

Venus Transit Concert Studies

opus 89 #6 for solo bass tuba

Robert Casteels

The seven concert studies for brass instruments originated from my Symphony nr. 5.
They are intended not only for the acquisition of a better technique, but also for concert performance.
Brass players are invited to wonder about the extraterrestrial wonders of the universe.

Duration: 7'

Performance notes:

- the tubist is welcome to change the performance order of sequence number 2 to 6;
 - the tubist is welcome to translate the boxed stellar quotes from Goethe and Da Pessoa in his/her mother tongue;
 - double barlines indicate a change in tempo.
- With grateful appreciation to Brett Stemple



OPENING SECTION 1

Grand

non vibrato poco vibrato vibrato poco vibrato non vibrato

ppp cresc. mp cresc. mf cresc. fff dim. f dim. p dim. ppp

SECTION 2

Andante (rhetorical)

f cresc. f cresc. dim.

Allegro

cresc. p leggiero (senza cresc.)

Andante

mf (senza cresc.) cresc.

cresc. insert mute

Allegro

p leggiero upwards gliss., only by changing the lip position

think, then ask with amazement
through the muted instrument *mf*

*"How not to see beyond the always beyond,
New directions of infinities,
An infinite number of infinities?"*

(without rushing)

(without rushing)

play with mute

32 *ben cantando e sostenuto*

play with mute

(without Rushing)

(without Rushing)

cresc.

40

downwards gliss., only
by changing the lip position

take
out mute

(*"Ve nus!*)

(Ve - - nus!)

44 *play without mute*

(without rushing)

(Ve - 3 nus Tran - sit")

(without rushing)

48

play only

ask
whilst playing

*"How many skies are there
above the moon?"*

play only

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(without rushing)

(without rushing)

Poco meno adagio

(without rushing)

(without rushing)

52

The image shows a musical score for the bass line of a piece titled 'Poco meno adagio'. The tempo is marked 'Poco meno adagio' and the instruction '(without rushing)' is repeated twice. The music is in 4/4 time. The score begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first measure contains a quarter note G2, a quarter note F2, and a quarter note E2, all beamed together and marked with a '3' below them. The second measure is a whole rest. The third measure contains a quarter note D2, a quarter note C2, and a quarter note B1, all beamed together and marked with a '3' below them. The fourth measure contains a quarter note A1, a quarter note G1, and a quarter note F1, all beamed together and marked with a '3' below them. The fifth measure is a whole rest. The sixth measure contains a quarter note E1, a quarter note D1, and a quarter note C1, all beamed together and marked with a '3' below them. The seventh measure contains a quarter note B1, a quarter note A1, and a quarter note G1, all beamed together and marked with a '3' below them. The eighth measure contains a quarter note F1, a quarter note E1, and a quarter note D1, all beamed together and marked with a '3' below them. The ninth measure contains a quarter note C1, a quarter note B1, and a quarter note A1, all beamed together and marked with a '3' below them. The tenth measure contains a quarter note G1, a quarter note F1, and a quarter note E1, all beamed together and marked with a '3' below them. The score ends with a double bar line.

Tempo giusto (poetic)

for 7" sing highest
uncorrected harmonics

simile for 7"

slow trill
for 2 beats
tr~~~~~

59 *mf* (C) *dim.*

(feasible dynamic)

blow air through the instrument for 3"

speak mysteriously
pp

*"All the mysteries of the Universe
Consist of only ONE mystery"*

SECTION 5

(Tuba Venus study)

3

Prestissimo (nimble and joyous)

67 *mp* *leggiero*

72

76

===== think, then declare with conviction ***ff***

"The supreme mystery of the Universe,
The only mystery of everything and everywhere
Is that there IS a mystery of the Universe"

SECTION 6

Incandescent (not too fast but brilliant and clearly articulated)

80 *p* valve clicks *mf*

84 sing and play *sempre f* gliss.

87

89 *sf sf sf sf sf sf*

92 *sf sf sf*

CLOSING SECTION 7

Grand

[bar 98 = 7 x 14
Singapore 20-IV-2013]

93 *ppp cresc.* *mp cresc.* *mf cresc.* ***ff*** *f dim.* (Bb)