Aurora

for string orchestra and percussion

About the Piece….

- *Aurora* was written in April 2004 in Vancouver, B.C.
- The duration of the piece is 8 minutes.
- The instrumentation of the piece is string orchestra (minimum 43221) and 2 bowed percussion (bass drum, crotales, vibraphone, tam-tam, gong, & large cymbal).
- *Aurora* is dedicated to Chloë Norton.

Performance Notes

- The symbol ***n*** is for *niente* meaning 'nothing' i.e. 'as quiet as absolutely possible'.

WHISPERING

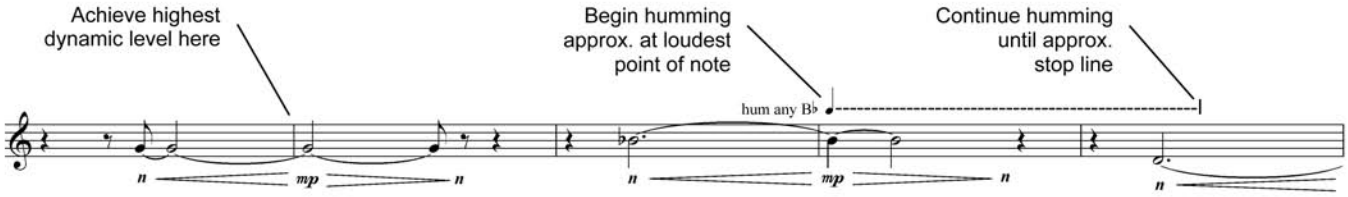
- The whispering should be done quietly and is intended NOT be understood by the audience. Musicians should not use a 'stage whisper' to project. The text should be obscured.
- Note: The text comes from myths and legends of different peoples and cultures and what they thought the Aurora was. People often claim they could hear noise from Aurorae and some tribes believed this noise was the voices of the spirits trying in vain to communicate with the people of the Earth.

HUMMING

- In the beginning and throughout the piece the string players are called upon to hum a note.
- Players only ever have to hum the note they are playing and in whatever octave fits their voice.

STRINGS

- Should play without vibrato at all times.
- Each note will fade in from silence and the dynamic it crescendos to and the approx time this dynamic should be reached is always given.
- Each player should strive to begin and end each note (whether bowed or hummed) as quietly as possible, and while crescending, achieve the highest dynamic where indicated.
- Each note should be produced with only one bow stroke, except where impossible to do so.



PERCUSSION

- Crotales, vibraphone, tam-tam, gong, and large cymbal are always to be bowed.
- The bass drum should be played with very soft mallets.
- All sounds, including the bass drum, should be allowed to let vibrate.

