

Crucible

For brass quartet and timpani

Kris Peysen

Program Notes

A crucible is a container in which various metals are melted in order to shape them into something new. They are subjected to intense heat, which will make them malleable and thus able to be shaped into the desired configuration. I titled my piece *Crucible* because, much like the metals, my musical material undergoes a similar transformation. The piece starts out very fragmented, but also full of energy, as if unknowing of how to progress. Eventually the piece settles into a calmer section, where various melodies and motives are allowed to breathe for the first time. From this repose comes, for the first time, a firm sense of direction for the piece, so that when the energy of the first section makes a return, it is now focused. The overall trajectory of the piece is one of disparate motives being subjected to a crucible - they start out chaotic, begin to find meaning in the mixing and intermingling of themselves, and finally are able to explode into a thinly-focused rage.

Performance Notes

Instrumentation:

Trumpet in Bb 1
Trumpet in Bb 2
Tenor Trombone
Bass Trombone
Timpani (5 drums)

*In muted brass sections, dynamics indicate the force to be used by the player, not the sound perceived by the audience. For example, a written *mf* with a harmon mute (unstemmed) should sound close to a *pp* dynamic unmuted.

Duration: 7'00"

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Transposed Score

Energized

$\text{♩} = 160$

Musical score for measures 1-6. The score is for a transposed ensemble and includes parts for Trumpet in Bb 1, Trumpet in Bb 2, Tenor Trombone, Bass Trombone, and Timpani. The key signature is one flat (Bb). The time signature is 4/4. The score begins with a *mf* dynamic. The first measure is a whole note chord. The second measure features a melodic line in the trumpets and trombones, with dynamics *mp* and *mf*. The third measure is a whole note chord. The fourth measure features a melodic line in the trumpets and trombones, with dynamics *mp* and *mf*. The fifth measure is a whole note chord. The sixth measure features a melodic line in the trumpets and trombones, with dynamics *mf* and *mp*. The timpani part is silent throughout these measures.

Musical score for measures 7-12. The score includes parts for Bb Tpt. 1, Bb Tpt. 2, T. Tbn., B. Tbn., and Timp. The key signature is one flat (Bb). The time signature is 4/4. The score begins with a *mp* dynamic. The seventh measure features a melodic line in the trumpets and trombones, with dynamics *mp* and *mf*. The eighth measure is a whole note chord. The ninth measure features a melodic line in the trumpets and trombones, with dynamics *mp* and *mf*. The tenth measure features a melodic line in the trumpets and trombones, with dynamics *mp* and *mf*. The eleventh measure features a melodic line in the trumpets and trombones, with dynamics *mp* and *mf*. The twelfth measure features a melodic line in the trumpets and trombones, with dynamics *mp* and *mf*. The timpani part is silent throughout these measures.

15 *rit.* *a tempo*

Bb Tpt. 1 *f* *p*

Bb Tpt. 2 *f* *p* *f* *p*

T. Tbn. *f* *p* *f* *p*

B. Tbn. *f* *p* *f* *p*

Timp. *f* *mp* *f* *mp*

29"-F 23"-F
32"-D 26"-C

23

Bb Tpt. 1 *mp*

Bb Tpt. 2 *mp* *p* *mp*

T. Tbn. *mp*

B. Tbn. *mp* *pp*

Timp. Bass trombone

31

Bb Tpt. 1 *mf* *mp* *pp*

Bb Tpt. 2 *mf* *p*

T. Tbn. *mf* *pp* *mp* *pp*

B. Tbn. *mf* *p* *mp*

Timp. *p* *pp* 23"-D 29"-G 32"-F 23"-E 26"-B

40

Bb Tpt. 1 *mp* *mf* *p* *mf*

Bb Tpt. 2 *mf* *p*

T. Tbn. *mf* *p* *mf*

B. Tbn. *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

Timp. 29"-A 32"-G 29"-Gb 32"-D 23"-A

49

Musical score for measures 49-56. The score is for five instruments: Bb Tpt. 1, Bb Tpt. 2, T. Tbn., B. Tbn., and Timp. The key signature is Bb. The time signature changes from 2/4 to 3/4 to 5/8 to 7/8 to 3/4. Dynamics include *mp*, *mf*, *p*, and *mp >*. The Timp. part has a *mp* dynamic at the end.

57

rit. $\text{♩} = 132$ *accel.*

Musical score for measures 57-64. The score is for five instruments: Bb Tpt. 1, Bb Tpt. 2, T. Tbn., B. Tbn., and Timp. The key signature is Bb. The time signature changes from 4/4 to 3/4 to 4/4. Dynamics include *mp*, *p*, and *mp*. The Timp. part has a *p* dynamic. The Timp. part includes markings for 29"-Ab, 29"-A, and 32"-E.

