



At the Edge of Chaos

ROLAND BARRETT (ASCAP)

INSTRUMENTATION

1 Conductor
10 Flute
2 Oboe
10 B♭ Clarinet
2 B♭ Bass Clarinet
6 E♭ Alto Saxophone
4 B♭ Tenor Saxophone
2 E♭ Baritone Saxophone
8 B♭ Trumpet
4 F Horn
6 Trombone/Baritone/Bassoon

2 Baritone Treble Clef
(World Part Trombone in B♭ Treble Clef)
4 Tuba
2 Mallet Percussion
(Xylophone/Bells)
1 Optional Timpani
(Tune: B♭, D)
2 Percussion 1
(Snare Drum, Bass Drum)
4 Percussion 2
(Suspended Cymbal/Woodblock, Wind Chimes
or Flexatone or Scraped Cymbal/Tambourine)

WORLD PARTS

Available for download from
www.alfred.com/worldparts

Horn in E♭
Trombone/Baritone in B♭ Bass Clef
Tuba in E♭ Bass Clef
Tuba in E♭ Treble Clef
Tuba in B♭ Bass Clef
Tuba in B♭ Treble Clef

PROGRAM NOTES

Various dictionaries define "chaos" as:

- a state of utter confusion or disorder
- a disorderly mass or jumble
- the confused, unorganized state existing before the creation of distinct forms

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

This piece, *At the Edge of Chaos*, takes its name primarily from the passage spanning measures 17 through 24, where individual players contribute to a sense of chaos by choosing pitches at random from a given cluster of pitches. This section, while very chaotic, unpredictable, and dissonant, is framed on either side by more traditional compositional practices, creating a piece that lives "at the edge of chaos."

The initial metronomic marking of 120–128 is a suggested tempo range only. Conductors are encouraged to experiment with either faster or slower tempi as appropriate to the ensemble.

In the Percussion 2 part in measure 2, wind chimes are the preferred instrument. Flexatone and/or scraped cymbal may be used in the absence of wind chimes.

At measure 3 (and throughout the piece), the snare drum and bass drum are generally marked one dynamic level lower than the rest of the ensemble. This is done to remind players that these drum parts should not be predominant in the overall balance and blend of the ensemble.

In the "chaos" section (measures 17 through 24), each wind player is to choose any one of the pitches shown. Players should try to change pitches from measure to measure, never playing the same pitch two times in succession. The resulting sound should be dissonant and unpredictable. And, depending on the choices made by the players, this passage should sound slightly different each time.

Also in the "chaos" section, the instructions in the Percussion 2 part state, "Flexatone (preferred) and/or Wind Chimes and/or any other assorted percussion effects (scraped cymbal, scraped gong, regular gong, water gong, ratchet, etc.). Directors and ensembles are encouraged to experiment with various percussion effects in an effort to achieve the most appropriately chaotic effect possible.

Roland Barrett

At the Edge of Chaos

FULL SCORE
Approx. Duration - 1:15

By Roland Barrett (ASCAP)

Driving ♩ = 120-128

Flute

Oboe

B♭ Clarinet

B♭ Bass Clarinet

E♭ Alto
Saxophone

B♭ Tenor
Saxophone

E♭ Baritone
Saxophone

Driving ♩ = 120-128

B♭ Trumpet

F Horn

Trombone/Baritone/
Bassoon

Tuba

Mallet Percussion
(Xylophone/Bells)

Optional
Timpani

Percussion 1
(Snare Drum, Bass Drum)

Percussion 2
(Suspended Cymbal/
Woodblock, Wind Chimes
or Flexatone or Scraped
Cymbal/Tambourine)

Xylophone

Tune: B♭, D

Snare Drum

Bass Drum

Suspended Cymbal

Wind Chimes (or Flexatone or Scraped Cymbal)

p

1

2

3

4

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Fl. *p* *f*

Ob. *p* *f*

Cl. *div.* *p* *f*

B. Cl. *p* *f*

A. Sax. *p* *f*

T. Sax. *p* *f*

Bar. Sax. *p* *f*

Tpt. *div.* *p* *f*

Hn. *p* *f*

Tbn./Bar./Bsn. *p* *f*

Tuba *p* *f*

Mlt. Perc. *p* *f*

Timp. *p* *f*

Perc. 1 *p* *mf*

Perc. 2 *p* *f*

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Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn./Bar./Bsn.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

(shake)

(shake)

S.D. (rim clicks)

f

The musical score is arranged in a concert band format. Measures 13 and 14 show the initial entries for several instruments. In measure 15, the Mallet Percussion part has a 'shake' instruction, and the Snare Drum (S.D.) part has a 'rim clicks' instruction with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measure 16 continues the percussion patterns. The percussion parts are written on a single staff with two systems of staves.

17

Fl. *f*

Ob. *f*

Cl. *f*

B. Cl. *f*

A. Sax. *f*

T. Sax. *f*

Bar. Sax. *f*

17

Tpt. *f*

Hn. *f*

Tbn./Bar./Bsn. *f*

Tuba *f*

Bells (gliss. back and forth between D and D)

Mlt. Perc. *mf*

Hand claps

Timp. *mf*

Perc. 1

Woodblock

Perc. 2

f Flexatone (preferred) and/or Wind Chimes and/or any other other assorted percussion effects (Scraped Cymbal, Scraped Gong, Regular Gong, Water Gong, Ratchet, etc.)

17 18 19 20

* (Measures 17 through 24) Each player chooses any one of the given pitches. Players should try to change pitches from measure to measure (in other words, don't choose the same pitch each time). The results should be very dissonant, and these measures will, depending on the players' choices, sound different each time the piece is played.

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn./Bar./Bsn.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format. The woodwinds (Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bass Clarinet) and reeds (Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone) are in the upper staves, mostly playing chords. The brass section (Trumpet, Horn, Trombone/Euphonium/Bassoon, Tuba) is in the middle staves, also playing chords. The Mallet Percussion part is in the lower staves, featuring a melodic line. The Timpani, Percussion 1, and Percussion 2 parts are at the bottom, with Percussion 1 playing a rhythmic pattern and Percussion 2 playing a melodic line.

25

Fl. *p* *f* *p* *f*

Ob. *p* *f* *p* *f*

Cl. *div.* *p* *f* *p* *f*

B. Cl. *p* *f* *p* *f*

A. Sax. *p* *f* *p* *f*

T. Sax. *p* *f* *p* *f*

Bar. Sax. *p* *f* *p* *f*

25 *div.*

Tpt. *p* *f* *p* *f*

Hn. *p* *f* *p* *f*

Tbn./Bar./Bsn. *p* *f* *p* *f*

Tuba *p* *f* *p* *f*

Xylophone

Mlt. Perc. *p* *f* *p* *f*

Play

Timp. *p* *f* *p* *f*

S.D. (on head)

Perc. 1 *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

Tambourine

Perc. 2 *p* *f* *p* *f*

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Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn./Bar./Bsn.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

(shake)

(shake)

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn./Bar./Bsn.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

S.D. (rim clicks)

Woodblock

S.D. (on head)

Susp. Cym. Choke Ch. Ch.

f

p *f*

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33

34

35

36

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