

**Fanfare with Singing Insects
of South Pond, Lincoln Park**
For Orchestra, Fixed Electronics and Smart Phones

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Fanfare with Singing Insects of South Pond, Lincoln Park
Score in C
(4 minutes)

Imagine an orchestra performing in a clearing surrounded by prairie grasses. It's early evening in late August and people are seated or standing nearby. The singing insects of summer are in full voice. Specifically it's Lincoln Park's South Pond. The insects, the orchestra and the audience together participate in the late summer performance. That is the experience this piece is meant to convey.

Some background: in June the Chicago Park District hosted its first meeting for a Singing Insects Monitoring Program. Carl Strang, DuPage county naturalist and expert on singing insects, introduced the insects and their songs. We were given a CD to study and forms to fill out during our monitoring. I chose to monitor Lincoln Park's South Pond, not far from my home. For the next three months I made field recordings and was amazed by the variety and complexity of the insects' songs. Eventually, I organized the recordings by rhythm and or articulations: insects singing in triplets, preferences for second or third beats and trillers.

Those songs and singers are the inspiration for this orchestra piece. The orchestra both accompanies and at times plays with the insects. In the mayhem of a full prairie of singing insects, the orchestra provides a respite while also celebrating the songsters.

There is a fixed electronic track that is timed to the meter of the piece. Entering minute three, the audience is invited (by the conductor) to join in by playing downloaded (from Soundcloud) tracks on their Smartphones. Audience participation reinforces the sense of being in the midst of a Chicago prairie on a late summer's evening. Note: the piece also works without audience participation.

Instrumentation

2 Flutes (1 and 2)
2 Oboes (1 and 2)
2 Clarinet2 in Bb (1 and 2)
2 Bassoons (1 and 2)

2 Horns in F (1 and 2)
2 Trumpets in C (1 and 2)
2 Trombones (1 and 2)
Tuba

Timpani

Violins I and II
Violas
Violoncellos
Contrabasses

Performance instructions

Like a summer evening in the park, there are moments of quiet and moments of raucous singing insects. The orchestra functions as the earth and sky that surround the insects providing space, complementing their trills, and lightly suggesting their rhythms.

Electronics: A wav file will be available for either stereo or quadraphonic presentation. The score shows the types of sounds on the file, when they emerge and their general dynamics.

Smartphones: The audience will have the option of playing sound files that they download from Soundcloud during the final minute of the piece. They will receive directions for downloading files when they receive their programs. The conductor will give the audience directions before the performance for a signal to watch for when it is time to play any one of four files of the singing insects. The score indicates when to direct the audience to play their chosen file and when to stop it (at the end of the performance).

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Score in C

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Flute 1 $\text{♩} = 60$ no vibrato *pp*

Flute 2

Oboe 1

Oboe 2

Clarinet 1 in B \flat

Clarinet 2 in B \flat

Bassoon 1

Bassoon 2

Horn 1 in F

Horn 2 in F

Trumpet 1 in C

Trumpet 2 in C

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Tuba

Timpani $\text{♩} = 60$

Violin I $\text{♩} = 60$ *pppp*

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Contrabass

Electronics $\text{♩} = 60$ Singing insects medley [:29] Intense cicadas

Smart Phones $\text{♩} = 60$

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9

Fl. 1 *p* *n* *ppp* *mf* *n*
no vibrato

Fl. 2 *p* *mp* *n* *pp* *mp* *pppp*

Ob. 1 *p* *ppp* *pp*

Ob. 2 *pp* *mp* *pppp*

Cl. 1 *pppp* *ppp* *n* *pppp* *ppp*

Cl. 2 *pppp* *ppp* *n*

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tuba

Timp.

Vln. I *p* *pppp*

Vln. II *pppp* *p*

Vla. *pppp*

Vc. *pppp* *ppp* *pppp*

Cb. *pppp* *ppp* *pppp*

Elec. [49] Intense trilling (Continues)

Phones

Fanfare with Singing Insects
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25 B

Fl. 1 *pp* \triangleleft *p* *n*

Fl. 2 *pp* \triangleleft *p* *n*

Ob. 1 *ppp* *pppp*

Ob. 2 *ppp* *pppp* *p* *n*

Cl. 1 *pp* *n*

Cl. 2 *pppp* \triangleleft *ppp* \triangleleft *pp*

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2 *pppp*

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2 *pp* \triangleleft *p* *pppp*

Tuba *pppp* *ppp* \triangleleft *pp* *pppp*

Timp.

Vin. I *con legno battuto* *pp* B *con legno battuto* *pp*

Vin. II *con legno battuto* *p*

Vla. *pp* *pppp*

Vc. *pp*

Cb.

