

GREGORY ROWLAND EVANS

T I Ā N S H Ū

天書
析世鑒—世紀末卷

; or, mad writings in a Book from the Sky

for twelve players

2018/19

BASSOON

FOREWORD

Tiānshū is the name of an art installation in the form of a book by artist Xu Bing filled with meaningless glyphs in the style of traditional Chinese characters, referred to in English as “A Book from the Sky.” The term *tiān shū*, which can be translated to mean “divine writing,” originally referred to religious texts but is now used to mean “gibberish.” A possible alternative title could be “Nonsense Writing.” The first title of this installation, and the Chinese subtitle of this piece, can be translated to “Mirror to Analyze the World: The Century’s Final Volume.” I have elected to typeset the Chinese title and subtitle of this piece in traditional Chinese characters rather than simplified characters in the spirit of the traditional nature of Xu Bing’s woodcut printing used in the making of *Tiānshū*, although it is possible that this is not the correct choice. (G.R.E.)

PERFORMANCE NOTES

Score is transposed.

Microtones:



Accidentals apply only to the pitch which they immediately precede.

c.8'

Tianshu is dedicated in admiration and friendship to Trevor Bača, Josiah Wolf Oberholtzer, and Jeffrey Treviño from whom I have learned so much.

T i ā n s h ū

天書

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Gregory Rowland Evans

♩ = 108

5
4

2
4



3

4
4

3
4



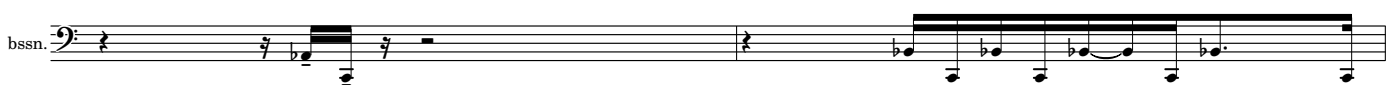
mp _____

5

4
4

4
4

11:12



fff *mf* ┘

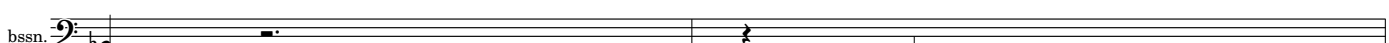
mp _____

7

4
4

4
4

Ⓐ

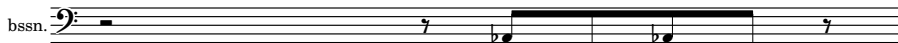


ff _____

p _____

9

5
4



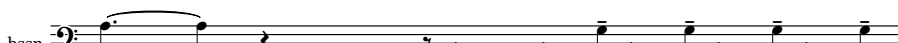
fff _____ *mf* _____

10

5
4

5:4

11:12



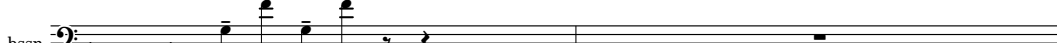
mp _____

fff _____

11

3
4

3
4

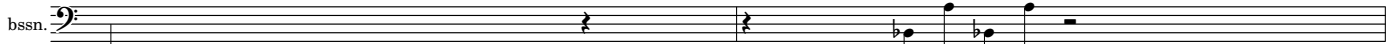


mf ┘

13

4
4

4
4



mp _____

mp _____ *ff* ┘

15

 $\frac{5}{4}$

bssn. $\frac{5}{4}$ $5:4$

fff

16

 $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$ (B)

bssn. $\frac{5}{4}$ $7:8$

mf *p*

18

 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{2}{4}$

bssn. $\frac{3}{4}$ $11:12$ $\frac{2}{4}$

mp *ff* *p*

20

 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$

bssn. $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$

mp *fff*

22

 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ (C)

bssn. $\frac{3}{4}$ $13:12$ $\frac{4}{4}$

mf *mp* *ff*

24

 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{5}{4}$

bssn. $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{5}{4}$

fff *mf*

26

 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$

bssn. $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$

mp

28

 $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$

bssn. $\frac{4}{4}$ $11:12$ $\frac{3}{4}$

fff *mf*

30

 $\frac{3}{4}$

(D)

