

Kenrick Ho

Fire and Ice

For Soprano, Clarinet, Harp and Double bass
(2019)

Preface:

Inspired by Robert Frost's poem *Fire and Ice*, this piece explores the opposition between powerful gestures and static atmospheres, through contrasting certain musical parameters such as dynamics, pitch, and the use of rests. The composition itself is highly polarizing, unpredictable and overall sets an unsettling tone.

Duration: ca. 3'

Text:

Fire and Ice

By Robert Frost

Some say the world will end in fire,
Some say in ice.
From what I've tasted of desire
I hold with those who favor fire.
But if it had to perish twice,
I think I know enough of hate
To say that for destruction ice
Is also great
And would suffice.

Score in C

Robert Frost

Dedicated to the Hermes Experiment

Fire and Ice

For Soprano, Clarinet, Harp and Double Bass

Kenrick Ho

♩ = 60 Unsettling, polarising

Soprano

Some say the earth will end in fire.

Musical markings include:
 - Dynamics: *mf*, *molto vib.*, *f*, *p*, *f*₃, *ff*, *mf*
 - Effects: *gliss.*, *molto vib.*, *no vib.*
 - Articulation: *3* over a sixteenth-note group.
 - Performance instructions: *molto vib.* above the first and third endings, *no vib.* above the second ending.

Clarinet in B \flat

slap.

v.
f

p.d.l.t. -

v.
f

ord.
tr~~~~~

v.
f

Harp

E F G A
D C \sharp B

v.
f

B \flat
B \flat

E \flat
C B

v.
f

Double Bass

$\text{♩} = 60$ **Unsettling, polarising**
pizz.

♯

f

2

A

hold the "s" consonant from "ice"
(unpitched)

S. 6 *mp* no vib.

some say _____ in ice (s) _____ (s) _____

C1. *f*

unpitched breath sounds
(rapid, random key clicks during every exhale)

exhale inhale exhale

p

Hp. *f*

Db. *f*

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3

11

S. *f* —————— *p* —————— *mp* ——————

(s) —————— (s) ——————

Cl. ex in ex ex in ex

Hp. ord.

E F \sharp G \flat

pp

Db. arco
harmonic gliss
sul G

ppp *pp*

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4

B

17

S. *p* — *f* — *p* *p* *f* — *ff*
 From what I've tast - ed of de-si-re I hold with those who_ fa-vor fi-re,

Cl. ex in ex *f*
** * * * ** ** * * * ** *3*

Hp. *p* *mf* *ff* G#
mp

Db. *mp* ord. → sul pont. — *f*

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C

22 molto. vib. *f* ff suddenly stop 5

S. *mf* 3 *f* but if it had to perish twice but if it had to perish twice but

Cl. slow → fast *tr* *p* *p* *f* *mf* *mp* *f* *ff* *p*

Hp. { B \sharp *fp* G \sharp C \sharp *fp* *fp* *ff* suddenly stop

C → sul tasto pizz. arco left hand pizz. arco suddenly stop

Db. *mf* *p* *f* *ff*

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6

27

S. *ff* if it had to be pe - rish twice, *molto vib.* suddenly stop

Cl. flutter. unpitched breath sounds
(rapid, random key clicks during every exhale) ex in ex

ff *pp* *pp*

Hp. ff ffff *sfp* suddenly stop Thunder

Db. ff pizz. *sfp* suddenly stop *sfp*

Detailed description: The musical score consists of four staves. The soprano staff (S.) starts with a rest, followed by a melodic line with dynamic ff. The lyrics 'if it had to be pe - rish twice,' are written below the notes. The dynamic molto vib. appears above the notes, followed by suddenly stop. The clarinet (Cl.) staff begins with a rest, followed by a dynamic ff. The dynamic pp is indicated twice. The bassoon (Hb.) staff starts with a rest, followed by ff. A dynamic ffff is indicated with a diagonal line. The dynamic sfp is shown with a vertical line. The dynamic suddenly stop is indicated. The text 'Thunder' is written below the notes. The double bass (Db.) staff starts with a rest, followed by ff. The dynamic pizz. is indicated above the notes. The dynamics sfp and suddenly stop are indicated. The bassoon staff also features a dynamic sfp.

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D

7

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8

35

S. *mp* (s) ice (s) is al-so great

Cl. ex in ex slap. ex
v. tr. *p* *p* *mp*

Hp. v. *p* ord. D \natural C \sharp *mf* *p* A \flat *p*

Db. *mf* *p*

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9

40

S.

p

and would suff - ice

Cl.

in ex ex in ex

mp

Hp.