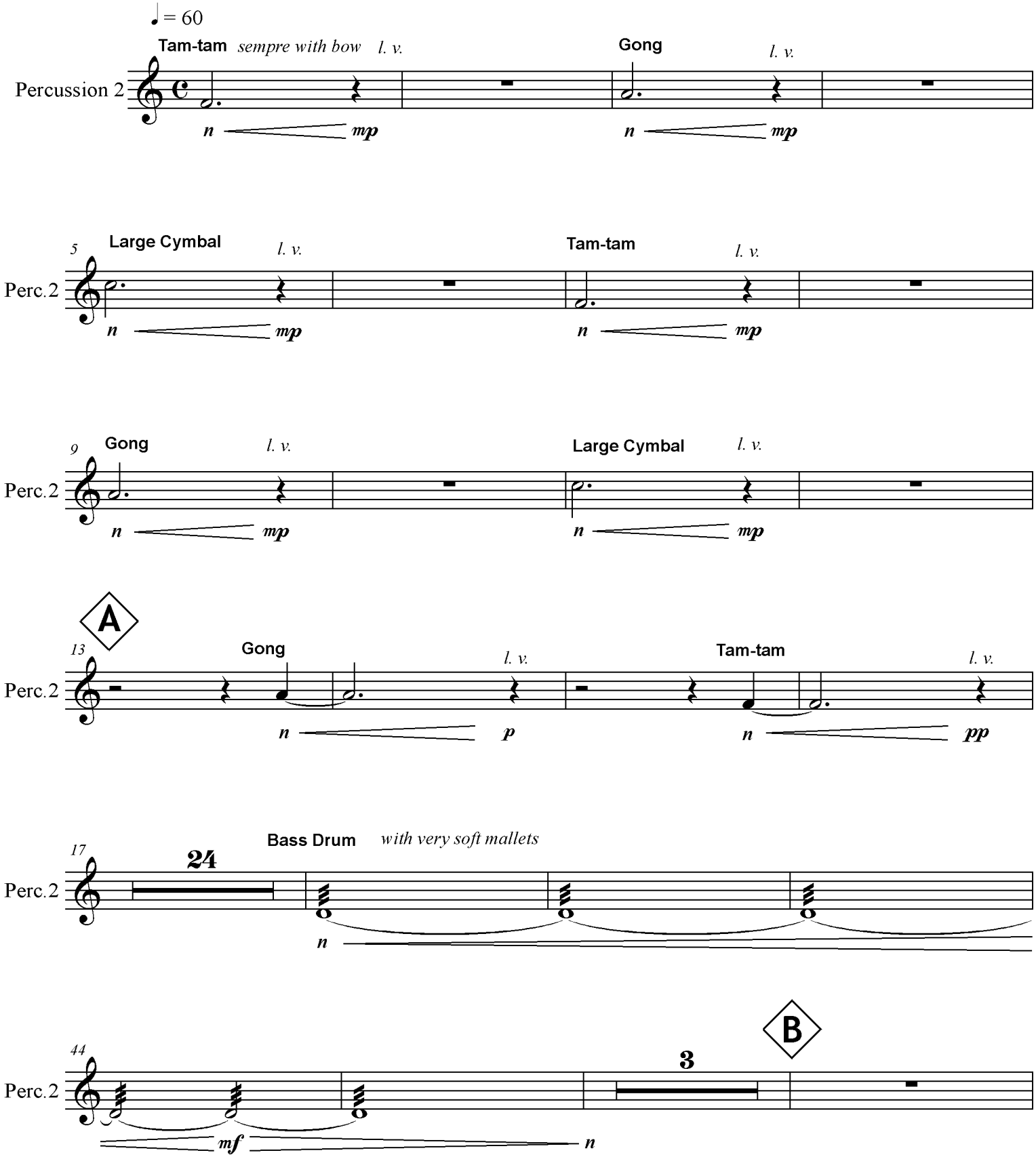
Dedicated to Chloë Norton

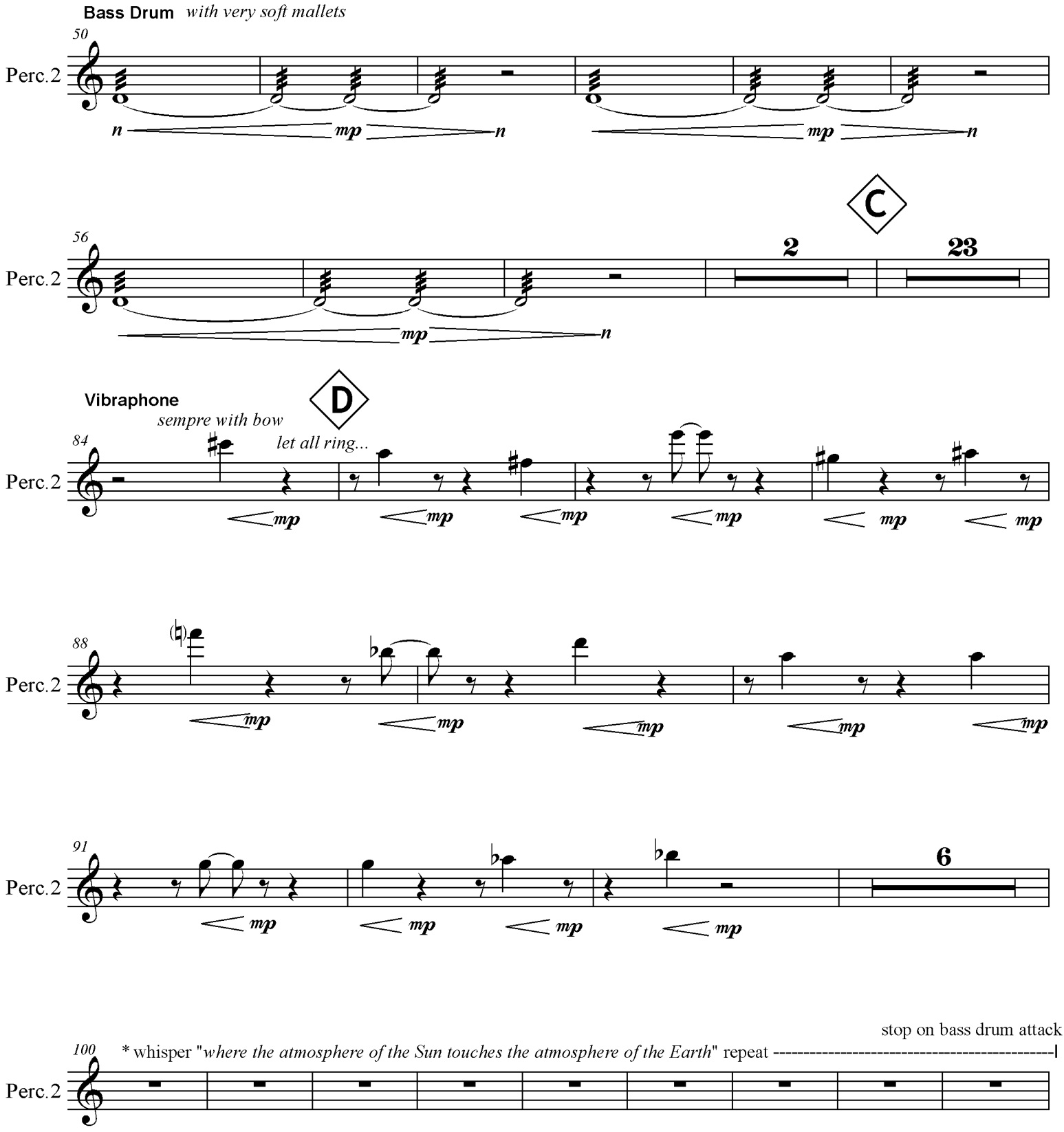
Jordan Nobles, Vancouver, April 2004

Aurora

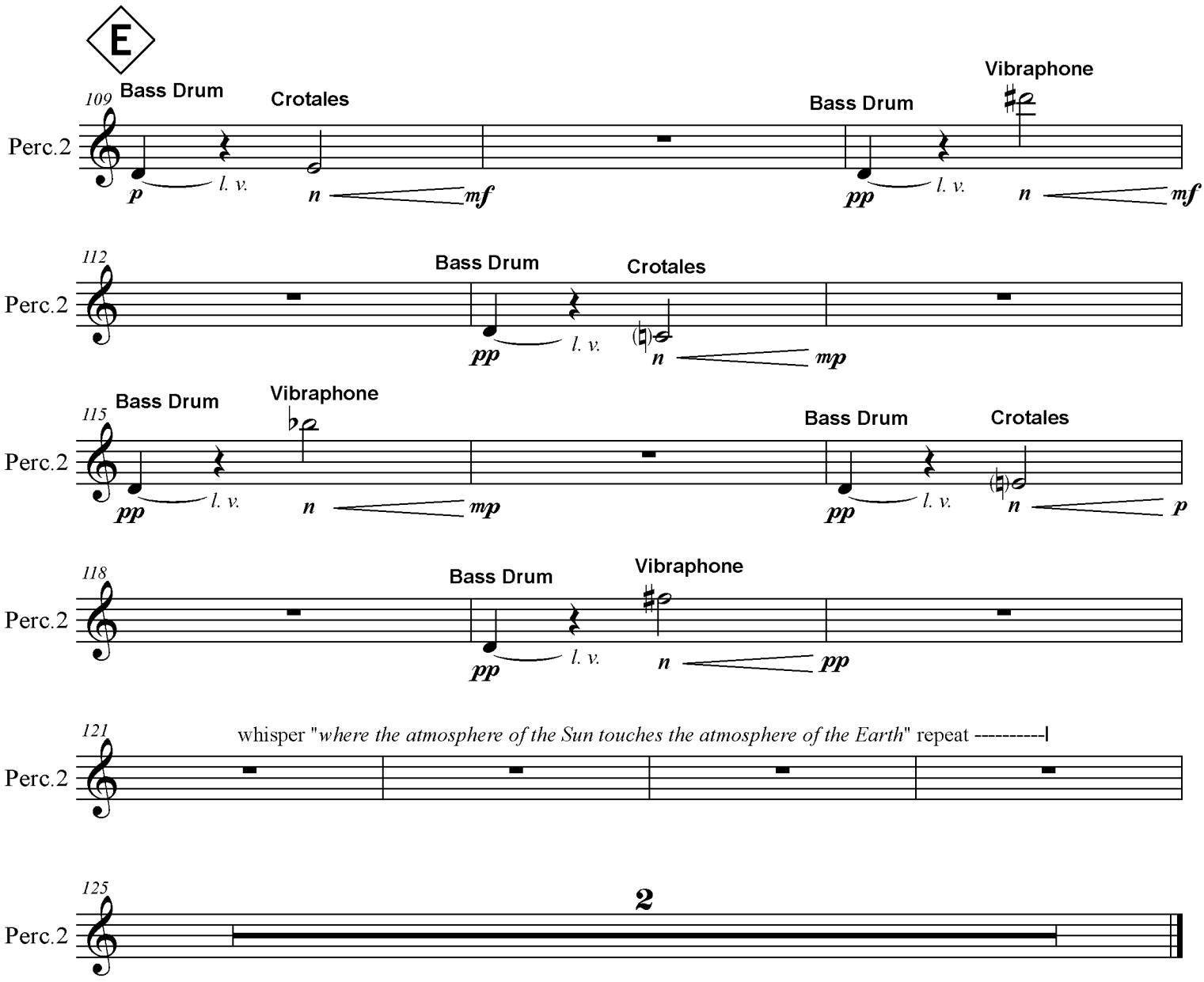
Percussion 2

Jordan Nobles





* see performance notes


E
109
Bass Drum
Crotales
Bass Drum
Vibraphone
Perc.2
p
l. v.
n
mf
pp
l. v.
n
mf
112
Bass Drum
Crotales
Perc.2
pp
l. v.
n
mp
115
Bass Drum
Vibraphone
Bass Drum
Crotales
Perc.2
pp
l. v.
n
mp
pp
l. v.
n
p
118
Bass Drum
Vibraphone
Perc.2
pp
l. v.
n
pp
121
whisper "*where the atmosphere of the Sun touches the atmosphere of the Earth*" repeat ----------|
Perc.2
125
2
Perc.2