

Héctor Oltra-García

Kenopsia

for String Quartet

Specially composed and dedicated to LIGETI QUARTET
(Alboraia, Valencia - Spain. 26/VIII/2020)

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Duration: 5'

PROGRAM NOTES

[English]

Kenopsia (from the Greek *kenosis* "emptiness" + *opsia* "seeing"): *The eerie, forlorn atmosphere of a place that's usually bustling with people but is now abandoned and quiet. An emotional afterimage that makes it seem not just empty but hyper-empty, with a total population in the negative, who are so conspicuously absent they glow like neon signs.*

Without its human dimension –like in the lockdown caused by the current pandemic situation around the world–, the city just becomes a cold and bleak scenery. Empty that, instead of expressing its silence, progressively becomes louder, showing little by little its real significance, the rawness of its meaning, the thunderousness of its emotional emptiness.

The work is specially composed and dedicated to LIGETI QUARTET.

[Spanish]

Kenopsia (del griego *kenosis* "vacío" + *opsia* "ver"): *La inquietante atmósfera de un lugar vacío que normalmente está lleno de gente, pero que ahora permanece abandonado y tranquilo. Una imagen residual emocional que hace que parezca no sólo vacío si no hipervacío, con el total de la población como en el negativo de una fotografía, tan conspicuamente ausentes que resplandecen como letreros de neón.*

Sin su dimensión humana –como en el confinamiento provocado por la actual coyuntura pandémica mundial–, la ciudad se convierte no más que en un frío y desolador decorado. Vacío que, en lugar de plasmar su silencio, progresivamente se hace más sonoro, mostrando poco a poco su significación real, la crudeza de su sentido, lo estruendoso de su vacío emocional.

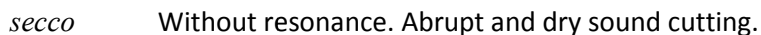
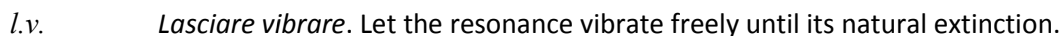
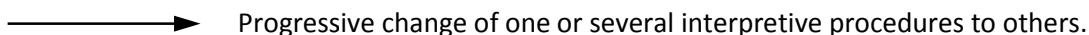
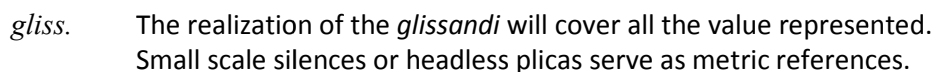
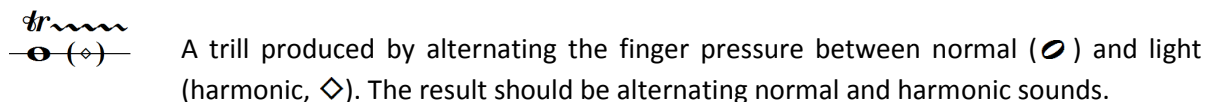
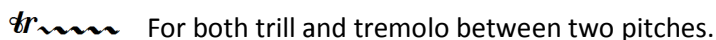
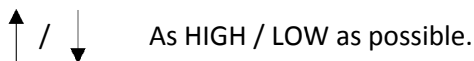
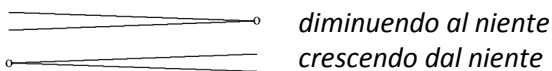
La obra está especialmente compuesta y dedicada al LIGETI QUARTET.

Héctor Oltra-García (1976, Alboraia, Valencia - Spain). Composer, conductor and musical researcher. Doctor *cum laude* in Music by Universitat Politècnica de València.

For more detailed and up-to-date biographical information, see "Short CV" at www.hectoroltra.com.

