

Mr. Ptolemy; his Passions and Polemics

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BRITISH MUSIC INFORMATION CENTRE,
10, Stratford Place, London, W.1

Mr. Ptolemy; his Passions and Polemics

Written for Eleanor, Leo, Stella, Carolyn, Tom, Becky, Amy and Florence - students at Alton College, who gave the first performance at Farnham Castle on March 21st. 1997, as part of the Farnham Festival.

Mr. Ptolemy; his Passions and Polemics explores the nature of relationships - each instrument having its own character. ~~The clarinet and bassoon are individuals - as is~~ the bass although less so. The piano happily relates to everybody, whilst the upper strings can only act in a rather ladlike fashion - the herd mentality.

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INSTRUMENTATION

Clarinet in A
Bassoon
Piano
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Double bass

Musical score for measures 10-17, featuring Cl., Bsn, Pno, Db, Vln II, and Vla. The score includes dynamic markings such as *f*, *mp*, *mf*, and *p*, and performance instructions like *p sul pont.* and *Ped.* (Pedal). The score is divided into three systems, each starting with a double bar line and a measure number (10, 14, 17). The instruments are arranged in a standard orchestral layout. The Pno part includes specific pedal markings: *Ped.*, **Ped.*, and **Ped.*. The Db part includes triplet markings (*3*). The Vln II and Vla parts include the instruction *p sul pont.* (piano sul ponticello). The Cl. part includes dynamic markings *mp* and *mf*. The Bsn part includes dynamic markings *mp* and *mf*. The Db part includes dynamic markings *f* and *mf*. The Vln II part includes dynamic markings *f* and *p*. The Vla part includes dynamic markings *f* and *p*. The Pno part includes dynamic markings *f*, *mf*, and *p*. The Cl. part includes dynamic markings *f* and *mf*. The Bsn part includes dynamic markings *f* and *mf*. The Db part includes dynamic markings *f* and *p*.

21

Cl. *p*

Bsn *p*

Pno

*Ped. *Ped. *Ped. *

Vln I *p sul pont.*

Vln II

Vla

Db.

24

Cl. *pp*

Bsn *pp* *f*

Pno *p*

Ped. *Ped. *

Vln I *f pizz.*

Vln II *f pizz.*

Vla *f pizz.*

Db. *pp* *f pizz.*

..chasing sheep !
move on, quite funky
♩ = 74

Musical score for measures 28-31. The score is for five instruments: Bassoon (Bsn), Violin I (Vln I), Violin II (Vln II), Viola (Vla), and Double Bass (Db.). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 7/8. The music features a complex rhythmic pattern with many eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together. The bassoon part has a melodic line with slurs and accents. The string parts provide a rhythmic accompaniment with various note values and rests.

Musical score for measures 32-35. The score is for five instruments: Bassoon (Bsn), Violin I (Vln I), Violin II (Vln II), Viola (Vla), and Double Bass (Db.). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 7/8. This section includes dynamic markings: *ff* (fortissimo) and *f* (forte). The music continues with the same complex rhythmic patterns as the previous section, with the bassoon part showing more melodic development and the strings providing a steady accompaniment.

Musical score for measures 36-39. The score is for five instruments: Bassoon (Bsn), Violin I (Vln I), Violin II (Vln II), Viola (Vla), and Double Bass (Db.). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 7/8. This section begins with a dynamic marking of *f* (forte). The music maintains the complex rhythmic texture, with the bassoon part continuing its melodic line and the string parts providing a consistent accompaniment.

40 5

Bsn *ff* *f* *mp*

Vln I *ff* *f* *mp*

Vln II *ff* *f* *mp*

Vla *ff* *f* *mp*

Db. *ff* *f* *mp*



enough of that,
'herd mentality' time!
- slight accel.

$\text{♩} = \text{♩} = 92$

46

Cl. *mp*

Bsn *mp*

Pno *p*

Vln I *p* *pp* *ppp*

Vln II *p* *pp* *ppp*

Vla *p* *pp* *ppp*

Db. *p* *pp* *ppp*

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50

Cl.

Bsn

Pno

Vln I

Vla

arco *p*

53

Cl.

Bsn

Pno

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Db.

arco *p*

56

Cl.
Bsn
Pno
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Db.

