

Chaconne

for two string orchestras
or ten string instruments

by Vaughan M^cAlley (2009)



Notes on the music

While thinking about writing a piece for string orchestra (or two), I decided to use the chaconne form, as it is immediately familiar to string players. This piece inherits the basic rhythmic and phrase structure from Bach's great *Ciaccona* from the Partita in D Minor for unaccompanied violin, but, being for at least ten instruments, takes substantially new directions.

The twenty-one iterations of the eight-bar theme are divided into a group of thirteen and a group of eight, both Fibonacci numbers. These groups are then divided into groups of smaller Fibonacci numbers. Notable sections include twenty-four bars of strict canon between the orchestras from letter L to letter N, the climax from N to Q in ten real parts, and the *maggiore* section from Q to T that inverts the main theme.

The basses sometimes perform their traditional role of doubling their respective cellos, but in this piece are more often called to provide a bass line on their own.

Notes not slurred should be firmly articulated.

Vaughan McAlley (August 2009)

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$\text{♩} = \text{c. } 96$ **A**

Violin 1 *f*

Violin 2 *f*

Viola 1 *f*

Cello 1 *f*

Contrabass 1 *f*

Violin 3 *f*

Violin 4 *f*

Viola 2 *f*

Cello 2 *f*

Contrabass 2 *f*

B

10

Vln 1 *p*

Vln 2 *p*

Vla 1 *mf*

Vcl 1 *p*

Cb 1 *p*

Vln 3

Vln 4

Vla 2

Vcl 2

Cb 2

19 **C**

Vln 1 *mf*

Vln 2 *mf*

Vla 1 *mf*

Vcl 1 *mf*

Cb 1 *mf*

Vln 3 *p* *mf*

Vln 4 *p* *mf*

Vla 2 *mf* *mf*

Vcl 2 *p* *mf*

Cb 2 *p* *mf*

D

27

Violin 1: *f* *mf* *f* *f*

Violin 2: *f* *mf* *f* *f*

Viola 1: *f* *mf* *f* *f*

Violoncello 1: *f* *mf* *f* *f*

Contrabass 1: *f* *mf* *f* *mf*

Violin 3: *f* *f* *f* *mf*

Violin 4: *f* *f* *f* *mf*

Viola 2: *f* *f* *f* *mf*

Violoncello 2: *f* *f* *f* *mf*

Contrabass 2: *f* *f* *f* *mf*

35

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vla 1

Vcl 1

Cb 1

Vln 3

Vln 4

Vla 2

Vcl 2

Cb 2

f

f

p

p

p

p

E

42 **F**

Vln 1 *mf*

Vln 2 *mf*

Vla 1 *p*

Vcl 1 *p*

Cb 1 *p*

Vln 3 *p*

Vln 4 *p*

Vla 2 *p*

Vcl 2 *p* *mf*

Cb 2 *p* *mf*

59 **H**

Vln 1 *ff*

Vln 2 *ff*

Vla 1 *ff*

Vcl 1 *ff*

Cb 1 *ff*

Vln 3 *ff*

Vln 4 *ff*

Vla 2 *mf* *ff*

Vcl 2 *ff*

Cb 2 *ff*

67

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vla 1

Vcl 1

Cb 1

Vln 3

Vln 4

Vla 2

Vcl 2

Cb 2

J

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf

K

76

Vln 1 *f*

Vln 2 *f*

Vla 1 *f*

Vcl 1 *f*

Cb 1 *f*

Vln 3 *f*

Vln 4 *f*

Vla 2 *mf* *f*

Vcl 2 *f*

Cb 2 *mf* *f*

L

85

Vln 1
Vln 2
Vla 1
Vcl 1
Cb 1
Vln 3
Vln 4
Vla 2
Vcl 2
Cb 2

cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.

M

94

Vln 1
Vln 2
Vla 1
Vcl 1
Cb 1

Vln 3
Vln 4
Vla 2
Vcl 2
Cb 2

102

N

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vla 1

Vcl 1

Cb 1

Vln 3

Vln 4

Vla 2

Vcl 2

Cb 2

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

108

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vla 1

Vcl 1

Cb 1

Vln 3

Vln 4

Vla 2

Vcl 2

Cb 2

115 **P**

Vln 1
Vln 2
Vla 1
Vcl 1
Cb 1
Vln 3
Vln 4
Vla 2
Vcl 2
Cb 2

122

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vla 1

Vcl 1

Cb 1

Vln 3

Vln 4

Vla 2

Vcl 2

Cb 2

Detailed description: This page of a musical score contains measures 122 through 127. It is arranged for two string orchestras. The first orchestra (top) includes Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola 1, Violoncello 1, and Contrabasso 1. The second orchestra (bottom) includes Violin 3, Violin 4, Viola 2, Violoncello 2, and Contrabasso 2. The music is in a key with one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The notation features various rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. The score concludes with a double bar line and repeat signs at the end of each staff.

129 **Q** **R**

Vln 1 *p*

Vln 2 *p*

Vla 1 *p* *mf*

Vcl 1 *p* *mf*

Cb 1 *p*

Vln 3 *mf*

Vln 4 *mf*

Vla 2 *mf*

Vcl 2 *mf*

Cb 2 *mf*

138

Vln 1 *f* **s**

Vln 2 *f*

Vla 1 *mf*

Vcl 1 *mf*

Cb 1 *mf*

Vln 3 *mf*

Vln 4 *mf*

Vla 2 *mf*

Vcl 2 *mf*

Cb 2 *mf*

147

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vla 1

Vcl 1

Cb 1

Vln 3

Vln 4

Vla 2

Vcl 2

Cb 2

T

f

f

f

f

f

f

f

f

f

f

154

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vla 1

Vcl 1

Cb 1

Vln 3

Vln 4

Vla 2

Vcl 2

Cb 2

dim.

dim.

dim.

dim.

dim.

dim.

U

161 *mf* *f* *p* *f* *rit.*

Vln 1 *mf* *f* *p* *f*

Vln 2 *mf* *f* *p* *f*

Vla 1 *mf* *f* *p* *f*

Vcl 1 *mf* *f* *p* *f*

Cb 1 *mf* *f* *f*

Vln 3 *mf* *f* *f*

Vln 4 *mf* *f* *f*

Vla 2 *mf* *f* *f*

Vcl 2 *mf* *f* *f*

Cb 2 *mf* *f* *f*