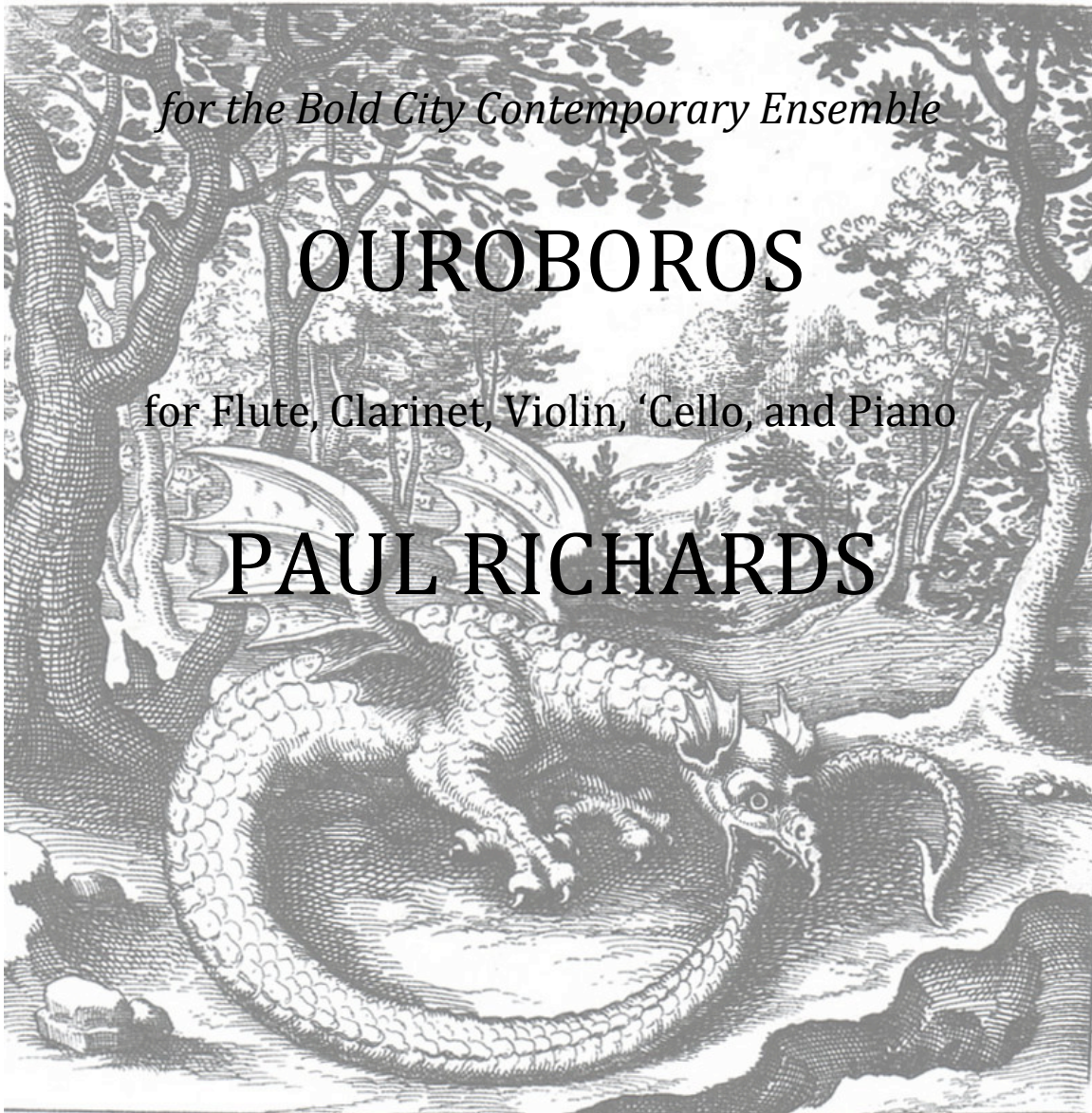


for the Bold City Contemporary Ensemble

OUROBOROS

for Flute, Clarinet, Violin, 'Cello, and Piano

PAUL RICHARDS



OUROBOROS

for Flute, Clarinet in Bb, Violin, 'Cello, and Piano

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Duration: 13 minutes

Program note: Found in numerous ancient cultures, an ouroboros is a depiction of a serpent or dragon eating its own tail, typically symbolizing eternity or cyclicity. Many of the musical materials in this work are cyclic in nature, with scales or interval patterns that are recursive in some way, exploring suggestions of infinity within a finite space.

