

Sang Liang & Shao Yu Flute Concerto

c. 29 mins

Instrumentation

Solo Flute

Percussion (Glockenspiel, Marimba, Shaker, Suspended Cymbal, Tam-tam, Tom-toms, Water Bowl, Waterphone)

> Violin I Violin II Viola Violoncello

Technical Requirements

A microphone should be placed with the percussionist over the Water Bowl to pick up and amplify the sound. However there should also be enough room to play a shaker underneath the microphone. A reverb effect should also be applied to the sound before being outputted.

This will require a speaker and likely a computer with appropriate live processing software in order to create a reverb effect.

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Long ago, in the Dai village, where they grow bamboo and gourds, lived a kind young man named Sang Liang. Not only was he good at farming, but also talented in music and dance. Therefore, he was a very worthy bachelor and many girls liked him. But Sang Liang believed he would soon meet his true love.

In the Autumn, during the harvest season, the people of the village celebrated the Gan Duo Festival. On the way to market one day with his friends, Sang Liang saw an old lady struggling with a yoke full of gourd seeds. Suddenly, the old lady fell to the floor, and the gourd seeds scattered all over the floor. Sang Liang helped the old lady up and picked up all the gourd seeds. He then carried the yoke for her to the market. The old lady was very appreciative, showering Sang Liang with thanks and blessings. She also told Sang Liang that he would meet his true love who would be coming to buy a bag of gourd seeds very soon. However she also said that if they fell in love with each other, a disaster would befall them. Whether they could survive it depended on their Fu Qi, their luck.

Sang Liang said goodbye to the old lady and started to wander around the market. Suddenly it began to rain heavily, so he hid in a stall to take shelter from the rain. Two beautiful girls were running trying to find cover, so Sang Liang called them over and gave his place to them. It rained for a long time, so they had a lot of time to get to know each other. One of the girls, named Shao Yu, impressed Sang Liang very much. She was very beautiful; her eyes shone like diamonds, her small mouth reminded Sang Liang of a cherry and her voice was clear like yellow warbler. They fell in love at first sight and they agreed to go shopping together after the rain. Shao Yu left her handkerchief where they were hiding from the rain, so Sang Liang got it back for her. It dropped on the floor and he saw that gourd seeds were wrapped inside. Remembering what the old lady said to him, he discovered that Shao Yu had bought the seeds from the same lady, so he was sure that Shao Yu was his true love.

The lovers planted lots of gourd and bamboo by the Meng Yang river to remember the old lady who brought them together. With a great harvest, they used the gourds and bamboo both to eat and to sell. They decided that, after harvesting all their produce and decorating their new house, they would set a date for their weeding.

One day, whilst they were harvesting gourds, an unusually severe storm struck, and all the villages were flooded. In order to escape, Sang Liang cut the bamboo and made a raft, Shao Yu tied the dried gourds which they were about to use to decorate the house on to the raft to keep it afloat. However the tiny raft could only take one person's weight, so Shao Yu jumped into the flood in order to save the man she loved. Sang Liang sobbed, shouting out Shao Yu's name over and over again desperately.

Shao Yu died in the flood and left Sang Liang alive, but alone. He fell into a deep sadness and hardly wished to live. Every day, he would sit on the raft crying and lamenting his loss. In order to remember Shao Yu, he took one of the gourds from the raft, and insert a thin bamboo tube into it. Every time he missed Shao Yu, he took his creation out and put it close to his heart or next to his face. One time, he put the bamboo tube in mouth and blew. The object unexpectedly made a sound and Sang Liang suddenly had an idea, he wanted to use the gourd and bamboo tube to make an instrument, and play a lament to Shao Yu. He soon completed the instrument, now known as a Hulusi, and played his lament through it all the time. As time passed, the sound formed a melody which sounded like crying. Later on, others named this music 'cry tune', and handed it down from age to age, known as Dai Hulusi 'old tune' nowadays.

Sang Liang's story moved the Buddha so much that came to the Meng Yang river holding a cloud in his hands. With a point of his finger, golden rays appeared in the sky lighting up the Dai village. Suddenly, flowers blossomed, peacocks flaunted their tails and hundreds of birds began to sing together. Shao Yu was lifted upon the surface of the river by a giant gourd and was reborn. Henceforth, Sang Liang and Shao Yu played the Hulusi beautifully together, and lived happily ever after

Performance Directions

The opening is in free time and all players are to play individually at their own speed. Performers are to play their given material in the time brackets given.