♩=160

67

Bb Tpt. 1 *mf*

Bb Tpt. 2 *mf* *mp*

T. Tbn. *mf* *p* *mf*

B. Tbn. *mf* *p* *mf*

Timp. *mf*

26"-D
32"-D 23"-A

75

Bb Tpt. 1 *mp*

Bb Tpt. 2 *p* *mp*

T. Tbn. *p*

B. Tbn. *p*

Timp. *p* *pp*

84

Bb Tpt. 1

Bb Tpt. 2

T. Tbn.

B. Tbn.

Timp.

mf *mp* *pp* *mf* *pp* *mp* *fp*

mf *mp* *pp* *mf* *pp* *mp*

23"-F
29"-B

29"-A

mf *p*

93

Bb Tpt. 1

Bb Tpt. 2

T. Tbn.

B. Tbn.

Timp.

mp *p*

mp

26"-Eb

mp

102 *rit.* $\text{♩} = 132$ *rit. poco a poco* harmon mute, stem out

Bb Tpt. 1 *f* *mf* *mp*

Bb Tpt. 2 *f* *mf* *p*

T. Tbn. *f* *mf*

B. Tbn. *f* harmon mute, stem out

Timp. 26''-D 29''-B *mp*

Brooding
 $\text{♩} = 60$ ($\text{♩} = 40$)

113

Bb Tpt. 1 *mp* *pp*

Bb Tpt. 2 harmon mute, stem out *mp*

T. Tbn. harmon mute, stem out *p*

B. Tbn. *p*

Timp. 26''-F *mf* *f* *ppp* *p* *pp* *ppp* *double gliss*

121

Bb Tpt. 1

Bb Tpt. 2

T. Tbn.

B. Tbn.

Timp.

mf *pp* *pp* *mf* *pp* *pp* *mp*

29"-F# 23"-G 29"-F#

p *ppp* *3*

126

Bb Tpt. 1

Bb Tpt. 2

T. Tbn.

B. Tbn.

Timp.

mf *pp* *mf* *pp* *p* *ppp* *p*

3 *3* *3* *3*

130

Bb Tpt. 1 *mf* *pp* *pp*

Bb Tpt. 2 *mf* *pp* *pp*

T. Tbn. *mf* *pp* *pp*

B. Tbn. *p*

Timp. (20") *mp* *ppp*

135

Bb Tpt. 1 *f* stem in

Bb Tpt. 2 *f* stem in

T. Tbn. *f* stem in

B. Tbn. *f* stem in

Timp. *mf* *pp* 32"-E *mf* *mp*

140

Musical score for measures 140-143. The score is for five instruments: Bb Tpt. 1, Bb Tpt. 2, T. Tbn., B. Tbn., and Timp. The key signature is B-flat major. The time signature changes from 7/8 to 6/8 at measure 141, then to 5/8 at measure 142, and back to 7/8 at measure 143. Dynamics include *p*, *pp*, *mp*, and *ppp*. The Timp. part includes specific drum notes: 32"-D and 29"-G#.

Bb Tpt. 1

Bb Tpt. 2

T. Tbn.

B. Tbn.

Timp.

32"-D

29"-G#

144

Musical score for measures 144-147. The score is for five instruments: Bb Tpt. 1, Bb Tpt. 2, T. Tbn., B. Tbn., and Timp. The key signature is B-flat major. The time signature changes from 7/8 to 5/8 at measure 144, then to 3/8 at measure 145, and back to 7/8 at measure 146. Dynamics include *mf*, *f*, *pp*, *mp*, and *p*. The Timp. part includes a triplet in measure 147.

Bb Tpt. 1

Bb Tpt. 2

T. Tbn.

B. Tbn.

Timp.

149

Bb Tpt. 1 *f*

Bb Tpt. 2 *f* *mp* *f*

T. Tbn. *f* *mf* *mp* *ff* *f*

B. Tbn. *mf* *mp* *ff* *f*

Timp. 29"-A *mp* *ppp* *mp*

155

Bb Tpt. 1 *fff* (open)

Bb Tpt. 2 *fff* (open)

T. Tbn. *fff* (open)

B. Tbn. *fff* (open)

Timp. *f* *mf*

160 $\leftarrow \text{♪} = \text{♪} \rightarrow (\text{♪} = 120)$

Bb Tpt. 1
Bb Tpt. 2
T. Tbn.
B. Tbn.
Timp.

f *ff* *f* *f* *p*

32''-E

167 *accel.* **With momentum** $\text{♪} = 144$

Bb Tpt. 1
Bb Tpt. 2
T. Tbn.
B. Tbn.
Timp.

mp *f* *mp* *f* *mf* *f* *mf*

29''-B

175

Bb Tpt. 1

Bb Tpt. 2

T. Tbn.

B. Tbn.

Timp. 32"-E

mp

mf

p

mf

183

Bb Tpt. 1

Bb Tpt. 2

T. Tbn.

B. Tbn.

Timp.

p

mp

mp

p

190

Bb Tpt. 1

Bb Tpt. 2

T. Tbn.

B. Tbn.

Timp.

mf

mf

mf

32"-F

32"-E

mf

3

197

molto rit. a tempo

rit. -----

Bb Tpt. 1

Bb Tpt. 2

T. Tbn.

B. Tbn.

Timp.

f

f

f

f

mf

mf

mf

f

mf

mf

29"-A

32"-E

f

mf

mp

p

With weight

204 *straight mute* $\text{♩} = 92$

Bb Tpt. 1 *mp*

Bb Tpt. 2 *mp*

T. Tbn. *f* *mf*

B. Tbn. *ff*

Timp. 29"-C *mf* *p* 32"-F *f* 29"-B *p*

212 *accel. . . .*

Bb Tpt. 1

Bb Tpt. 2

T. Tbn. *ff*

B. Tbn. *f*

Timp. 32"-F *mf* 29"-B

220 (open) $\text{♩} = 138$

Bb Tpt. 1

Bb Tpt. 2

T. Tbn.

B. Tbn.

Timp.

p *f* *ff*

228

Bb Tpt. 1

Bb Tpt. 2

T. Tbn.

B. Tbn.

Timp.

f