Ouroboros was composed in 2017 for the Bold City Contemporary Ensemble.

Ouroboros

for the Bold City Contemporary Ensemble

PAUL RICHARDS

♩ = 160 will-o'-the-wisp

Flute
pppp (as quiet as possible)

Clarinet in B \flat
pppp (as quiet as possible)
con sord.
sul pont.

Violin
pppp (as quiet as possible)
con sord.
sul pont.

Cello
pppp (as quiet as possible)

Piano

Fl.
5

B \flat Cl.

Vln.
change to
ord.

Vc.
change to
ord.

Pno.

Fl.
9

B \flat Cl.
ppp

Vln.
ppp

Vc.
ppp

Pno.

Musical score for measures 13-17. The score is for a full orchestra. The instruments are Flute (Fl.), B♭ Clarinet (B♭ Cl.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vc.), and Piano (Pno.). The time signature changes from 12/8 to 9/8, then to 12/8, 6/8, and finally 12/8. The dynamics range from *pp* to *fff*. The Flute and B♭ Clarinet parts have a *pp* dynamic at the start, which changes to *p* and then *mp*. The Viola part has a *pp* dynamic, which changes to *p* and then *mp*. The Piano part has a *fff* dynamic. The Viola part has a *senza sord.* marking.

Musical score for measures 18-21. The score is for a full orchestra. The instruments are Flute (Fl.), B♭ Clarinet (B♭ Cl.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vc.), and Piano (Pno.). The time signature changes from 12/8 to 9/8, then to 12/8, 6/8, and finally 12/8. The dynamics range from *fff* to *pp*. The Flute part has a *fff* dynamic, which changes to *mf* and then *pp*. The B♭ Clarinet part has a *fff* dynamic, which changes to *mf* and then *pp*. The Violin part has a *fff* dynamic, which changes to *mf* and then *pp*. The Viola part has a *gliss.* marking, a *p* dynamic, which changes to *f* and then *fff*. The Piano part has a *fff* dynamic, which changes to *p* and then *f*. The Flute part has a *fiery* marking, a *(fluttersong)* marking, and a *(ord.)* marking. The B♭ Clarinet part has a *senza sord. change to* marking, a *sul pont.* marking, and a *ord. change to* marking.

Musical score for measures 22-25. The score is for a full orchestra. The instruments are Flute (Fl.), B♭ Clarinet (B♭ Cl.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vc.), and Piano (Pno.). The time signature changes from 12/8 to 9/8, then to 12/8, 6/8, and finally 12/8. The dynamics range from *fff* to *ppp*. The Flute part has a *fff* dynamic, which changes to *mf* and then *ppp*. The B♭ Clarinet part has a *fff* dynamic, which changes to *mf* and then *ppp*. The Violin part has a *fff* dynamic, which changes to *mf* and then *ppp*. The Viola part has a *fff* dynamic, which changes to *p* and then *f*. The Piano part has a *fff* dynamic, which changes to *p* and then *f*. The Flute part has a *ord. change to* marking, a *sul pont.* marking, and a *ord. change to* marking.

Musical score for measures 27-31. The score is for a full orchestra. The Flute (Fl.) part features a complex rhythmic pattern with dynamic markings of *fff* and *mf*. The Bass Clarinet (B> Cl.) part has a similar rhythmic pattern. The Violin (Vln.) part has a steady accompaniment with *fff* dynamics. The Violoncello (Vc.) part has a steady accompaniment with *fff* dynamics. The Piano (Pno.) part has a steady accompaniment with *fff* dynamics. The key signature changes from one flat to two flats, and the time signature changes from 12/8 to 9/8.