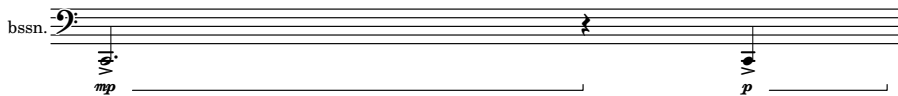
 $\frac{4}{4}$

bssn. $\frac{3}{4}$ $13:12$ $\frac{4}{4}$

mp *ff* *p* *p*

32

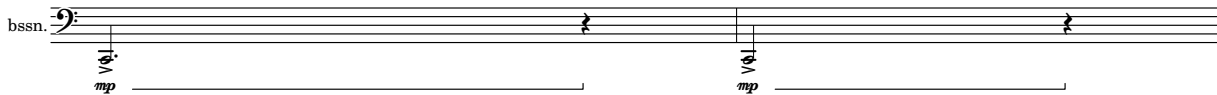
5/4



33

4/4

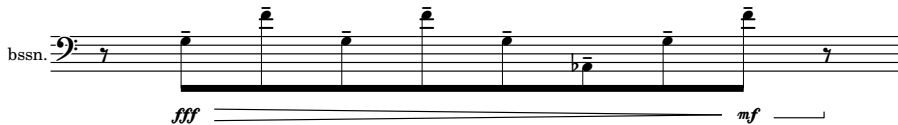
3/4



35

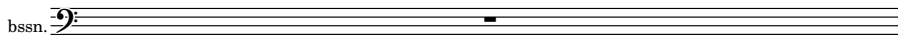
5/4

E



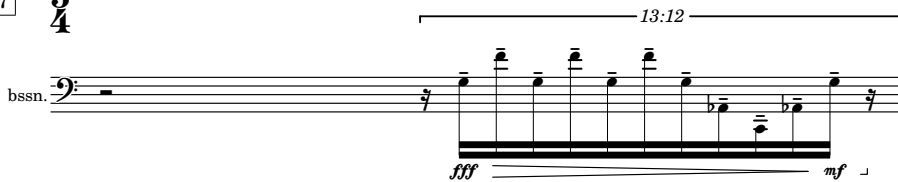
36

5/4



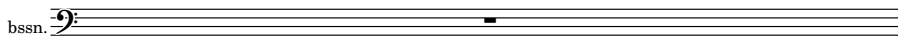
37

5/4



38

5/4

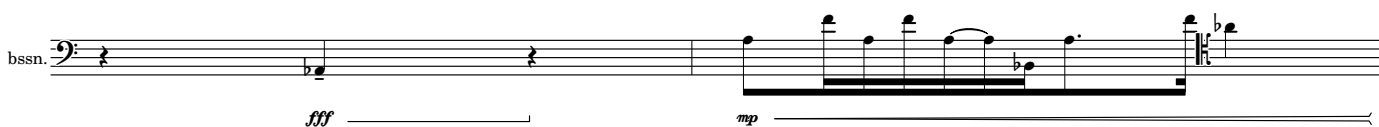


39

4/4

4/4

F



41

5/4



42

5/4



43

 $\frac{4}{4}$

5:4

 $\frac{4}{4}$

bssn.

mp *ff**mp*

45

 $\frac{3}{4}$

7:8

 $\frac{4}{4}$

bssn.

*ff**mp*

47

 $\frac{4}{4}$

13:12

 $\frac{3}{4}$

bssn.

*mp**ff*

49

 $\frac{5}{4}$

15:16

bssn.

mp
♩ = 90*ff*

50

 $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{2}{4}$

bssn.

52

 $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$

bssn.

mf

54

 $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$

bssn.

*mf**pp*

56

 $\frac{4}{4}$

3:2

 $\frac{4}{4}$

Ⓒ

bssn.

