''$.

Hi: Treble clef. Dynamics: *ff*, *fff*, *f*, *f*.

Vc.: Bass clef. Performance marking: arco p.o. con sord. Dynamics: *p*, *f*, *p*.

Pno.: Grand staff. Dynamics: *ff*, *fff*, *f*.

Koto: Treble clef. Dynamics: *ff*, *fff*, *f*.