

Insom n

for woodwind quintet

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Total length, approximately 23'

2023

Insomnia

for woodwind quintet

I. Luminous dark birds, perched on lamps of water, guarding our dreams (p 3) II. Speaking the glyph of plants (p 25) III. Time corroded by its own clocks (p 29) IV. The squirrels of forgetfulness (p 46) V. The place on the circle where everything crosses in time at the bottom of sleep (p 57)

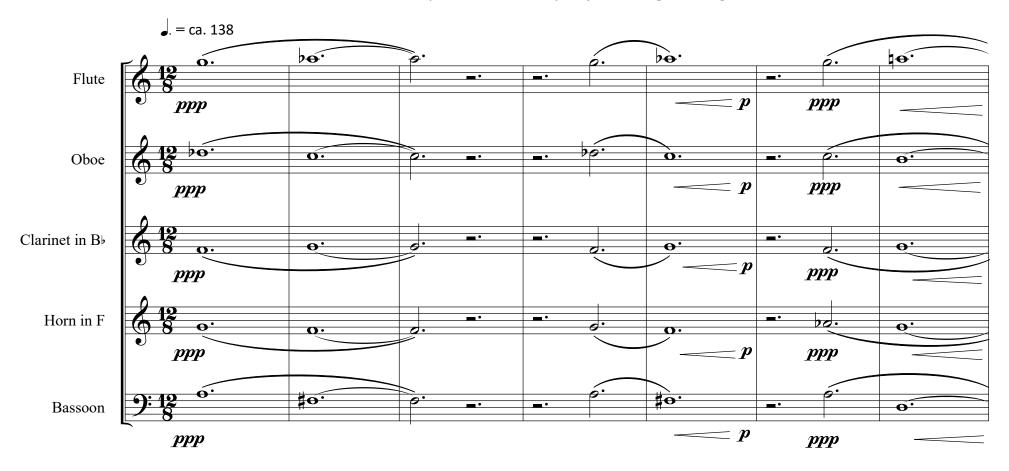
Total length, approximately 23'

The titles of the movements of *Insomnia* come from four different poems by the poet Olga Cabral (1909-1997). The opening movement's title comes primarily from her 1976 poem *House of the Poet*, but I stole the "luminous dark birds" part from a later poem of hers (*The Scream*). *House of the Poet* also provided the title for movement III, again with some minor adjustments to the line. The poem *The Meadow (homage to Paul Klee)* (1976) provided the title for movements II and V. The fourth movement's title comes from the poem which also provided the title for the work as a whole, *Insomnia* (1980):

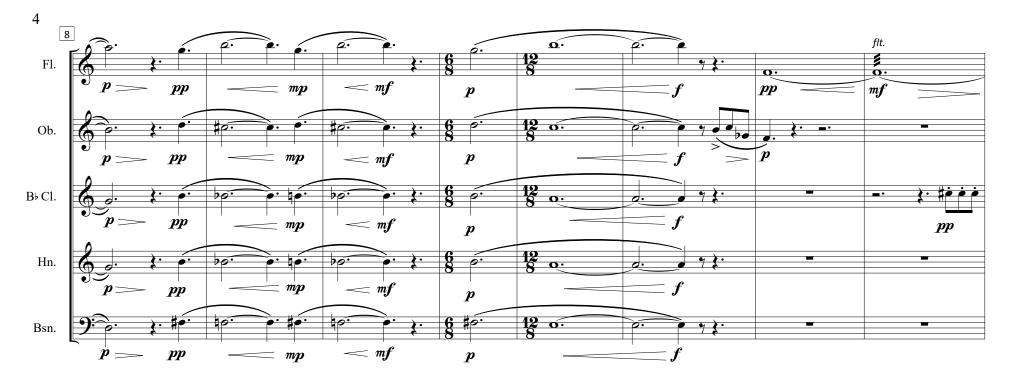
> With the pallor of butterflies locked in ice the moon walks grandly down the staircase the stars buckle themselves in for the night the squirrels of forgetfulness run here, run there looking for black peonies I lie lightly over the whole earth and cover it with my body like snow.

