

Cat Eye Nebula

Filip Melo

Clarinet in Bb



Dedicated to
Axel Rällfors



History:

“Cat Eye Nebula” is based on a picture, showing a nebula with the same name. I wanted to explore how to transform a picture into sounding material.

The piece is written for the International Year of Astronomy 2009, celebrating the year 1609, when Galileo Galilei looked upon the sky with his telescope for the first time. “Cat Eye Nebula” is written for a concert included in the celebrations.

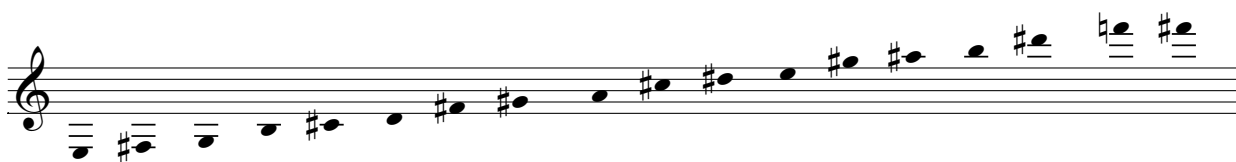
Also, what is special for this piece, or rather the concert situation, is the room. In the middle of Stockholm, at The Royal Institute of Technology, 25 meters below ground surface, an old nuclear reactor is situated and is now a venue for experimental art performances. The room has a reverb of 5-8 seconds which has been calculated for the performance. Though this piece is written for this special room, it can however be performed in other venues as well, with or without a reverb. Nevertheless, a church, great hall, etc., is to be preferred.

The intention is for the performer to play three voices with him- or herself.

Modus:

The sounding material in the piece is based on this modus (transposed for clarinet in Bb):

All notes in the score are always natural if nothing else is mentioned.

**Playing instructions:**

Crescendo from niente



Diminuendo to niente



Trill between two different positions on the clarinet.



Short breath before continuing.

Grace notes are being played as fast as possible. From the fifth system on page, grace notes can be considered as eighth notes.

Fermatas:

When a fermata appears over a note with a crescendo from niente to a specific dynamic, make sure to take your time so that the tone really comes out of nothing up to e. g. mezzo forte.

When a fermata appears over a note with a diminuendo to niente, make sure that the tone disappears to nothing before continuing.

If the fermata appears over a single pause, simply hold it before continuing. If it is performed in a place with a great reverb, let the room speak, so to say. Listen to the resonances and the timbre, then continue. After all, that is what this piece is all about.

Filip Melo
Stockholm
1/3-09

Duration ≈ 9'

First time played, April 22:nd 2009
at KTH R1 Experimentell Scen
performed by Axel Rällfors.

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Cat Eye Nebula

Clarinet in Bb

Andantino
(tempo rubato)

Filip Melo

cantabile

con
forza dolce

con
forza dolce

con
forza dolce

Musical staff 1: Treble clef, key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The staff contains a melodic line with various dynamics and articulations. Dynamics include *fff*, *p*, *ff*, *p sub.*, *pp*, *p*, *f*, *p sub.*, and *pp*. There are also slurs and a triplet of eighth notes.

Musical staff 2: Treble clef, key signature of two sharps. The staff contains a melodic line with dynamics *mf*, *pp*, *p*, *mp*, *mp*, *mf*, *mf*, *ff*, and *mp*. It features a slur, a sixteenth-note run marked with a '6', and a triplet of eighth notes.

Musical staff 3: Treble clef, key signature of two sharps. The staff contains a melodic line with dynamics *pp*, *mf*, *p*, *pp*, *mf*, and *mp*. It features several triplet markings over eighth notes.

Musical staff 4: Treble clef, key signature of two sharps. The staff contains a melodic line with dynamics *f*, *p*, *mf*, *p*, *fp*, *f sub.*, and *p sub.*. It features a slur and a triplet of eighth notes.

Musical staff 5: Treble clef, key signature of two sharps. The staff contains a melodic line with dynamics *f*, *p sub.*, *fp*, *f sub.*, and *p sub.*. It features a slur, a triplet of eighth notes, and accents.

Musical staff 6: Treble clef, key signature of two sharps. The staff contains a melodic line with dynamics *mf*, *mf*, and *pp*. It features a slur, a triplet of eighth notes, and a triplet of quarter notes.