[32] stately

Musical score for measures 31-35. The score is for a full orchestra. The Flute (Fl.) part has a melodic line with dynamic markings of *f* and *p*. The Bass Clarinet (B> Cl.) part has a melodic line with dynamic markings of *f* and *p*. The Violin (Vln.) part has a melodic line with dynamic markings of *f* and *p*. The Violoncello (Vc.) part has a melodic line with dynamic markings of *f* and *p*. The Piano (Pno.) part has a melodic line with dynamic markings of *mp* and *f*. The key signature changes from two flats to one flat, and the time signature changes from 9/8 to 12/8.

Musical score for measures 35-36. The score is for a full orchestra. The Flute (Fl.) part has a melodic line with dynamic markings of *mf* and *pp*. The Bass Clarinet (B> Cl.) part has a melodic line with dynamic markings of *mp* and *pp*. The Violin (Vln.) part has a melodic line with dynamic markings of *mp* and *pp*. The Violoncello (Vc.) part has a melodic line with dynamic markings of *mp* and *pp*. The Piano (Pno.) part has a melodic line with dynamic markings of *mp*. The key signature changes from one flat to two flats, and the time signature changes from 12/8 to 12/8.

40

Fl. *ppp* (sneak in) *mf* *p*

B♭ Cl. *mp* *pp* *mp* *f* *mp* gliss.

Vln. *p* *mf* *p* *f*

Vc. *mp* *pp* *mp* *f* *mp*

Pno.

45

Fl. *f* bend pitch up (quasi gliss.) *f* spit tongue

B♭ Cl. *p* *f* smear (quasi gliss.)

Vln. *f* *p* *f* *p* *f*

Vc. *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* arco

Pno. *f* *p* *f*

50

54 *f* fleet

Fl. *p*

B♭ Cl. *p* *mp* *ppp* (sneak in)

Vln. *p* *mp*

Vc. gliss. *p* change to *mp* sul pont. change to

Pno. *p* *mp*

55

ord.

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

f *p* *mp* *mf* *p* *mf* *mp*

ord. change to sul pont. change to ord. change to sul pont. change to

59

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

mf *ff* *mf* *ff* *ff* *ff*

ord. *wild!* *wild!* *wild!* *wild!*

(quasi pizzicato) *mf* *ff* *mf* *ff*

63

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

mf *ff* *fff* *mf* *ff* *fff*

66

FL. *ff* *mp* *f* *ff* *p*
B♭ Cl. *ff* *mf* *ff*
Vln. *ff* *f* *ff* *f*
Vc. *ff* *f* *ff*
Pno. *ff* *mf* *ff*

bend pitch down
smear (quasi gliss.)
gliss.

FL. *mf* *ff* *fff*
B♭ Cl. *ff* *fff*
Vln. *ff* *fff*
Vc. *mf* *ff* *fff*
Pno. *mf* *f* *ff*

gliss.

FL. *ff* *fff* *ff*
B♭ Cl. *ff* *fff* *ff*
Vln. *ff* *fff* *ff*
Vc. *ff* *fff* *ff*
Pno. *f* *ff* *f*

77

Fl. *fff* *f*

B> Cl. *fff* *f*

Vln. *fff* *f*

Vc. *fff* *f* *p*

Pno. *ff* *mf* *f*

80 *rit.*

Fl.

B> Cl.

Vln.

Vc. *mf* *p* *mp* *pp* *p* *ppp*

Pno. *mp* *mf* *p* *mp* *pp* *p* *pp*

pppp (sneak in)

86 ♩ = 54 *mournful, molto rubato* *rall.*

Fl.

B> Cl.