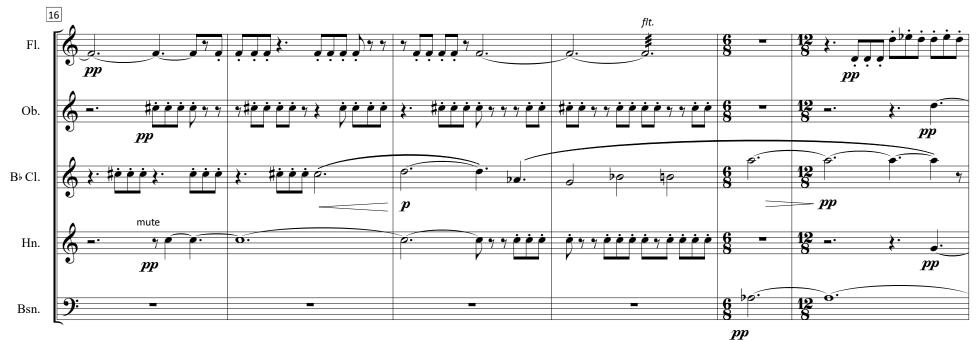
Insomnia

David Heuser 2023



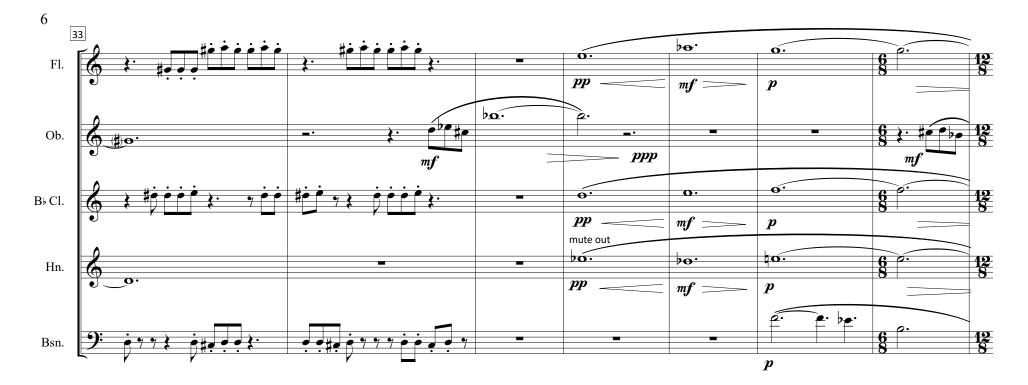
I. Luminous dark birds, perched on lamps of water, guarding our dreams







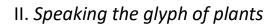


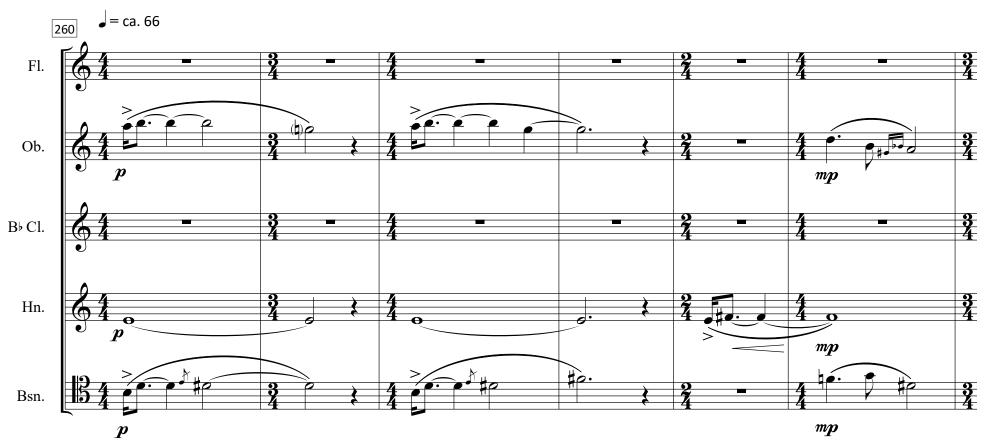


















III. Time corroded by its own clocks



