Anacalypsis

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Anacalyps

by

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Anacalypsis

Kris David Bendrick

i. hunting insatiably for nothing

ii. aching for the light

iii. opening of the throat

iv. anacalypsis

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ANACALYPSIS

Kris David Bendrick

Western Michigan University, 2020

The title of this piece, Anacalypsis, takes its name from the text Anacalypsis: An Attempt to
Draw Aside the Veil of the Saitic Isis or an Inquiry into the Origin of Languages, Nations and
Religions, written by Godfrey Higgins in 1836. The word anacalypsis is an antonym to the word
apocalypse and comes from the Greek word ἀνακάλυψης which translates to find or
discovery. In his two-volume treatise, Higgins attempts to unveil "a most ancient and universal
religion from which all later creeds and doctrines sprang."

Reading through Higgins’ text brought me to the intriguing idea of a time before religion, and,
more conceptually, a time before civilization. I imagine this sort of “before-time” to have a
darkness and stillness to it as well as a violence and primitiveness. And in some ways, I feel as
though it speaks to an existentialism that exists within each of us as we question our genesis. This
piece is a metaphysical wandering towards an anacalypsis and a representation of the existential
experiences one might reflect upon along the way.
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Instrumentation

cello: mvt. iii, iv

percussion: mvt. ii, iii, iv

piano: mvt. i, iv

alto saxophone: mvt. iv

flute/alto flute: mvt. iii, iv
Flute

Sing the triangle note head while playing the regular note simultaneously with tongue ram.
Vocal fry through the flute.
Whistle tone exhale audibly through the flute.

Alto Saxophone

The second movement requires an alto flute and a wifi-enabled device to view a timer necessary for the piece.

Tooth on reed.
Play a dense multiphonics with a fundamental.
Inhaled vocal fry through the saxophone.
Exhale audibly through the saxophone.
Reed on reed.

Performance Notes
Piano

Prepare the indicated strings of the piano before the fourth movement by wedging foam triangles into the strings of the piano.

- Scrape popsicle stick on designated string
- Scrape thimble on designated string
- Pluck indicated string with the area where your palm meets your wrist
- Slowly scrape finger nail along designated string
- Mute string with palm of hand while playing

**Triangle note heads indicate prepared piano notes**

- Prepare the indicated strings of the piano before the fourth movement by wedging foam triangles into the strings of the piano.

The pianist will need the following items:

- A thimble
- A CD case or floppy disk
- 2 popsicle sticks
- 2 foam triangles for muting piano strings

---

*Indicates prepared piano notes.
The percussionist will need the following instruments:

- 32-inch or 29-inch timpani*
- vibraphone
- bass drum
- high tom
- a cup with a plastic lid from a fast food restaurant

Scrape finger nails in a circular motion on designated instrument

Use thumb friction to crinkle plastic fast food cup lid

Dead stroke

Half pitched

High airy sound when bowing vibraphone

Dead stroke

Thumb roll

32-inch or 29-inch timpani*

The percussionist will need the following instruments:

* A superball or superball mallet is required to perform the timpani part

** The two lines of the staff represent the relative range of the timpani; the top line is the highest note on the timpani and the bottom line is the lowest note

*** The second movement requires a wifi-enabled device to view a timer necessary for the piece
barto pizzicato

play directly on the bridge; should produce a harsh, noise-like sound

on bridge

play ordinarily

ord.

extreme sul ponticello; very close to the bridge

s.p.

extreme sul tasto; on the fingerboard

s.t.

bow on the opposite side of the bridge

extreme sul ponticello

pitchless overpressure

perform a subtle un in which you finger the square note head and the parenthetical note

motions while maintaining the same point of contact with the strings

in the designated strings with extreme pressure and accelerate the bow in a circular

motion near the lip of the bow and a hand near the frog of the bow apply the bow

Cello
ferocious & unrelenting (ca. \( e = 132 \))

hunting insatiably for nothing
ritard (q=132) like a breaking clock (ca. e=132)
杂物

23.5

abrasive undone (ca. e = 120)

mute string with hand

pluck strings with finger nails

undone (ca. $\phi = 120$)
a lopsided trudge (ca. = 90)

anacalypsis
pulsing noise

growling rupture

imitate the vocal fry; creaking vocal fry
emerging from the flute
emerging from the bass drum

\[ \begin{align*}
  \text{burst} \\
  \text{(bass drum)}
\end{align*} \]
building tension with regular intervals of pulse

interject the noise

sustained noise
growling rupture

timpani
(bass drum)
c. perc.

a. fl.

perc. c.

perc. c.

perc. c.

perc. c.

perc. c.

perc. c.

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Anacalypsis
anacalypsis
57

phony and airy