Vln. *mf* *ppp* *mp*

Vc. *mp* *molto espr.* *gliss.* *ppp*

Pno. *mp* *p*

ppp (sneak in) *increase vibrato change to*

a tempo steady, dirge

90

FL. *p* 6

B> Cl. *mp*

Vln. *mf* *espr.* *ord. vibrato poco sul tasto* quick gliss. 3

Vc. *mp* quick gliss.

Pno. *mp* *mp*

8va

Detailed description: This system contains measures 90 through 93. The Flute part begins in measure 93 with a sixteenth-note scale starting on G4, marked *p*. The Clarinet part plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with a *mp* dynamic. The Violin and Viola parts play a similar eighth-note pattern, with the Violin marked *mf* *espr.* and *ord. vibrato poco sul tasto*, and the Viola marked *mp*. Both strings include the instruction "quick gliss." and a triplet of eighth notes in measure 92. The Piano accompaniment consists of a simple bass line in the left hand and a few chords in the right hand, both marked *mp*. A "8va" marking is present in the bottom left corner.

94

FL. *ff* 3 3 *b* *trill* (*hold note, discontinue trill)

B> Cl. *ff* 3 3 *ffp* *ff* *ff*

Vln. *ff* *ord.* 3 *ff* *p* *ff*

Vc. *ff* *ff* 3 3 *f* *p* *ff* *f*

Pno. *ff*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 94 through 97. The Flute part features a complex trill in measure 94, marked *ff*, with a *b* (bend) and *trill* instruction. A note in measure 95 is marked with an asterisk and the instruction "(*hold note, discontinue trill)". The Clarinet part plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, marked *ff*, with dynamics ranging from *ffp* to *ff*. The Violin and Viola parts play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, with the Violin marked *ff* and *ord.* (ordine), and the Viola marked *ff*. The Piano accompaniment features a complex rhythmic pattern in the left hand and chords in the right hand, marked *ff*.

98

FL. *fff*

B> Cl. *fff*

Vln. *fff*

Vc. *fff* *p* (sneak in) *fff*

Pno. *fff*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 98 through 101. The Flute, Clarinet, Violin, and Viola parts all play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, marked *fff*. The Piano accompaniment features a complex rhythmic pattern in the left hand and chords in the right hand, marked *fff*. The Viola part has a *p* (sneak in) marking in measure 99.

slightly slower

104 ♩ = 48 halcyon

101

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

mp *ppp* *ppp* *p espr.* *pp*

106

rit. *a tempo* *rit.*

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

p espr. *mp* *p* *pppp* *pp* *pppp* *pp* *pppp* *pp*

(sneak in)

112

a tempo *rit.* *a tempo*

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

p espr. *mf* *p* *con sord.* *p espr.* *pppp* *pp* *pppp* *pp*

con sord.

118 *rit.* 120 *a tempo*

Fl. *ppp*

B♭ Cl. *ppp*

Vln. *mp* *p* *pp* senza sord.

Vc. *p* *pp* *pp* senza sord.

Pno. *ppp*

124 *rit.*

Fl. *pp* *mp* *p* *pp*

B♭ Cl. *pp* *mp* *p* *pp*

Vln. *mp* *p* *pp* open

Vc. *mp* *p* *pp* depress silently

Pno. *mf* *mp* *p*

129 ♩ = 160 mercurial

Fl. *ff* *mf*

B♭ Cl. *f* *ff* *f* *mf*

Vln. *f* *ff* *f* *mf* sub. (snap pizz.) arco

Vc. *f* *ff* *f* *mf* sub.

Pno. *ff* *mf*

134

Fl. *ff* *fff*

B♭ Cl. *ff* *fff* *ff*

Vln. *ff* *fff* *mp* *arco*

Vc. *fff* *f*

Pno. *fff* *f* *ff*

Detailed description: This system covers measures 134 to 140. The Flute part starts with a forte (*ff*) dynamic and moves to fortissimo (*fff*) in measure 135. The Clarinet part follows a similar pattern. The Violin part begins with *ff* and *fff*, then shifts to mezzo-piano (*mp*) with an *arco* instruction in measure 137. The Violoncello part starts with *fff* and then *f*. The Piano accompaniment features *fff* chords in measures 134-135, *f* in measure 137, and *ff* in measure 139. The time signature changes from 4/4 to 3/4 and back to 4/4.

