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Toccata

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Publication Date

2020

HAOSI HOWARD CHEN

TOCCATA
(2013/15)

for piano and chamber ensemble

INSTRUMENTATION*

Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in B-flat

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in C

Trombone

Percussion I:

Timpani

Cymbal (suspended)

Snare Drum (shared with Perc. II)

Percussion II:

Xylophone

Snare Drum (shared with Perc. I)

Temple Blocks (5)

Tambourine

Piano (soloist)

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

Contrabass

*all instruments are one-per-part

PROGRAM NOTES

The word “toccata” usually hints at a work of fast-paced virtuosity, which is certainly present in this work, in ways more than one. While the melodic motifs are deceptively simple, they are colored with impish rhythmic interjections between the ensemble and the soloist. One of the virtuosic elements here for the pianist is having to grasp one buoyant texture from the orchestra while fancying it into the next one, all with immense control and graceful juggling.

Having written this work while “away from the keyboard” while recovering from an injury, I believe true virtuosity at the instrument is more than just running across the piano, and its mastery more of a mental discipline than just the physical practice required. It calls the artist to explore the sound palette, without the vanity of filibusters, but with substance and simplicity. This idea of conciseness is also expressed in the one-per-part orchestration of this work: lean in its manpower, but just as rich in sound and contrast as a full-sized orchestra—if not more so.

TOCCATA

for piano and chamber ensemble

HAOSI HOWARD CHEN (*1991)

3/4 $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 132$
Brioso

2/4 **3/8** **3/4** **2/4** **5/8** (3+2) **2/4** **3/4**

Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in Bb

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in C

Trombone

Percussion I

Percussion II

Piano

3/4 $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 132$
Brioso
sul tasto

2/4 **3/8** **3/4** **2/4** **5/8** (3+2) **2/4** **3/4**

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

Contrabass

10

3/4 2/4 3/4 2/4

Vln. I *pochiss. cresc.* ord. *p*

Vln. II *pochiss. cresc.* ord. *p*

Vla. *pizz.* *p*

Vc. *pizz.* *p*

Cb. *pizz.* *p*

19

A

3/4 2/4 3/8 3/4 2/4 5/8 (3+2) 2/4 3/4

Fl. *p* *mp*

Ob. *p* *p*

Cl. *p*

Bsn. *p* *mp*

Piano *p semplice*

Vln. I *dim.* *pp*

Vln. II *arco* *dim.* *pp* *pizz.*

Vla. *p*

Vc. *p*

Cb. *p*

28 $\frac{3}{4}$

$\frac{5}{8}$ (3+2)

$\frac{3}{4}$

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{3}{8}$

Fl. *p* *f*

Ob. *p cresc.* *f* *p*

Cl. *p* *f* *p*

Bsn. *p cresc.* *f* *fp*

Hn. *mp cantabile*

Tbn. *p*

Piano *p cresc.* *f* *poco f*

Vln. I *p cresc.* *f* *fp cresc.*

Vln. II *p cresc.* *f* *fp cresc.*

Vla. *arco*

Vc. *arco*

Cb. *arco* *p*

34

Fl. *mp cantabile*

Ob. *poco f*

Cl. *mp*

Bsn.

Hn.

Tbn.

Piano *cresc.* 8^{va}

Vln. I *poco f* *p cresc.*

Vln. II *poco f* *p cresc.*

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Time signatures: 3/8, 2/4, 3/4, 5/8 (2+3), 2/4

38 **2/4**

Fl. **B**

Ob.

Cl. *f*

Bsn.

Hn. *f*

C Tpt. (open) *ff*

Tbn.

Timp. *p*

S. D. S. D. (off) *ff* (to Xyl.) Xyl. *f* (to S. D.)

Piano *f* *ff* *f*

B

2/4

Vln. I *f*

Vln. II *f*

45

Bsn. *poco f*

Tbn. *poco f*

Timp.

Xyl. S.D. (off) *p*

Piano *mp scherzando*

Vln. I *mp*

Vln. II unis. pizz. *p* arco *mp*

Vla. pizz. *p*

Vc. pizz. *p*

Time signatures: 3/4, 2/4, 7/8 (2+3+2), 5/8 (3+2), 3/4

Rehearsal mark: 45

Tempo/Character: *poco f*, *mp scherzando*

Performance instructions: *p*, *mp*, *arco*, *unis. pizz.*, *pizz.*

Measure numbers: 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50

57

Fl. *f* *poco f* *espress.*

Ob. *mp*

Cl. *f*

Bsn. *mp*

Hn. *f* *espress.*

C Tpt. *mp*

Tamb. *p* *f*

T. Bl.

Piano *ff* *8va*

Vln. I *cresc.*

Vln. II *cresc.*

Vla. *cresc.*

Detailed description: This page of a musical score covers measures 57 through 61. The woodwind section includes Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), and Bassoon (Bsn.), with dynamics ranging from *mp* to *f*. The brass section consists of Horns (Hn.), Trumpets (C Tpt.), and Trombones (T. Bl.). The percussion section features a Tambourine (Tamb.) and a pair of Tom-toms (T. Bl.). The piano part is marked *ff* and includes an *8va* section. The string section includes Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), and Viola (Vla.), all marked *cresc.* (crescendo). The score is written in a common time signature and includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings.

