



Vehemence

*Quartet for
Clarinet in Eb, Violin,
Violoncello and Piano*

Part for Piano

Nigel Morgan

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ISMN 979-0-57043-237-0 (Full score)

ISMN 979-0-57043-238-7 (Clarinet Part)

ISMN 979-0-57043-240-0 (Cello Part)

ISMN 979-0-57043-239-4 (Violin Part)

ISMN 979-0-57043-241-7 (Piano Part)

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About The Subject

On 20th January 2017 the 45th President of the United States of America used his inauguration address to vilify the institutions and legacy of the previous administration, and in language with a *vehement* tone of delivery that was harsh, even offensive to some of those listening. To others it represented a robust declaration and promise to change the *status quo* and ‘give power back to the people’. It was a far cry from the inauguration address of his predecessor who, before taking the oath of office, had commissioned a short piece, *Air and Simple Gifts*, from movie composer John Williams for performance by Itzhak Perlman, Yo-yo Ma, Anthony McGill and Gabriela Montero.

Vehemence takes the new president’s words and delivery of his inaugural address as its source material, mapping the very letters of his text to pitch and his spoken delivery to rhythmic phrases. *Vehemence* joins four other works by the composer where a similar device has been used to create novel harmonic sound objects.

Performance Guidelines

Whilst *Vehemence* assumes the presentation of a concert work in the Classical tradition an enterprising ensemble, wishing to extend the collected musical material into sonic territory, may wish to use amplification and include ‘preparations’ for the instrumental ensemble. For the piano, pitches D3 F3 C#4 D#4 and E may be prepared by threading dimes or 1p pieces between the triple strings. These pitches are marked with triangular note-heads on the first two pages of the piano part as *exempla*. For violin the use of Blu-tack placed behind the bridge is suggested

on strings D4 and A4 to destabilise the pitch on open strings. The use of an Eb Clarinet is recommended to produce a *vehement* and insecure timbre. In all instrumental parts (though particularly in the Eb Clarinet part) octave transpositions of melodic lines may be made as deemed appropriate for further emphasis and *vehemence*.

The score includes very few dynamics and additional playing instructions: playing a score having a general expressive marking *with vehemence* throughout does not give much opportunity for a dynamic range. Articulation is another matter, and its varied execution is paramount. Although there are some markings of slurs, bowing, and the nature of attack and its duration, players should regard these signs as a starting point, no more. The players might consider studying the inauguration address itself, seeing themselves as either projecting a version of this address using musical means, or placing their personal response to its words and the character of its delivery into their performance manner and approach. In either interpretation *Vehemence* seeks to set a very contemporary event into the resin of time and music . . .

The music is dedicated to Eric Wubbels and the composers of The Wet Ink Ensemble, New York City.

Vehemence

with vehemence ♩ = 60

Nigel Morgan

Piano

5

11

16

21

28

A with clarity ♩ = 90

35

41

47 **B** *with purpose* ♩ = 60

C *with determination* ♩ = 90

51 **D** *with intent* ♩ = 90

57

63 **E** *pedantic* ♩ = 60

69

73 **F** *aggressive* ♩ = 90

79

84 **G** *heavy and broad* ♩ = 60

89 **H** *hard and emphatic* ♩ = 90

Vc. Play to cover Vc. page turn!

94

100

106

I *more emphatic and broader* ♩ = 60

112

J *harsh but energetic* ♩ = 90

119

124

staccatissimo *naturale*

130

K *fervent and spiky* ♩ = 60

136

141

146

L *harsh and emphatic* ♩ = 120

152

M *with spirit and vigour* ♩ = 90

158

165

Cl.