INTERPRETATION NOTES

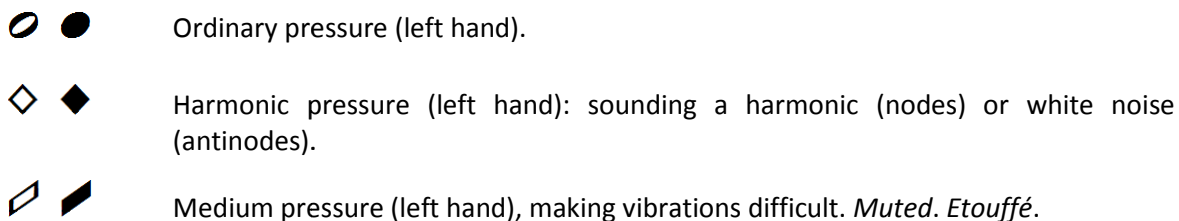
Generals:



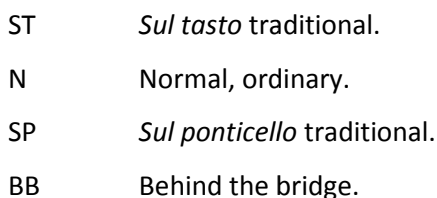
Specific:

The notes held in **long values** will always be interpreted with imperceptible arco changes.

NOTE HEADS:



BOW CONTACT POINTS:



BOW PRESSURE:

Ordinary pressure.



Maximum pressure - absolute noise.

SOUND PRODUCTION:

arco or ord *Arco* ordinary, with the bow's crini.

lg or legno *Col-legno*. With the bow's wood (**tra ó tratto**: rubbed; **bat ó battuto**: percussed).

Pizz. *Pizzicato* ordinary.



Pizzicato Bartók.

jeté (or *gettato*) ordinary *jeté* with slowing down.

jeté(acc) inverse *jeté*, with *accelerando*.

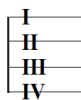


Tremolo ordinary, always as fast as possible.

Spz



Spazzolato-bowling. Rubbing/brushing lengthwise the string/s with the bow, always as fast as possible.

TABLATURE:

Tablature tetragram. Specifies the action of the bow on the strings (I, II, III, IV), independent of the left hand.

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$\text{♩} = 76$ *from material to emotional emptiness*

First system of musical notation for *Kenopsia*, measures 1-8. The score is for four staves: Vn I, Vn II, Va, and Vc. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The dynamics range from *pp* (pianissimo) to *mp* (mezzo-piano). The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings.

Second system of musical notation for *Kenopsia*, measures 9-16. The score continues for the four staves: Vn I, Vn II, Va, and Vc. The key signature remains one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The dynamics range from *mp* (mezzo-piano) to *mf* (mezzo-forte). The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings.

(avoid open strings on the harmonics)

jeté... . . .

28

mf *p*

SP

Sul II

3

3

p *mf*

N SP N

mf *p*

Sul II

3

jeté... . . .

SP

3

mf *p*

32

p *mf* *mf* *p*

tr *tr* *tr* *tr*

3 *3* *3* *3*

III *V* *III* *V*

Sul IV *jeté(acc.)* *SP* *Sul II*

36

p *mf* *p* *mf*

tr *tr* *tr* *tr*

3 *3* *3* *3*

III *V* *III* *V*

jeté... *SP* *Sul II*

52

tr *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

Sul II *tr* *Sul III* *tr* *Sul II* *tr*

gliss. *f* *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

Sul IV *tr* *Sul IV* *tr*

Sul III *tr* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *f*

gliss. *III* *IV*

tr *Sul IV* *tr* *tr* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

56

Trills and dynamics: *p*, *mf*, *p*, *f*, *p*, *mf*, *p*, *mf*, *p*, *f*, *p*, *mf*, *p*.

Technical markings: *gliss.*, *Sul III*, *Sul II IV*, *8^a*, *I*, *II*, *III*, *IV*.

60

Trills and dynamics: *f*, *p*, *f*, *p*, *f*, *p*, *f*, *p*, *f*, *p*, *f*, *p*, *f*, *p*, *f*, *p*.

Technical markings: *Sul II*, *Sul IV*, *8^a*, *I*, *II*, *III*, *IV*, *V*, *Vn1 arco TAB*, *Vc arco TAB*, *gliss. keeping all fingering*.

