

SYZYGY for oboe clarinet two trombones

Michael Parsons (1991)

for IXION

Syzygy - the last entry under S in most English dictionaries - is derived from the Greek word for pairing or joining: it conveys a range of meanings arising from the idea of conjunction, including both complementarity and opposition of the constituent elements. It is the title of a recent series of visual works by the artist Keith Richardson-Jones in which pairs of elements are combined and contrasted. Here it refers to the use of complementary pitch groups (eg. pairs of fourths and fifths, pairs of interlocking whole-tone scales), to instrumental pairings (the two woodwind, the two trombones, the two pairs together), and to the pairing of related sections within the piece as a whole.

The work consists of 8 short sections, each lasting just under a minute.

Nos. 1 and 5 are for two trombones; nos. 2 and 7 for oboe and clarinet; nos. 3,4,6 and 8 for all four instruments. There should be a short break (4 or 5 seconds) between sections.

The total length is about  $7\frac{1}{2}$  minutes.

first performance: Huddersfield Festival, 29 November 1991

by members of Ixion:

Christopher Redgate (oboe)

Andrew Smith (clarinet)

Andrew Digby, Jason Glover (trombones)

Preview File Only

SYZYGY for oboe, clarinet, two trombones  
for IXION  
(score in C)

MICHAEL PARSONS (1991)

No. 1 -  
two trombones  
♩ = 132

Handwritten musical score for two trombones, first system. The system consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and contains a melodic line with various notes, rests, and accidentals (sharps, flats, naturals). The lower staff is in bass clef and contains a bass line with notes and rests. The first measure of the upper staff is marked with a 7/8 time signature and the instruction "mf sustained". A large blue watermark "Preview File Only" is oriented vertically across the center of the page.

Handwritten musical score for two trombones, second system. The system consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and contains a melodic line with various notes, rests, and accidentals. The lower staff is in bass clef and contains a bass line with notes and rests. The first measure of the upper staff is marked with a 7/8 time signature. A large blue watermark "Preview File Only" is oriented vertically across the center of the page.

No 2.

*flessibile* (c.♩ = 112)

Oboe

Clarinet  
(in C)

Handwritten musical score for Oboe and Clarinet (in C) measures 1-6. The Oboe part is written on a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The Clarinet part is written on a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked *flessibile* (c.♩ = 112). The music features complex rhythmic patterns with many beamed notes and rests. The Oboe part includes dynamic markings *p* and *f*. The Clarinet part includes dynamic markings *p* and *f*. The measures are numbered 1 through 6. The Oboe part has a 7/8 time signature in measures 1, 3, 5, and 6, and a 9/8 time signature in measures 2 and 4. The Clarinet part has a 7/8 time signature in measures 1, 3, 5, and 6, and a 9/8 time signature in measures 2 and 4.

Handwritten musical score for Oboe and Clarinet (in C) measures 7-13. The Oboe part is written on a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The Clarinet part is written on a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked *meno mosso*. The music features complex rhythmic patterns with many beamed notes and rests. The Oboe part includes dynamic markings *p* and *f*. The Clarinet part includes dynamic markings *p* and *f*. The measures are numbered 7 through 13. The Oboe part has a 7/8 time signature in measures 7, 9, 11, and 13, and a 9/8 time signature in measures 8 and 10. The Clarinet part has a 7/8 time signature in measures 7, 9, 11, and 13, and a 9/8 time signature in measures 8 and 10.

Handwritten musical score for Oboe and Clarinet (in C) measures 14-19. The Oboe part is written on a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The Clarinet part is written on a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked *A tempo*. The music features complex rhythmic patterns with many beamed notes and rests. The Oboe part includes dynamic markings *p* and *f*. The Clarinet part includes dynamic markings *p* and *f*. The measures are numbered 14 through 19. The Oboe part has a 7/8 time signature in measures 14, 16, and 18, and a 9/8 time signature in measures 15 and 17. The Clarinet part has a 7/8 time signature in measures 14, 16, and 18, and a 9/8 time signature in measures 15 and 17.

No. 3

$\text{♩} = 156$

3/8 7/8 5/8 7/8 7/8 5/8 7/8 5/8 7/8 5/8

Oboe *f* *strident*

Clt (inc) *f*

Trbn. *f*

Trbn.

13 7/8 3/4 5/8 7/8

Nº 4.

7 8  $\text{♩} = 132$

6 8

7 8

6 8

Oboe

Cl. (inc)

Tbn.

Tbn.

*p*, sustained

*p* sustained

7 8

7 8

6 8

No 5

two trombones

$\text{♩} = 240$

Handwritten musical notation for the first system, consisting of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The notation includes notes, rests, and chord symbols. The chord symbols are: 8 8, 7 8, 6 8, 5 8, 5 16, 5 8, and 7 8.

Handwritten musical notation for the second system, consisting of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The notation includes notes, rests, and chord symbols. The chord symbols are: 7 8, 5 16, 7 16, and 5 8.

No. 6

$\text{♩} = 156$

3/8 5/8 7/8 5/8 4/8 5/8 7/8 5/8 7/8 5/8

Oboe

Cl. (in C)

f strident

Trbn.

Trbn.

3/4 7/8 4/8 7/8 4:3 5/8 7/8

No 7

(♩ = 112)

Oboe

8/8 p flessibile

9/8

8/8 mp

7/8

5/8

7/8

Cl. (in C)

5

rall - - - - -

A tempo

f

3/4

5/8

f

9/8

5/8

8/8

call - - - - -

A tempo

mp

mp

9/8

cresc...

3/4 f

7/8

rall - - - - -

No. 8

7 8  $\text{♩} = 132$  6 8 7 8 6 8

Oboe

Alt. (in C)

Trbn.

Trbn.

*f* sustained

*f* sustained

7 8 6 8 7 8 6 8