140

Fl. *mp* *f > mp* *f > mp*

B♭ Cl. *f*

Vln. *ff* *f*

Vc. *f* *ff* *f*

Pno. *f* *ff* *f*

Detailed description: This system covers measures 140 to 146. The Flute part starts with mezzo-piano (*mp*) and has dynamic shifts to *f > mp* in measures 142 and 144. The Clarinet part starts with forte (*f*). The Violin part has *ff* in measure 141 and *f* in measure 143. The Violoncello part has *f* in measure 141 and *ff* in measure 143. The Piano accompaniment has *f* in measure 141 and *ff* in measure 143. The time signature changes from 4/4 to 3/4 and then to 12/8.

146

Fl. *f > mp* *ff* *f*

B♭ Cl. *ff* *mp* *poco sul tasto*

Vln. *ff* *f > mp* *mp*

Vc. *ff* *f* *p*

Pno. *ff* *f*

Detailed description: This system covers measures 146 to 152. The Flute part has *f > mp* in measure 147, *ff* in measure 148, and *f* in measure 150. The Clarinet part has *ff* in measure 147, *mp* in measure 149, and *poco sul tasto* in measure 151. The Violin part has *ff* in measure 147, *f > mp* in measure 149, and *mp* in measure 151. The Violoncello part has *ff* in measure 147, *f* in measure 149, and *p* in measure 151. The Piano accompaniment has *ff* in measure 147 and *f* in measure 149. The time signature changes from 12/8 to 9/8 and back to 12/8.

166 *a tempo fleet*

Musical score for measures 166-171. The score is for five instruments: Flute (Fl.), Bass Clarinet (B♭ Cl.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vc.), and Piano (Pno.). The key signature has one flat (B♭) and the time signature changes from 3/4 to 4/4 to 5/4 to 4/4. Dynamics include *p*, *mf*, *pp*, and *mp*. Performance instructions include *(sneak in)* and *ord.* (ordinario). The Flute part starts with a rest, then enters with a *p* dynamic, followed by *mf* and *pp*. The Bass Clarinet enters with *p* and *mf*. The Violin and Piano parts feature triplet patterns with *mf* dynamics. The Viola part has *mf* and *ppp* dynamics.

Musical score for measures 172-176. The score is for five instruments: Flute (Fl.), Bass Clarinet (B♭ Cl.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vc.), and Piano (Pno.). The key signature has one flat (B♭) and the time signature is 4/4. Dynamics include *pp*, *mp*, and *p*. Performance instructions include *(sneak in)*. The Flute part starts with a rest, then enters with *pp*, *mp*, and *p*. The Bass Clarinet has *pp* and *mp*. The Violin and Piano parts feature triplet patterns with *mp* and *p* dynamics. The Viola part has *mp* and *ppp* dynamics.

Musical score for measures 177-181. The score is for five instruments: Flute (Fl.), Bass Clarinet (B♭ Cl.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vc.), and Piano (Pno.). The key signature has one flat (B♭) and the time signature is 5/4. Dynamics include *pp*, *pppp*, and *ppp*. Performance instructions include *rit.* (ritardando) and *(8va)* (octave). The Flute part starts with *pp* and *pppp*, then *pp* and *ppp*. The Bass Clarinet has *pp* and *ppp*. The Violin and Piano parts feature triplet patterns with *pp* and *ppp* dynamics. The Viola part has *ppp* dynamics.

184 $\text{♩} = 48$ halcyon

Fl. *pppp* *mp espr.*

B♭ Cl.