63

2/4 3/4 2/4 3/4

Fl. *f* *ff*

Ob. *mf* *f*

Cl. *mf* *f*

Bsn. *mf* *f*

Hn. *mf* *f*

C Tpt. *f* *ff* (cup mute)

Tbn.

Tamb. (to Timp.) Timp.

T. Bl. (to S. D.) S. D. (rim) *f*

Piano *loco* *cresc.* *sf* *sf* *ff*

Vln. I *ff*

Vln. II *ff*

Vla. *f* *ff*

Vc. *sempre f*

Cb. *sempre f*

70

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

C Tpt.

Tbn.

Timp.

S. D.

Piano

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

2/4

3/8

2/4

D

3/4

3/8

mp

S. D. (on)

mp

2

1

8va

pizz.

f

f

poco f

sempre f

sempre f

78

3/8 7/8 (3 + 2 + 2) 2/4 3/4

Hn. *poco f*

C Tpt. *cup mute poco f*

Tbn. *cup mute poco f*

Timp. *mp*

S. D. *dim.*

Piano

Vln. I *arco p*

Vln. II *arco p*

Vla. *p decres.*

Vc.

Cb.

86 E 2/4

Fl. *p*

Bsn. *poco f* *p*

Hn. *p*

C Tpt.

Tbn. (open)

Timp.

S. D. (to Xyl.)

Piano *sub. p* L.H. L.H.

Vln. I E 2/4

Vln. II

Vla. *poco f*

Vc. *pizz. gliss.* *poco f* *gliss.* *gliss.*

Cb. *arco* *poco f*

92

Fl.

Ob.

Hn.

C Tpt.

Piano

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

p

poco f

gliss.

port.

arco

p

(open only after 2nd time)

3/8

3/4

Musical score for measures 96-100. The score is for a full orchestra and piano. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The time signature changes from 5/8 to 3/4 to 2/4. The instruments are Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Horn (Hn.), Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.).

Measures 96-100:

- Flute: Starts with a melodic line in 5/8, then continues in 3/4 and 2/4. Dynamics include *p*.
- Oboe: Similar melodic line to the flute, starting in 5/8 and continuing in 3/4 and 2/4. Dynamics include *p*.
- Clarinet: Remains silent until measure 98, then plays a short phrase in 3/4 and 2/4. Dynamics include *poco f* and *espress.*
- Horn: Plays a sustained harmonic line across all measures.
- Piano: Provides a rhythmic accompaniment with chords and moving lines in the right and left hands.
- Violin I and II: Play a melodic line in 5/8, then continue in 3/4 and 2/4.
- Viola and Cello: Play a melodic line in 5/8, then continue in 3/4 and 2/4. Dynamics include *pizz.*

Musical score for measures 100-104. The score is for a full orchestra and piano. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The time signature changes from 2/4 to 3/8 to 3/4 to 5/8 to 3/4. The instruments are Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), and Piano.

Measures 100-104:

- Flute: Starts in 2/4, then changes to 3/8, 3/4, 5/8, and 3/4. Dynamics include *f* and *espress.*
- Oboe: Similar melodic line to the flute, starting in 2/4 and continuing in 3/8, 3/4, 5/8, and 3/4. Dynamics include *f* and *espress.*
- Clarinet: Similar melodic line to the flute, starting in 2/4 and continuing in 3/8, 3/4, 5/8, and 3/4. Dynamics include *f* and *espress.*
- Piano: Provides a rhythmic accompaniment with chords and moving lines in the right and left hands. Dynamics include *f* and *espress.*

106 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{2}{4}$

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Piano

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

f *p* *mp* *sub. p* *sempre p* *pizz.* *p*

111 $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{5}{8}$ (3+2) $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

$\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{5}{8}$ (3+2) $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$

120

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

arco

p

pizz.

p

126

Piano

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cb.

p dolce

arco

dim.

133

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Piano

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

p

p

mp

sub. p

f

mp dolce

pp

136 $\frac{3}{4}$

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

mp

p

p

139 $\frac{5}{8}$ (3+2) $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{7}{8}$ (4+3) $\frac{3}{4}$

F

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

p

cantabile

mf

p

p

p

pizz.

poco f

pizz.

poco f

145

Ob. *mp*

Bsn. *mp cantabile espress.*

Hn. *ff*

C Tpt. *ff* open

Tbn. *ff*

Timp. *ff* *p* *ff*

Piano *sempre ff con bravura*

Vln. I *f*

Vln. II *f*

Vla.

