

Redwood

(vers. 2)

for Orchestra

Nathan Kelly

FOR VIEWING ONLY

Instrumentation

2 Flutes (2° = Piccolo)

2 Oboes

2 B♭ Clarinets

2 Bassoons

4 Horns

3 B♭ Trumpets

3 Trombones (3° = Bass Trombone)

Tuba

Timpani

Harp

Percussion (2 players) - (*Glockenspiel, Xylophone, Crotales (bowed), Chimes, Vibraphone (bowed), Bell Tree, Marimba Tree, Piatti, Sizzle Cymbal, Suspended Cymbal, Temple Blocks, Sandpaper, Wood Blocks, Tam-Tam (with Triangle beater), Gran Cassa, Tree Branches, Dried Leaves*)

Strings (min. 6-4-4-3-2)

PROGRAM NOTES

Redwood opens with a "pedal point", that expands in its intensity and stretches its melodic limbs ever-upward, frequently using intervals of the 7th and 9th in its mighty twists and turns, as it infuses brief contrasting moments of alternating powerful and delicate textures that display a somber and majestic dissonant beauty. The expansive tuttis mark prominent, relentlessly unfurling musical material writhing and aching with intensity and passion that fearlessly clash branch out -- above, below and in-between -- balancing registral development with motivic seeds of growing contrapuntal figuration and ornamentation that evolve into dense, complex textures and overlapping, competing voices. The churning and undulating fluidity of multiple stratifications of voices explore the enormous and awesome colorful orchestral range and dark tessitura of the orchestra, like a fitting musical portrait of our towering national treasures, the great Redwoods.

These massive pillars of old are unmovable monuments that harbor in their sheer enormity a wisdom and fine delicately detailed history of the ancient universe, conveying a solemn strength that seemed to call for great breath and thunderously shaking moments of musical roots that grow hellishly deep and downwards, yet are invisible to us as we only see their incredible topography above the soil. This is a work of contrasting shimmering, delicate moments and also a relentless, constantly yearning, dissonant ascent towards clangorous climaxes and long melodic limbs.

duration: approx. 14-15 minutes

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- 6 -

(Picc.) 2

Fl. 1
1/2 air, 1/2 pitch *pp* ("cold")

Ob. 1
lip gliss. *pp* *mf*

B♭ Cl. 2
3

Bsn. 1
2
pp

Hn. 1
2
3
4
a2 *p* *f* *(open) n.v.* *pp* *a2 (open) air* *p*

B♭ Tpt. 1
2
3
air *p* *a2 air* *p* *mf*

Tbn. 1
2
3

Tuba

Timpani

Perc. 1
2
Glockenspiel *p* *mp* *Tam-Tam - bowed* *p*

Hp.

Vln. 1
2
1° - Solo *mp* (*sul tasto, flautando*) *sul E (fluttery harmonics)* *mp* *tutti, (n.v.)* *mf* *pp*

Vla.

Cello

Bass

poco rit.

flz. 3

[21] Tempo I° ($\text{♩} = 72$), magical

(Picc.) 2

flz.

ppp — *mp* —

ord.

pp — *p* — *pp*

Ob.

pp n.v. ("cold")

ord.

pp

Bsn.

n

pp

pp

pp

Hn.

n

to harmon

harmon mute no stem

pp

to harmon

harmon mute no stem

(sempre mute) ord.

[1/4 flat] + *gliss.*

pp

(sempre mute) 2^o ord.

[1/4 sharp] *n* — *gliss.*

mf

pp

ord.

pp

Tbn.

pp — *mf* —

(sempre mute)

ord.

pp

Tuba

ord.

pp

Timp.

pp

Sus. Cym.

Perc.

l.v.

no cresc.

pp

Hp.

p (harmonics sounding 8va)

mf — *sffz*

Solo "metallic cluster"

l.v.

p (sur la table)

poco rit.

1^o-Solo

(loco) tutti

21

Tempo I^o ($\text{♩} = 72$), magical

flautando

sul pont.

Vln.

ord.

8va

mp — *f* —

MSP

div.

(unis.)

[choked strings white noise]

tutti

pp — *mp* — *pp*

[trem. with bursts of random harmonics]

sul pont.

Vla.

pp

n

mp — *n* —

MSP

div.

p

unis.

[choked strings white noise]

sul pont.

Cello

mf — *n* —

p

[choked strings - white noise]

Bass

poco rit.