N each note hard and with exact duration ♩ = 120

172

178

184

190

O

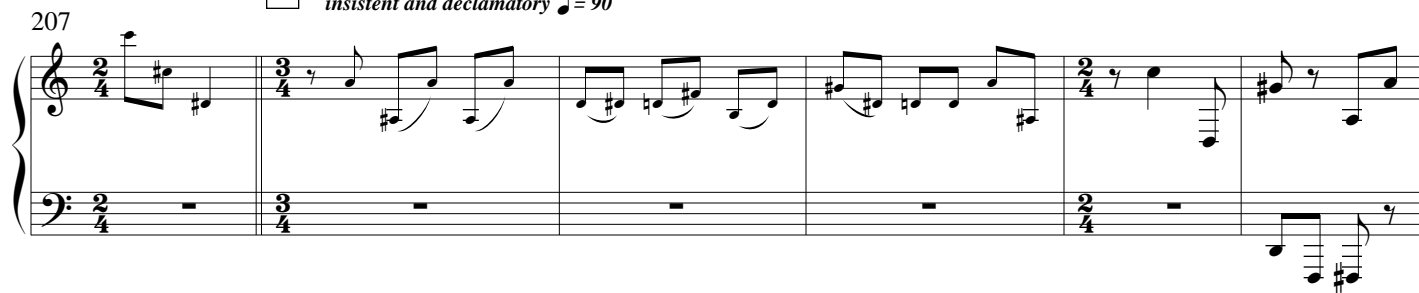
with hope and intention ♩ = 60

195

201

P*insistent and declamatory* ♩ = 90

207



213



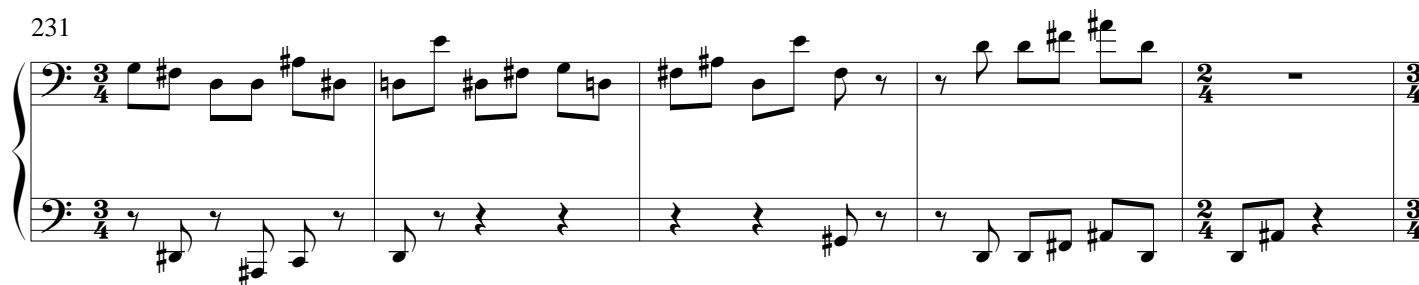
220

**Q***lighter but still with spirit* ♩ = 90

225



231



236



241

R *gradually slower* ♩ = 120

246

251 *poco a poco ritardando to crochet 60* ♩ = 60

257 **S** *with intent and purpose* ♩ = 90

Cl.

263 **T** *with force and determination* ♩ = 60

Cl.

269 **U** *bright and rhythmic* ♩ = 120

Cl.

275

281

Vc.

3

286

Vn.

+

291

296 **V** *broad and with intent* ♩ = 60

3

3

3

302 **W** *purposeful but hard-edged* ♩ = 90 **X** *forceful and fearless* ♩ = 60

Vc.

309

314

Y *bold and precise* ♩ = 60

319

Z *dark and pedantic* ♩ = 90

324

329

334

AA *driven* ♩ = 60

340 *poco a poco accelerando*

346 *poco a poco accel a tempo = 90*

BB *hard and exact* ♩ = 90

351

356

361

366 **CC** *expansive and determined* ♩ = 60

DD*Purposeful but reflective* ♩ = 90

370

Vn.

375

380

386

392

mp

mp

Red. (as from a distance) *

398

f

mp

Red. *

f

403

EE*a final plea* ♩ = 60

Measures 403-408. The music is in 3/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked as ♩ = 60. The piece is labeled 'EE' and 'a final plea'. The notation features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some rests and dynamic markings.

409

Measures 409-413. The music continues in 3/4 time. Measures 409 and 410 feature triplets of eighth notes. The key signature remains one sharp. The notation includes various rhythmic values and rests.

414

FF*with courage and hope?* ♩ = 90

Measures 414-418. The music changes to 2/4 time. The piece is labeled 'FF' and 'with courage and hope?'. The tempo is marked as ♩ = 90. The notation features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some rests and dynamic markings.

419

Measures 419-423. The music continues in 2/4 time. Measures 419 and 420 feature triplets of eighth notes. The key signature remains one sharp. The notation includes various rhythmic values and rests.

424

GG*declamatory* ♩ = 60

Measures 424-428. The music changes to 3/4 time. The piece is labeled 'GG' and 'declamatory'. The tempo is marked as ♩ = 60. The notation features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some rests and dynamic markings.

429

Measures 429-433. The music continues in 3/4 time. The key signature remains one sharp. The notation includes various rhythmic values and rests.