*ff**mf**p*

58

 $\frac{5}{4}$

bssn.

mp

59

 $\frac{5}{4}$ $\overbrace{\hspace{1.5cm}}^{3:2}$

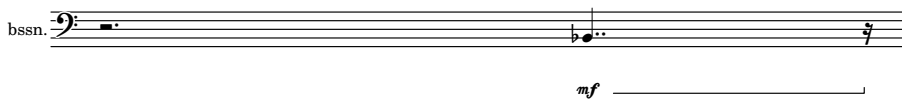

60

 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$

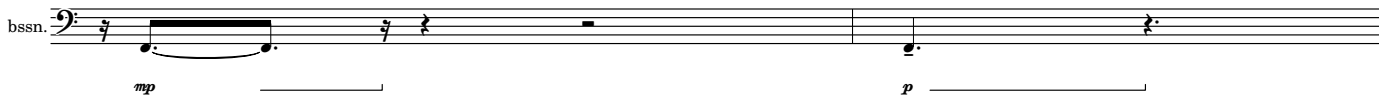

62

 $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ $\overbrace{\hspace{1.5cm}}^{3:2}$


64

 $\frac{5}{4}$


65

 $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$ (H)


67

 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{2}{4}$

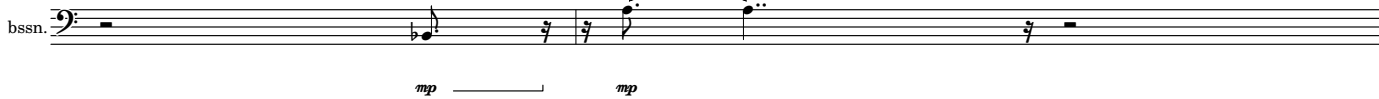

69

 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$


71

 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ (I) $\overbrace{\hspace{1.5cm}}^{3:2}$


73

 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{5}{4}$


75

 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$


77

$\frac{4}{4}$

$\frac{3}{4}$

bssn.
mp *mf*

79

$\frac{3}{4}$ (J)

$\frac{4}{4}$

bssn.
pp *ff* *mf* *p*

81

$\frac{5}{4}$

bssn.
mf *p*

82

$\frac{4}{4}$

$\frac{3}{4}$

bssn.
mf *p*

84

$\frac{5}{4}$ (K)

bssn.
mp

85

$\frac{5}{4}$

bssn.
mp

86

$\frac{5}{4}$

bssn.
mp

87

$\frac{5}{4}$

bssn.
mp

88

$\frac{4}{4}$

$\frac{4}{4}$ (L)

bssn.
mf *pp* *p*

90

$\frac{5}{4}$ $\text{—} 3:2 \text{—}$

bssn.

91

$\frac{5}{4}$

bssn.

92

$\frac{4}{4}$ $\text{—} 3:2 \text{—}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ $\text{—} 3:2 \text{—}$

bssn.

94

$\frac{3}{4}$ $\text{—} 3:2 \text{—}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ $\text{—} 3:2 \text{—}$

bssn.

96

$\frac{4}{4}$ $\text{—} 3:2 \text{—}$ $\frac{3}{4}$ $\text{—} 3:2 \text{—}$

bssn.

98

$\frac{5}{4}$ $\text{—} 3:2 \text{—}$

bssn.

$\text{—} 60 \text{—}$ $\text{—} ff \text{—}$

99

$\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{2}{4}$

bssn.

101

$\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$

bssn.

103

$\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$

bssn.

105

$\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ (M)

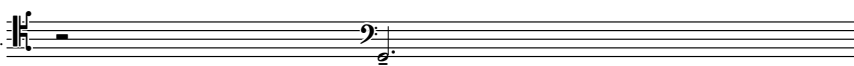
bssn.

$\text{—} f \text{—}$

$\text{—} mp \text{—}$ $\text{—} f \text{—}$

107

5/4

bssn. 

mp _____

108

5/4

bssn. 

mf _____ *mp* _____

109

3/4

3/4


bssn. 

mf _____

111

4/4

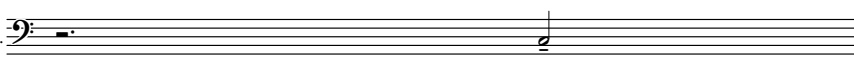
4/4

bssn. 

mp _____ *f* _____ *f* _____

113

5/4

bssn. 