Percussion: Water Bowl - this should be a bowl filled with water and amplified with live reverb. The percussionist should move their hands around the water gently, unsettling it and ensuring that the sound is picked up by the microphone.

Performers are to play the given material as cells. Strings when not playing cell material should return to the material given in the top left.

The dynamics of the whole movement, as indicated by the conductor, should begin quietly, swell towards the middle and die away towards the end

Movement III - Cadenza, Sang Liang's Lament

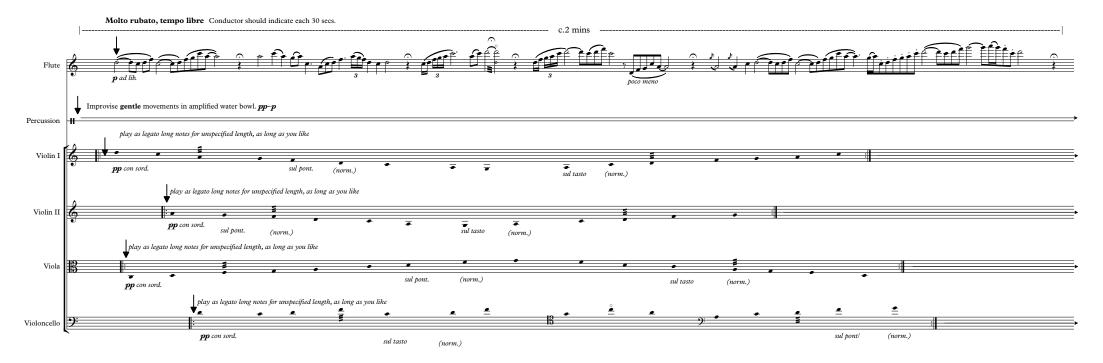
Solo Flute should play material similarly to Movement II, selecting cells in an improvisatory manner. Strings TACET.

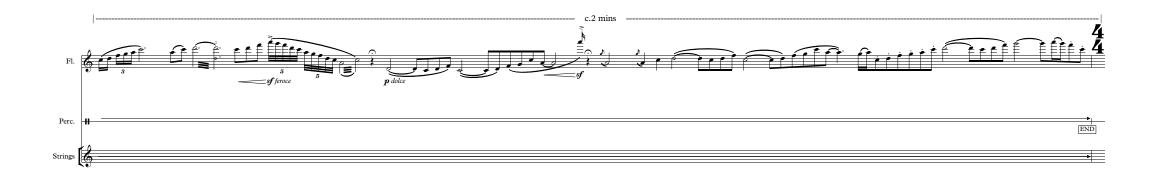
When playing as a piece on its own, Violins I & II should play sustained A & E from beginning to end of the movement. Viola, Violoncello & Percussion TACET.