Elec. [1:36] (quiet continues)

Phones

Fanfare with Singing Insects
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29 *ord.*

FL. 1 *pp* *ord.* *p* *pp* *no vibrato* *p* *n*

FL. 2 *p* *n* *mp*

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

Cl. 1 *ppp* *n*

Cl. 2 *n*

Bsn. 1 *ppp* *n* *pp* *n*

Bsn. 2 *ppp* *pppp*

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Tpt. 1 *Con sord.* *p* *pppp*

Tpt. 2 *Con sord.* *pp < mp* *pppp*

Tbn. 1 *ppp* *pppp*

Tbn. 2 *pppp < pp* *pppp*

Tuba *ppp* *pppp*

Timp. *ppp* *pppp*

Vln. I *pp*

Vln. II *pp*

Vla. *con legno battuto* *p*

Vc. *pp* *ppp*

Cb. *ppp* *pp*

Elec. [1:58] singing insects triplets

Phones

Fanfare with Singing Insects
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33

C
cantabile

Fl. 1 *ppp* *p* *ppp* *pp*

Fl. 2 *ppp* *pp* *freely* *n*

Ob. 1 *ppp* *pp* *pppp* *pp*

Ob. 2 *ppp* *pp*

Cl. 1 *pppp* *n*

Cl. 2 *pp* *p* *ppp*

Bsn. 1 *ppp* *pp* *ppp* *n*

Bsn. 2 *ppp* *p* *pppp* *pppp* *pp*

Hn. 1 *Con sord.* *p* *pp*

Hn. 2 *pp* *ppp* *ppp* *pppp*

Tpt. 1 *Con sord.* *pp* *pppp* *ppp*

Tpt. 2 *Con sord.* *pp* *pppp* *ppp*

Tbn. 1 *ppp* *pppp*

Tbn. 2 *ppp* *pppp*

Tuba *ppp* *pppp*

Timp. *ppp* *pppp*

Vln. I *ppp*

Vln. II *ppp*

Vla. *p* *pp*

Vc. *ppp* *pppp*

Cb. *ppp*

Elec. (Continues) [2:15] Intense trilling

Phones

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37

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tuba

Timp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Elec. (Continues) [2:32]

Phones

pppp, *ppp*, *pp*, *p*, *n*, *freely*, *ord.*

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41 

D

ord.

Fl. 1 *pppp* *p* *mp* *pppp*

Fl. 2 *ppp* *f*

Ob. 1 *pppp* *pp* *n*

Ob. 2 *pppp* *pp*

Cl. 1 *n* *ppp* *p* *n* *ppp*

Cl. 2 *ppp* *p* *ppp* *pppp* *ppp* *pppp*

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2 *pppp*

Hn. 1 *ppp* *pppp*

Hn. 2 *ppp* *pppp*

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2 *pp* *ppp* *pppp*

Tuba *pp* *ppp*

Timp. *ppp* *p* *pppp*

Vln. I *mp* *n* **D**

Vln. II *ppp* *p* *n* no vibrato *pp*

Vla. *pp* *n*

Vc. *pp* *p* *n*

Cb. *n* *ppp*

Elec. [2:44] [2:55] quiet tick tick and insects

Phones SIGNAL AUDIENCE TO START SMART PHONE PLAYBACK

Fanfare with Singing Insects
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50

Fl. 1 *pp* *f* *pp* *ppp* *p* *ppp*

Fl. 2 *ppp* *p* *pppp* *p* no vibrato

Ob. 1

Ob. 2 *n* *p* *pppp*

Cl. 1 *n* *p* *n* *pp*

Cl. 2 *ppp* *n* *ppp* *pp* *ppp* *mp* *ppp*

Bsn. 1 *pppp* *mp* *ppp* *ppp*

Bsn. 2 *mp* *ppp* *mp*

Hn. 1

Hn. 2 *Senza sord.* *mp* *pppp*

Tpt. 1 *p* *mp* *ppp*

Tpt. 2 *Senza sord.* *mf*

Tbn. 1 *(Con sord.)* *ppp* *mf* *pppp*

Tbn. 2 *(Con sord.)* *p* *mp* *ppp*

Tuba *pppp* *p*

Timp. *mp* *p*

Vln. I *f* *ppp* pizz.

Vln. II *p* *ppp* *f* pizz.

Vla. *pp* *mp* no vibrato

Vc. *pp* *p*

Cb. *pp* *ppp* *pppp* *ppp*

Elec. [3:16] singing insects tuplets Intense cicadas

Phones (Continue smart phone playback)

Fanfare with Singing Insects of South Pond, Lincoln Park

FL. 1

FL. 2

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tuba

Timp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Elec.

Phones

pppp p n

mf ppp ord. pp n

pppp n

n ppp pppp

n

n n pp

pppp pp mp pppp

pppp pppp

mf n ppp

pppp

pp mp ppp pppp

pp mp ppp

pppp

pp

pp pp n

no vibrato arco pp mp

no vibrato arco p mp

ord. pppp ppp

pppp pp

[3:36] Singing insects medley

(Continue smart phone playback)

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58 no vibrato

FL. 1 *pp* *pppp*

FL. 2 *pp* *n*

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

Cl. 1

Cl. 2 *n*

Bsn. 1 *pppp* *n*

Bsn. 2 *mp* *pppp*

Hn. 1 *n*

Hn. 2

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tbn. 1 *pp* *n*

Tbn. 2

Tuba

Timp.

Vln. I *pppp*

Vln. II *pppp*

Vla. *n*

Vc. *pppp*

Cb. *pppp* *n*

Elec. [4:10]

Phones

SIGNAL END OF PLAYBACK

Allow about 15 seconds for audience to turn off cell phones and electronics to fade out.