2/4 3/4 2/4

150

3 **2**

Fl. *ff*

Ob. *ff*

Cl. *ff*

Hn. *ff*

C Tpt. *ff*

Tbn. *ff*

Timp. *mf*

S. D. *ff*

Xyl. *mf*

Piano

156

Ob. *f*

Cl. *f*

Bsn. *f*

Hn. *f*

Timp. *ff*

Xyl. *p*

Piano

165.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Timp.

Xyl.

Piano

p

(to Cym.)

171.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Xyl.

Piano

sempre pp

177

Ob.
Cl.
Bsn.

p *ff*

Hn.
C Tpt.
Tbn.

p *ff*
p molto cresc. *f*
p molto cresc.

Timp.
Xyl.

Cym. (sus.) Timp.
pp *f*
(to T. Bl.)
p molto cresc. *f*

Piano

p molto cresc. *f*

Vc.
Cb.

arco *gliss.* *ff*
arco *gliss.* *ff*

182 **3/4** **G** **Quasi più mosso**

Tbn. *f*

Timp. *f* S. D. *p* *cresc.*

Xyl. *f* T. Bl.

Piano *ff martellato (loco)*

Vc. **3/4** **G** **Quasi più mosso** *gliss.*

Cb. *gliss.*

191

S. D. *f* (off) *cresc.*

T. Bl. *cresc.*

Piano

201

S. D. *ff* Timp. (to Timp.)

T. Bl. *ff* (to Tamb.)

Piano *fff* *poco f* loco

Vln. I *poco f* pizz.

Vln. II *poco f* pizz.

Vla. pizz. *poco f*

Vc. pizz. *ff* *poco f*

Cb. pizz. *ff* *poco f*

3/4 (to Timp.)

4/4 (to Tamb.)

204

Piano *ff* *decresc.* *p semplice* = ca. 100 Più meno mosso

4/4 3/8 2/4 3/8 2/4

215

Piano *f* *sub. p dolce*

3/8 2/4 3/8 2/4

224

Piano *molto rit.* *decresc.*

3/8 2/4

235

4 accel.

3 ^H ₄ = ca. 140
Più brioso

Cl. *p*

Bsn. *p*

Piano *pp pp f p semplice f espress.*

Vln. II *p arco*

Vla. *p arco*

Vc. *p arco (pizz.)*

Cb. *p*

244

4

Fl. *poco f cresc.*

Ob. *poco f cresc.*

Cl. *poco f*

Bsn. *poco f*

Piano *cresc.*

Vln. I *poco f arco*

Vln. II *poco f*

Vla. *poco f*

Vc. *poco f arco*

Cb. *poco f*

250

Fl. *f*

Ob. *f* *spres.*

Cl. *f*

Bsn. *f*

Hn. *f*

Tbn. *poco f*

Piano *ff*

Vln. I *f* *p*

Vln. II *f* *pizz.* *arco* *p*

Vla. *f* *pizz.* *p*

Vc. *f* *pizz.* *p*

Cb. *f* *pizz.* *p*

Detailed description: This page of a musical score covers measures 250 through 257. The woodwind section includes Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Horn (Hn.), and Trombone (Tbn.). The string section includes Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Contrabass (Cb.). The Piano part is also present. The score features various dynamics such as *f* (forte), *ff* (fortissimo), *p* (piano), and *poco f* (poco forte). Performance instructions like *spres.* (spiccato) and *pizz.* (pizzicato) are used. The woodwinds play melodic lines with slurs and accents, while the strings provide a rhythmic accompaniment with accents and dynamic changes. The piano part is mostly silent, with some chords in the first few measures.

258

Fl. *cresc.* *ff*

Ob. *cresc.* *ff*

Cl. *f cresc.* *ff*

Bsn. *f* *cresc.* *ff*

Hn.

C Tpt. *f*

Tbn. *p*

Piano *f*

Vln. I *p dolce*

Vln. II

cresc.

cresc.

267

2/4 3/4 2/4

Fl. *f* *f cresc.* *f*

Ob. *f* *f* *f cresc.*

Cl. *f* *cresc.* *f*

Bsn. *f* *cresc.* *f*

Hn. *f* *f* *f* *hand-stopped*

C Tpt. *ff* *f*

Tbn. *f*

Timp. *p cresc.* *f*

T. Bl. *f cresc.* *ff*

Piano *ff*

Vln. I *f* *ff*

Vln. II *f* *più f* *ff*

Vla. *f* *f*

Vc. *f*

Cb. *f*