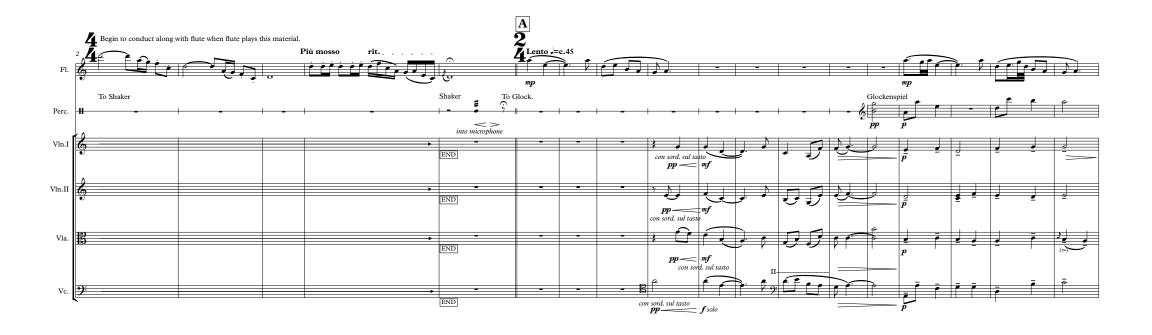
Movement IV - The Buddha's Gift

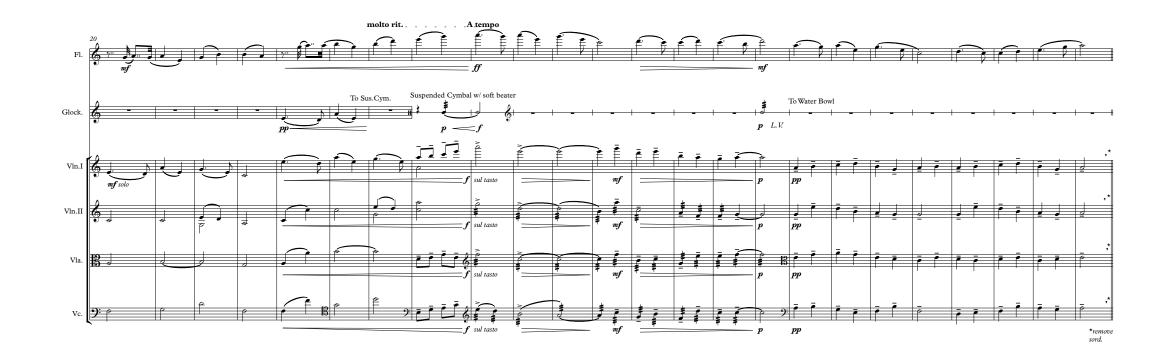
Sang Liang & Shao Yu Flute Concerto Movement I - The Lovers

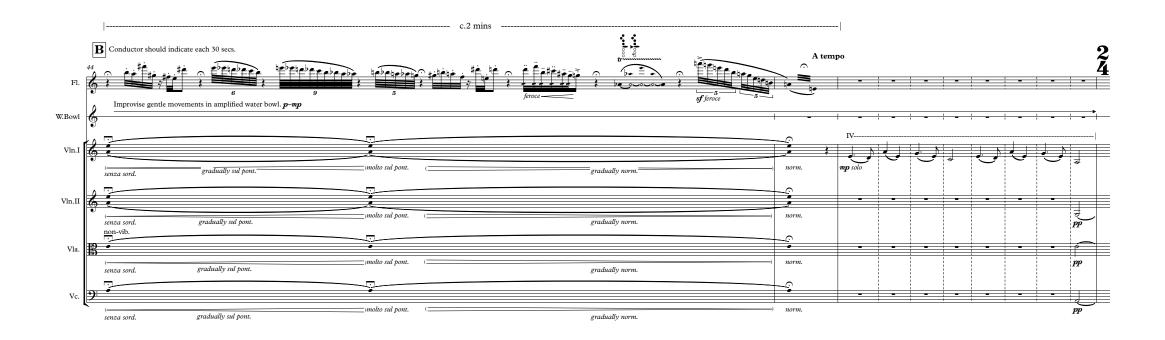
Sandy Clark (2017)