This system contains measures 56, 57, and 58. The Clarinet (Cl.) and Bassoon (Bsn) parts feature melodic lines with slurs. The Piano (Pno) part has a rhythmic accompaniment in both hands. The Violin I (Vln I) part has a melodic line starting in measure 57. The Violin II (Vln II) part has a sustained chord in measure 57. The Viola (Vla) and Double Bass (Db.) parts have sustained chords in measures 57 and 58.

59

'aggressive; assertive'

Cl.
Bsn
Pno
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Db.

f

This system contains measures 59, 60, and 61. A double bar line is present at the beginning of measure 59. The Clarinet (Cl.) part has a melodic line in measure 59. The Bassoon (Bsn) part has a melodic line in measure 59. The Piano (Pno) part has a rhythmic accompaniment in both hands. The Violin I (Vln I) part has a melodic line starting in measure 60. The Violin II (Vln II) part has a sustained chord in measure 60. The Viola (Vla) and Double Bass (Db.) parts have sustained chords in measures 60 and 61. A dynamic marking of *f* (forte) is placed below the Double Bass part in measure 61.

'chill out'

62

Pno

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Db.

mp

65

Pno

Vln I

Vln II

Db.

mp

mp

mp

68

Pno

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Db.

mp

71

Pno

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Db.

Musical score for measures 71-73. The piano part (Pno) features a melodic line in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand. The strings (Vln I, Vln II, Vla, Db.) provide harmonic support with sustained notes and moving lines.

74

Pno

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Db.

Musical score for measures 74-76. The piano part continues with its melodic and bass lines. The string parts maintain their harmonic texture.

77

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Db.

decresc.....

decresc.....

decresc.....

decresc.....

Musical score for measures 77-79. The string parts (Vln I, Vln II, Vla, Db.) are marked with *decresc.* (decrescendo). The piano part is not visible in this section.

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navel gazing or what ! something more funky please...

10

80

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Db.

p

p

p

p

p

Detailed description: This system contains measures 80, 81, and 82. It features five staves: Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Double Bass. The music is in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The strings play a melodic line with slurs and accents. Dynamic markings of *p* (piano) are present at the end of each staff.

83

Cl.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Db.

calando

calando

calando

calando

f

Detailed description: This system contains measures 83, 84, and 85. It features five staves: Clarinet, Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Double Bass. The Clarinet part starts in measure 83 with a *f* (forte) dynamic. The string parts are marked *calando* (rushing). The music is in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp. Measure 85 ends with a 3/4 time signature.

yes, much more funky !

$\text{♩} = 74$

86

Cl.

Pno

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Db.

f

f pizz.

f pizz.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 86, 87, and 88. It features five staves: Clarinet, Piano, Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Double Bass. The tempo is marked $\text{♩} = 74$. The Clarinet part is marked *f* (forte). The Piano part is marked *f* and includes a *pizz.* (pizzicato) instruction. The Viola and Double Bass parts are also marked *f pizz.* The music is in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp. Measure 88 ends with a 3/4 time signature.

90

Cl.

Pno

Vla

Db.

94

Cl.

Pno

Vla

Db.

98

Cl.

Pno

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Db.

pizz. mf

..in my end is my beginning !

rit..... ♩ = 60

Musical score for measures 102-106. The score is in 3/4 time and includes parts for Clarinet (Cl.), Bassoon (Bsn), Piano (Pno), Violin I (Vln I), Violin II (Vln II), Viola (Vla), and Double Bass (Db.).

Measures 102-105:

- Cl.:** Melodic line with a triplet in measure 104.
- Bsn:** Melodic line with a triplet in measure 104.
- Pno:** Accompanying chords and bass line. Includes markings *mp* and *Ped.* with an asterisk.
- Vln I:** Melodic line.
- Vln II:** Melodic line.
- Vla:** Melodic line with marking *p*.
- Db.:** Melodic line.

Measures 106-109:

- Cl.:** Melodic line with marking *mp*.
- Bsn:** Melodic line with a triplet in measure 107.
- Pno:** Accompanying chords and bass line. Includes markings *Ped.* with an asterisk.
- Vln I:** Melodic line with marking *arco mp* in measure 108.
- Vln II:** Melodic line with marking *p* in measure 106.
- Vla:** Melodic line.
- Db.:** Melodic line with marking *p* in measure 109.