G \flat A \sharp
C \sharp

L.V.

mf

mp

p

Db.

very lightly
arco

L.V.

p

mf

mp

p

Dedicated to the Hermes Experiment

Transposed Score
Clarinet in B \flat

Fire and Ice

For Soprano, Clarinet, Harp and Double Bass

Robert Frost

Kenrick Ho

$\text{♩} = 60$ Unsettling, polarising
slap.

ord.
 $\text{tr} \sim \sim \sim$

slap.

measures 1-6: The score consists of six measures. Measure 1 starts with a rest followed by a note with a vertical stroke. Measures 2-5 show various note patterns with slaps and unpitched breath sounds. Measure 6 ends with a dynamic f.

unpitched breath sounds
(rapid, random key clicks during every exhale)

7 2 [A] exhale inhale exhale

p

measures 7-11: The score shows three staves. The soprano staff has a thick line from measure 7 to 11. The harp and double bass staves have 'x' marks under the notes. Measure 7 is labeled 'exhale'. Measures 8-11 show 'inhale' and 'exhale' cycles. A dynamic p is at the beginning of measure 8.

12 ex in ex

measures 12-16: The score shows three staves. The soprano staff has a thick line from measure 12 to 16. The harp and double bass staves have 'x' marks under the notes. Measures 12-14 are labeled 'ex'. Measure 15 is labeled 'in'. Measures 16-17 are labeled 'ex'.

15 ex in ex

measures 17-21: The score shows three staves. The soprano staff has a thick line from measure 17 to 21. The harp and double bass staves have 'x' marks under the notes. Measures 17-19 are labeled 'ex'. Measure 20 is labeled 'in'. Measures 21-22 are labeled 'ex'.

18 ex [B] in ex

measures 23-27: The score shows three staves. The soprano staff has a thick line from measure 23 to 27. The harp and double bass staves have 'x' marks under the notes. Measures 23-25 are labeled 'ex'. Measure 26 is labeled 'in'. Measures 27-28 are labeled 'ex'.

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Clarinet in B♭

2

21

C slow → fast
tr

f **p** **p**

24

= **f** **mf** > **mp** **f** **ff** **p**

unpitched breath sounds
(rapid, random key clicks during every exhale)

28

ff **pp** **pp**

30

in **ex**

f **5** **fff**

32

whisper tremolo:
play the following notes rapidly but softly, in order.

D **slap.**

pp **f**

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Clarinet in B♭

3

35

v. **p**

ex in ex

39

slap. **p**

ex in ex

42

mp

ex in ex

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Harp

Robert Frost

Fire and Ice

For Soprano, Clarinet, Harp and Double Bass

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$\text{♩} = 60$ Unsettling, polarising

p.d.l.t.



E F G A
D C# B

f

B_b

p < *f*

E_b
C B

f

f

7

2

A

6

2

6

ord.

15

E F[#] G_b

pp

p

mp

B

Fire and Ice - Kenrick Ho

Harp

2

19

B_b
mf

ff

C

22

B_#
fp

G_#
C_#
fp

25

G_#
ff

suddenly stop

27

ff

fff
sfz
Thunder

suddenly stop

2

31

F_#
C_# B_b
fff

sfz

L.V.

Thunder

Thunder

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Harp

3

p.d.l.t.

34 **D** $\#$

G^{\sharp}
 $D^{\sharp} B^{\sharp}$

f

ord.

37 $D^{\sharp} C^{\sharp}$

p *mf*

A^{\flat}

p

40 $G^{\flat} A^{\natural}$
 C^{\natural}

L.V.

43 F^{\sharp}

mp

p

Double Bass

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Fire and Ice

P-1-E

For Soprano, Clarinet, Harp and Double Bass

Kenrick Ho

• = 60 Unsettling, polarising

$\sigma = 00$ Unsetting, polarising

Musical score for string bass, page 10, measures 11-12. The score shows a bass clef, a 4/4 time signature, and a key signature of one sharp. Measure 11 starts with a fermata over a note, followed by a dynamic *f*. Measure 12 begins with a note marked with a circled dot above it, followed by a downward-pointing triangle symbol (\triangledown). A bracket labeled "3" covers three notes. The next note is marked with a circled dot above it and a downward-pointing triangle symbol (\triangledown). The dynamic *p* is followed by *f*. Measure 13 starts with a dynamic *p*, followed by *f*. The score includes performance instructions: "pizz." with a circled dot above it, "arco", and "pizz." with a circled dot above it.

5

f

6

2

A

3

Musical score for string instruments (likely cello or bass) in 12/8 time. The key signature is one sharp. The instruction "arco" is at the top left. The dynamic "ppp" is at the bottom left, and "pp" is at the bottom right. The first measure shows a harmonic glissando on the note G (the 5th string). The second measure shows a harmonic glissando on the note D (the 4th string). The third measure shows a harmonic glissando on the note A (the 3rd string). The fourth measure shows a harmonic glissando on the note E (the 2nd string). The fifth measure shows a harmonic glissando on the note C (the 1st string). Arrows indicate the direction of the glissando movement.

Musical score for section B. The score consists of two staves. The top staff shows a melodic line starting with a grace note followed by a quarter note. Arrows indicate a descending eighth-note pattern. The bottom staff shows a similar pattern with grace notes and quarter notes, also featuring an eighth-note descending pattern indicated by arrows. A dynamic marking *mp* is placed between the two staves.

20

ord. → sul pont. → sul tasto

C

f

mf

pizz.

arco

23

p

f

ff

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Double Bass

2

26 *suddenly stop* **2**

31 arco

D

pizz.

34

38

41 very lightly
arco

L.V.