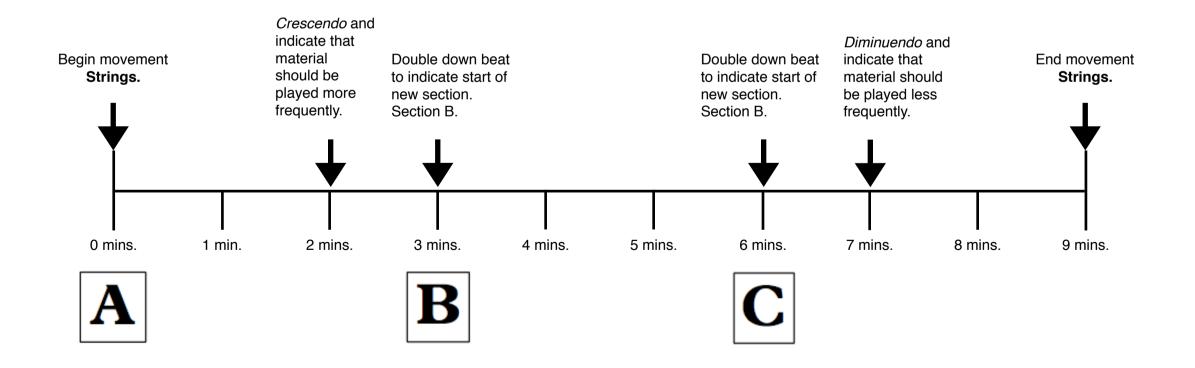
Movement II - Storm

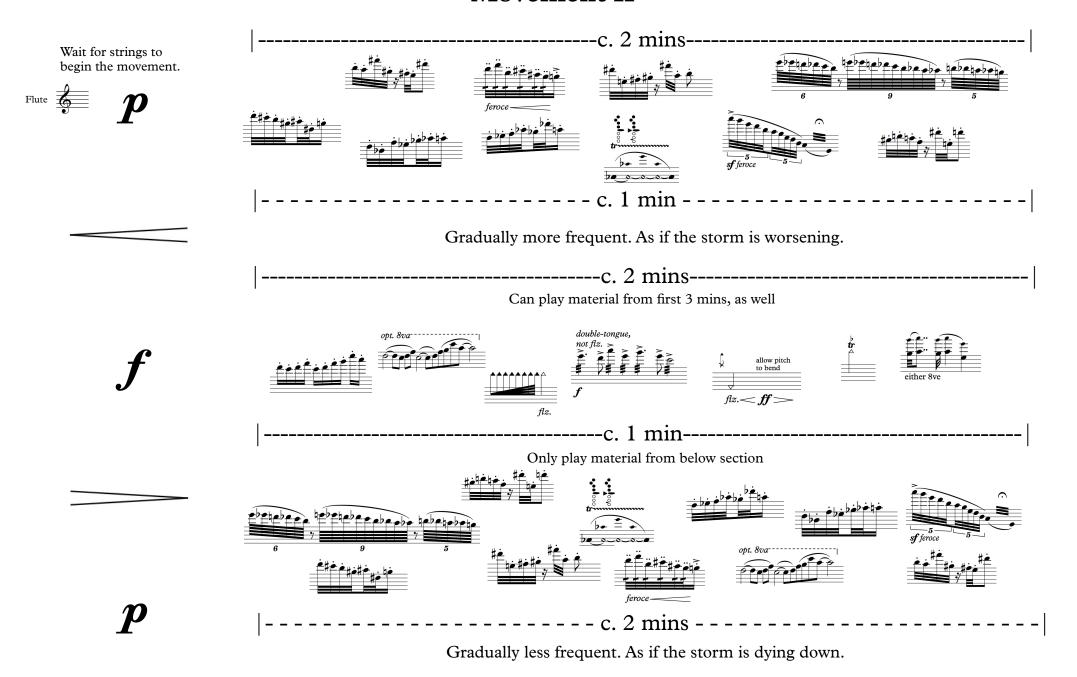
Conductor's Score

Strings begin the movement on central material.

All players may play cell material freely throughout the movement. Conductor should indicate where sections begin/end and control the shape of the playing e.g. dynamics, frequency of cell material. These instructions have been detailed on the timeline below.

Strings end movement on central material.





Begin the piece with this and return to it when not playing fragmented material

sul pont., sul tasto, or

tremolo at an appropriate dynamic.

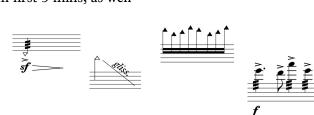
-----c. 2 mins-----Can be played either arco or pizz. where possible

Gradually more frequent. As if the storm is worsening.

-- c. 1 min -----

-----c. 2 mins-----Can play material from first 3 mins, as well

norm. and A as a harmonic



-----c. 1 min-----Only play material from below section, as well as sustained A/E returning material