Vln. *pppp*

Vc. *pppp*

Pno. *p*

188 *rit.* *bend pitch down (quasi gliss.)* 191 *ethereal a tempo*

Fl. *f* *mp* *pp* *pppp*

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno. *pp*

193

Fl. *pp*

B♭ Cl.

Vln. *pp*

Vc.

Pno. *pp*

230

Fl. *fff* *ff* *f* *mf* *mp* *p*

B♭ Cl. *fff* *ffp* *ff* *fp* *f* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mp* *p*

Vln. *fff* *ff* *f* *mf* *mp* *p*

Vc. *fff* *ff* *f* *mf* *mp* *p*

Pno. *fff*

Measures 230-234: This system contains five measures of music. The Flute part starts with a dynamic of *fff* and gradually decreases to *p*. The Bass Clarinet part features complex dynamics including *ffp*, *ff*, *fp*, *f*, *mf*, and *mp*. The Violin and Violoncello parts mirror the Flute's dynamic progression. The Piano part provides a steady accompaniment with a *fff* dynamic.

235

Fl. *f* *mp* *f* *mp*

B♭ Cl. *f* *mp* *f* *ff* *ff*

Vln. *f* *ff* *f* *mp* *f* *ff*

Vc. *f* *ff* *f* *mp* *f* *ff*

Pno. *f* *mp* *ff* *f* *mp* *ff*

Measures 235-238: This system contains four measures of music. The Flute and Bass Clarinet parts play triplets with dynamics of *f* and *mp*. The Violin and Violoncello parts play triplets with dynamics of *f* and *ff*. The Piano part features triplets with dynamics of *f*, *mp*, and *ff*. The Violin part includes an *arco* marking in measure 237.

239

Fl. *f* *mp*

B♭ Cl. *f* *ff* *mp* *f* *ff*

Vln. *f* *mp* *f* *ff* *ff*

Vc. *ff* *mp* *f* *ff*

Pno. *mp* *f* *ff* *f* *mp* *f* *ff*

Measures 239-242: This system contains four measures of music. The Flute part has dynamics of *f* and *mp*. The Bass Clarinet part has dynamics of *f*, *ff*, *mp*, *f*, and *ff*. The Violin and Violoncello parts have dynamics of *f*, *mp*, *f*, *ff*, and *ff*. The Piano part has dynamics of *mp*, *f*, *ff*, *f*, *mp*, *f*, and *ff*. The Violin part includes an *arco* marking in measure 240.

244

Fl. *f*

B♭ Cl. *f*

Vln. *f*

Vc. *f*

Pno. *mf*

249

Fl. *ff*

B♭ Cl. *ff*

Vln. *ff* *mf*

Vc. *ff* *mf*

Pno. *ff*

253

Fl. *fff* *wild!*

B♭ Cl. *fff* *wild!*

Vln. *fff* *wild!*

Vc. *fff* *wild!*

Pno. *fff*

256

Fl. *mf* *ff*

B♭ Cl. *mf* *ff*

Vln. *mf* *ff*

Vc. *mf* *ff*

Pno. *ff* *fff*

261 fiery

Fl. *fff* *p* spit tongue

B♭ Cl. *fff* *p*

Vln. *fff* *p* poco sul tasto

Vc. *fff* *p* pizz. *mf* *p* poco sul tasto arco

Pno. *p* *mf* *p* sub.

267

Fl. *mf* *p* *f*

B♭ Cl. *mf* *p* *f*

Vln. *mf* *p* *f* change to ord. poco sul tasto

Vc. *mf* *p* *f* change to ord. poco sul tasto

Pno. *mf* *p* *f*

273

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

mf *ff* *mf*

mf *ff* *mf*

mf *ff* *mf*

(8va) - (loco)

279

ord.

281

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

p *ff* *fff*

ff *fff*

ff *fff*

ff *fff*

284

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

mp fff

mp fff

mp fff

mp

change to sul pont. ord. change to sul pont.