64

64

String Section:

- Violin 1 (Vn1):** Treble clef. Measure 64: *f* (fingering IV), accents on notes. Measure 65: *p* (fingering (IV) #), trill on G4, crescendo to *f*, decrescendo to *p*.
- Violin 2 (Vn2):** Treble clef. Measure 64: *f*, triplet of eighth notes. Measure 65: *f*, triplet of eighth notes.
- Viola (Va):** Treble clef. Measure 64: *f*, gliss. keeping all fingering (fingering (IV) #). Measure 65: *f*, gliss. keeping all fingering (fingering (IV) #).
- Violoncello (Vc):** Treble clef. Measure 64: *f*, triplet of eighth notes. Measure 65: *f*, triplet of eighth notes.

Woodwind Section:

- Flute (Fl):** Treble clef. Measure 64: *p*, gliss. keeping all fingering. Measure 65: *p*, gliss. keeping all fingering.
- Clarinet (Cl):** Treble clef. Measure 64: *p*, gliss. keeping all fingering. Measure 65: *p*, gliss. keeping all fingering.
- Trumpet (Tr):** Treble clef. Measure 64: *p*, gliss. keeping all fingering. Measure 65: *p*, gliss. keeping all fingering.

Brass Section:

- Trombone (Tbn):** Treble clef. Measure 64: *p*, gliss. keeping all fingering. Measure 65: *p*, gliss. keeping all fingering.
- Baritone (Bar):** Treble clef. Measure 64: *p*, gliss. keeping all fingering. Measure 65: *p*, gliss. keeping all fingering.
- Bass (B):** Bass clef. Measure 64: *p*, gliss. keeping all fingering. Measure 65: *p*, gliss. keeping all fingering.

Other:

- Drum (Dr):** Treble clef. Measure 64: *p*, gliss. keeping all fingering. Measure 65: *p*, gliss. keeping all fingering.

68

f *ff* (ordinary pressure) *f* *ff* (ordinary pressure)

ff (ordinary pressure) *f* *ff* (ordinary pressure)

p *f* *p*

f *ff* (ordinary pressure)

76

The musical score for measures 76-80 is written for five systems, each consisting of a grand staff (treble and bass clef). The music is in 3/4 time. The notation includes various rhythmic values, including eighth, sixteenth, and triplet notes, as well as rests. Dynamic markings such as *ff* (fortissimo) and *fff* (fortississimo) are used throughout. The score also features slurs, ties, and articulation marks. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The measure numbers 76, 77, 78, 79, and 80 are indicated at the top of each system.

Measures 76-80:

- Measure 76: *ff*, *fff*, *ff*, *fff*, *fff*
- Measure 77: *ff*, *fff*, *fff*, *fff*, *fff*
- Measure 78: *ff*, *fff*, *fff*, *fff*, *fff*
- Measure 79: *ff*, *fff*, *fff*, *fff*, *fff*
- Measure 80: *fff*, *fff*, *fff*, *fff*, *fff*

84

Handwritten musical score for 'The Rose Tree'. The score is written on four staves. The first staff is in treble clef, the second in treble clef, the third in bass clef, and the fourth in bass clef. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 3/4. The score is divided into four measures by vertical bar lines. The first measure contains a treble staff with a melody and a bass staff with a bass line. The second measure contains a treble staff with a melody and a bass staff with a bass line. The third measure contains a treble staff with a melody and a bass staff with a bass line. The fourth measure contains a treble staff with a melody and a bass staff with a bass line. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and bar lines. There are also some handwritten annotations, including a '3' above the first measure of the second staff and a '3' above the first measure of the third staff.

87

SP ϕ V

pp Sub. *p pp* *p pp*

N ϕ V

SP N

N SP N

pp Sub. *p pp* *p pp*

molto secco

Pizz. Sul II

pp

Pizz. Bartók

arco N Sul III

molto secco

pp

sffz l.v.

3

91

N $\rightarrow$ SP

tr ϕ V

(stay immobile)

p pp

(stay immobile)

(stay immobile)

ppp