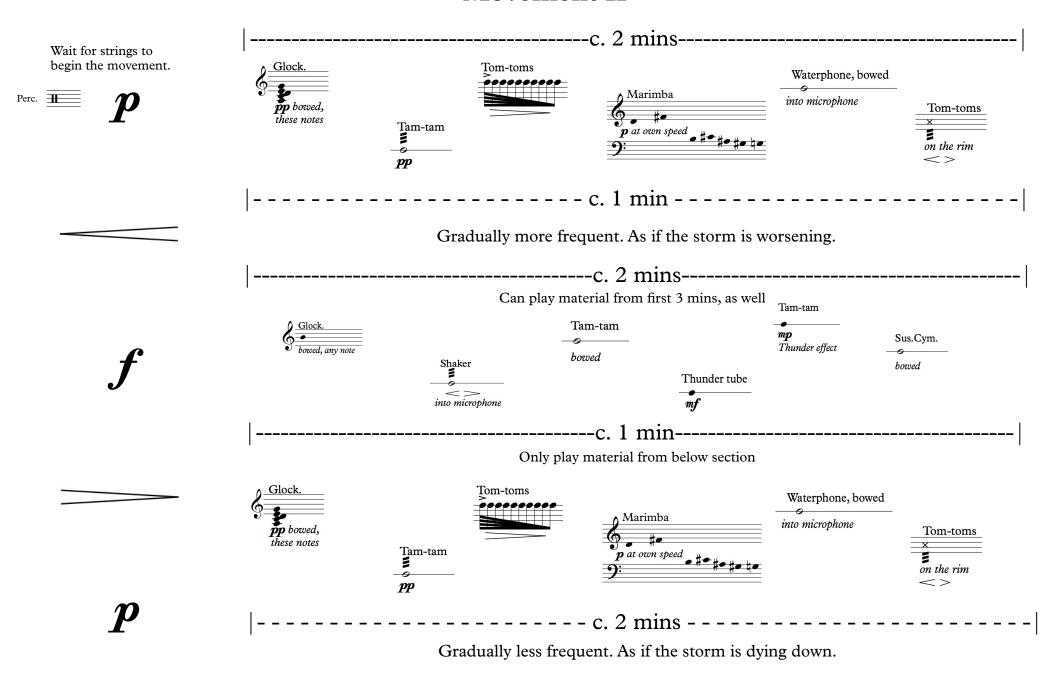
----c. 2 mins -----

Gradually less frequent. As if the storm is dying down.

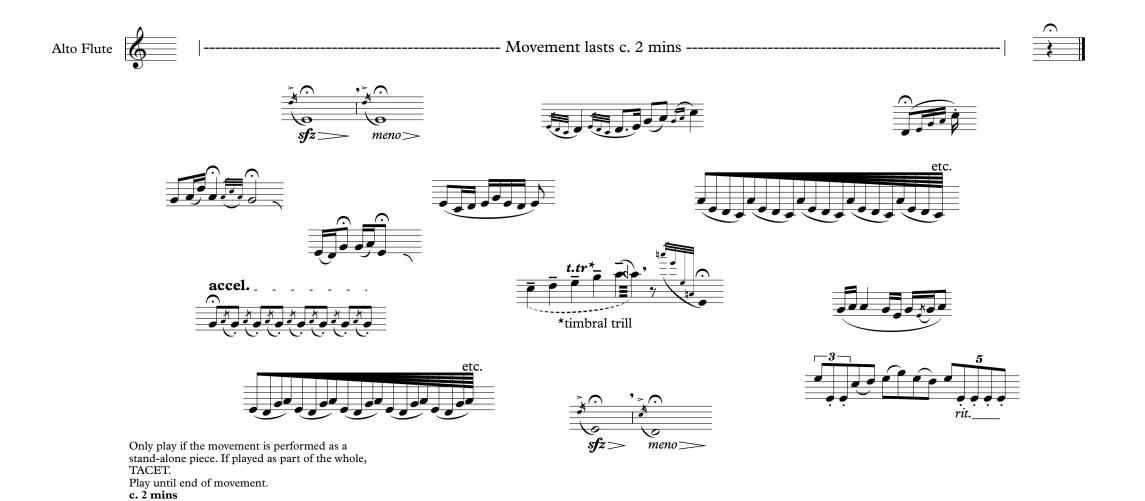
Begin the piece with -----c. 2 mins----this and return to it Can be played either arco or pizz. where possible when not playing fragmented material sul pont., sul tasto, or appropriate dynamic. ----c. 1 min -----Gradually more frequent. As if the storm is worsening. -----c. 2 mins-----Can play material from first 2 mins, as well -----c. 1 min------Only play material from below section, as well as sustained E returning material ----c. 2 mins -----Gradually less frequent. As if the storm is dying down.



Begin the piece with this and return to it -----c. 2 mins----when not playing fragmented material Can be played either arco or pizz. where possible Can be played norm., sul pont., sul tasto, or tremolo at an appropriate dynamic. ----c. 1 min -----Gradually more frequent. As if the storm is worsening. -----c. 2 mins-----Can play material from first 2 mins, as well molto sul pont -----c. 1 min-----Only play material from below section, as well as sustained A returning material ----c. 2 mins -----Gradually less frequent. As if the storm is dying down.



Movement III - Lament



Percussion, viola & violoncello TACET.

Violins I & II

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Movement IV