This page of the musical score, titled "Ouroboros", contains measures 289 through 300. The score is arranged in a system with five staves: Flute (Fl.), B♭ Clarinet (B♭ Cl.), Violin (Vln.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Piano (Pno.).

Measures 289-292: The Flute and B♭ Clarinet parts begin with a *p* dynamic, followed by a *f* dynamic. The Violin and Violoncello parts feature a continuous triplet pattern, starting with a *ff* dynamic and transitioning to *mf*. The Piano part provides harmonic support with chords, marked with a *f* dynamic. A first oboe part (*8^{va}*) is indicated by a dashed line above the Piano staff.

Measures 293-296: The Flute and B♭ Clarinet parts continue with a *f* dynamic, leading to a *fff* dynamic in the final measure. The Violin and Violoncello parts maintain their triplet patterns, with dynamics of *ff* and *mf*. The Piano part continues with chords, marked with a *f* dynamic. A second oboe part (*8^{va}*) is indicated by a dashed line above the Piano staff.

Measures 297-300: The Flute and B♭ Clarinet parts are mostly silent, with some notes in the final measure. The Violin and Violoncello parts continue with their triplet patterns, marked with a *fff* dynamic. The Piano part continues with chords, marked with a *f* dynamic. A second oboe part (*8^{va}*) is indicated by a dashed line above the Piano staff.

301

Fl.
B♭ Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.

305

309

mf fff

fff

change to sul pont. ord.

mf fff

fff

change to sul pont. ord.

mf fff

313

Fl. *mf* *fff* *mp* *fff*

B♭ Cl. *fff* *fff*

Vln. *mf* *fff* *mp* *fff*

Vc. *fff* *fff*

Pno. *fff* *fff*

change to sul pont. ord. change to sul pont. change to

Detailed description: This system contains measures 313 through 317. The Flute part features complex rhythmic patterns with triplets and slurs, marked with dynamics *mf*, *fff*, *mp*, and *fff*. The B♭ Clarinet part has a melodic line with slurs and dynamics *fff*. The Violin part has a melodic line with slurs and dynamics *mf*, *fff*, *mp*, and *fff*. The Viola part has a melodic line with slurs and dynamics *fff*. The Piano part has a complex accompaniment with slurs and dynamics *fff*. Performance instructions include "change to sul pont. ord." and "change to sul pont. change to".

318

Fl. *fff* *fff*

B♭ Cl. *fff* *fff*

Vln. *fff* *fff*

Vc. *fff* *fff*

Pno. *fff* *fff*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 318 through 322. The Flute part has a melodic line with slurs and dynamics *fff*. The B♭ Clarinet part has a melodic line with slurs and dynamics *fff*. The Violin part has a melodic line with slurs and dynamics *fff*. The Viola part has a melodic line with slurs and dynamics *fff*. The Piano part has a complex accompaniment with slurs and dynamics *fff*.

323

Fl. *fff*

B♭ Cl. *fff*

Vln. *fff*

Vc. *fff*

Pno. *fff*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 323 through 327. The Flute part has a melodic line with slurs and dynamics *fff*. The B♭ Clarinet part has a melodic line with slurs and dynamics *fff*. The Violin part has a melodic line with slurs and dynamics *fff*. The Viola part has a melodic line with slurs and dynamics *fff*. The Piano part has a complex accompaniment with slurs and dynamics *fff*.

328 *♩. ♩. will-o'-the-wisp*

Fl. *sub. p*

B♭ Cl. *sub. p*

Vln. *con sord. p*

Vc. *sub. p*

Pno.

Fl. *pp*

B♭ Cl. *pp*

Vln. *pp* *change to*

Vc. *con sord. pp* *change to*

Pno.

Fl. *ppp* *(non rit.)*

B♭ Cl. *ppp*

Vln. *sul pont. ppp* *V* *pppp (as quiet as possible)*

Vc. *sul pont. ppp* *pppp (as quiet as possible)*

Pno.