



# Light in Dark Clouds

a meditative sound journey dedicated to all those who look up to the sky

~ for piano, harp, percussion and 8 cellos

Composed by  
Madeleine Chassar-Hesketh



# Light in Dark Clouds

motifs\* - piano & harp can either play the motifs as given or assemble the notes from each motif and improvise on them. Each motif should no more than 12 syllables rhythmically. Vary number of syllables from 2 upwards. Use each note listed as many times as required during your motif.

Randomly choose from:

1. c#, f#, a, e
2. c#, g#, e
3. c#, e, b, g#
4. a, e, g#, c#, f#

5. a#, d#, g, c, c#, d, e

6. c#, a#, e, g#, c, g, d
7. e, b, c#, g#, d#
8. a, c, e, a, c#, g#
9. c#, e, a, g#, c, f, eb, f#

First Cello Chord:

a, e, a, f#



Approx 10 Seconds



Cello Notes to Select from for main section;

A, B, C, D, E, F#, G#

Last Cello Chord:

a, e, a, f#



Approx 10 Seconds

one cycle of the piece to last approximately 2 to 3 minutes / repeat with new random motifs - recommend at least 4 times

## Performance

### Directions Cellos

Always sustain the sound.  
No pauses in between the notes  
All notes are artificial harmonics  
Inner section notes have to be picked in any desired order  
Pitch changes in the middle section should be a cello at a time  
Start with cello 1, followed by cello 2, and so forth  
Each pitch change should last about 4-6 seconds  
Timing of changes should be based on the perception of tension and release in the sound structures and playing created by the piano and harp

## Performance

### Directions Piano

Randomly pick an order for the 9 motifs\*.  
Play first motif approx 10 seconds into the piece  
Take consecutive turns with the harp to play a motif.  
Notice the light / dark contrasts and respond with tempo and dynamic changes as appropriate  
Allow varying space between each motif played for audience contemplation

## Performance

### Directions Harp

Randomly pick an order for 8 motifs\*.  
Allow the piano to play the first motif  
Take consecutive turns with the piano to play a motif.  
Notice the light / dark contrasts and respond with tempo and dynamic as appropriate  
Allow varying space between each motif played for audience contemplation

## Performance

### Directions Percussion

Percussion to be as follows:  
Bowed Crotales - played slowly and drawn out to create tension and release (select notes from cello instructions - lower bowed notes work well)  
Wind Chimes - played slowly and gently / fade in and out throughout the piece  
Triangle - played randomly a maximum of 5 times during a cycle / pick moments of silence between motifs  
Tympani  
Gentle rolls like distant thunder at moments where dynamic uplift required

# 8 Violoncellos

## Performance Directions

1. Always sustain the sound. No pauses in between the notes.
2. In inner section notes have to be picked in any desired order.
3. Pitch changes in the middle section should be a cello at a cello
4. Start with cello 1, followed by cello 2, and so forth
5. Each pitch change should last about 4-6 seconds
6. Timing should be based on the perception of tension and release in the sound structures.

## Light in Dark Clouds

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(February 2020)

The musical score is divided into three sections by vertical bar lines. Above the staves, three brackets indicate the duration of each section: the first section is approximately 10 seconds, the second is approximately 2'10 (2 minutes and 10 seconds), and the third is approximately 10 seconds. The score features four staves, each representing a pair of cellos:

- Cello 1.2:** Treble clef, starting on a whole note G4. The second section shows a melodic line with notes G4, F4, E4, D4, and C4. The third section shows a whole note G4 with a decaying hairpin.
- Cello 3.4:** Treble clef, starting on a whole note G4. The second section shows a melodic line with notes G4, F#4, E#4, D4, and C4. The third section shows a whole note G4 with a decaying hairpin.
- Cello 5.6:** Treble clef, starting on a whole note G#4. The second section shows a melodic line with notes G#4, F#4, E4, D4, and C4. The third section shows a whole note G#4 with a decaying hairpin.
- Cello 7.8:** Bass clef, starting on a whole note G2. The second section shows a melodic line with notes G2, F#2, E#2, D2, and C2. The third section shows a whole note G2 with a decaying hairpin.

Each staff begins with the dynamic marking *ppp* *sempre*. The notes in the second section are marked with diamond symbols, and the notes in the third section are marked with circle symbols.

Piano

# Light in Dark Clouds

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Freely ♩ ≈ 70

①

8va

Ped. \*

②

(wait until sound dies out)

Ped. \*

③

8va

Ped. \*

④

Ped. \*

⑤

Ped. \*

⑥

4"

Ped. \* Ped. \*

⑦

8va

4"

Ped. \*

⑧

8"

Ped. \*

⑨

(wait until sound dies out)

2" 2"

Ped. \*

\* The chord with the star is meant to be played the loudest

Harp

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(February 2020)

Freely ♩ ≈ 70

①

8va

E♭ F# G# A#  
B# C# D#

②

(wait until sound dies out)

E♭ F# G# A#  
B# C# D#

③

8va

E♭ F# G# A#  
B# C# D#

④

E♭ F# G# A#  
B# C# D#

⑤

E♭ F# G# A#  
B# C# D#

⑥

4"

E♭ F# G# A#  
B# C# D#

⑦

8va

4"

E♭ F# G# A#  
B# C# D#

⑧

8"

E♭ F# G# A#  
B# C# D#