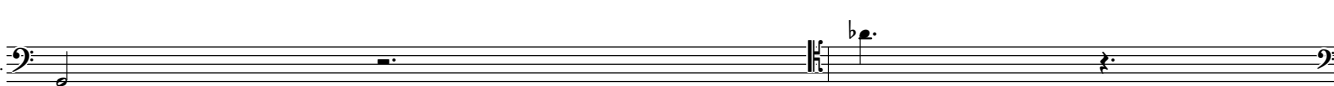
mp _____

114

5/4

3/4

N

bssn. 

mf _____ *mp* _____

116

3/4

2/4

bssn. 

mf _____ *f* _____ *f* _____

118

3/4

4/4

bssn. 

mp _____ *mp* _____

120

3/4

4/4

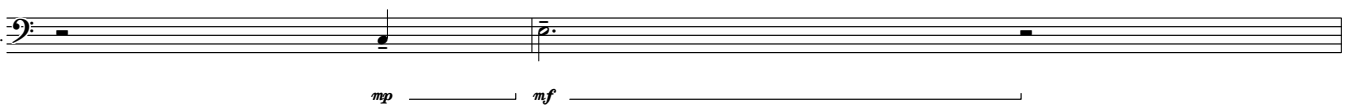
O

bssn. 

mf _____ *mf* _____

122

 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{5}{4}$

bssn. 

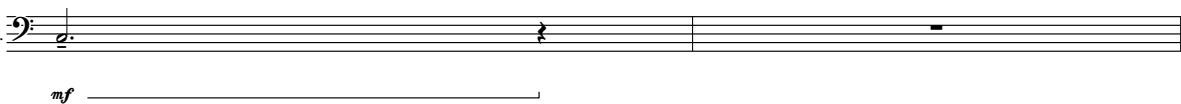
124

 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$

bssn. 

126

 $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$

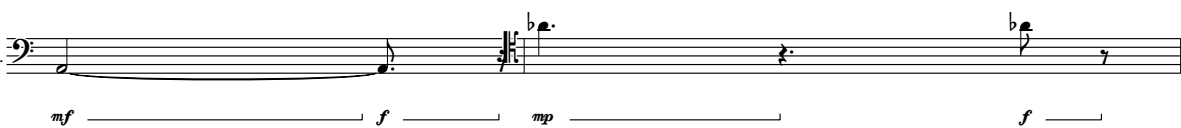
bssn. 

128

 $\frac{3}{4}$

P

 $\frac{4}{4}$

bssn. 

130

 $\frac{5}{4}$

bssn. 

131


 $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$

bssn. 

133


 $\frac{5}{4}$

Q

bssn. 

134

 $\frac{5}{4}$

bssn. 

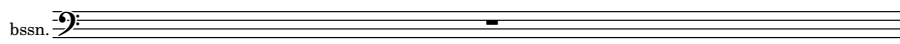
135

 $\frac{5}{4}$

bssn. 

136

5/4

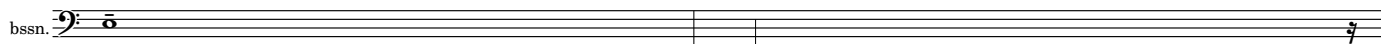


137

4/4

4/4

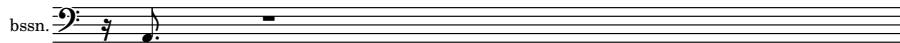
Ⓡ



mf _____ *f* _____

139

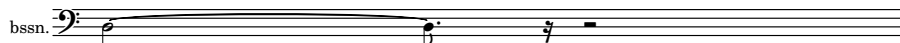
5/4



mf _____

140

5/4

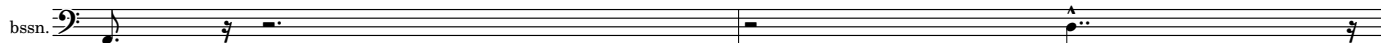


mf _____ *f* _____

141

4/4

4/4

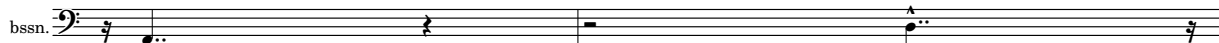


f _____ *mf* _____

143

3/4

4/4



f _____ *mf* _____

145

4/4

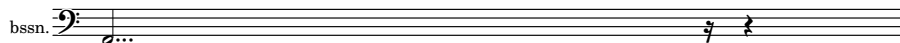
3/4



mf _____ *f* _____ *f* _____

147

5/4

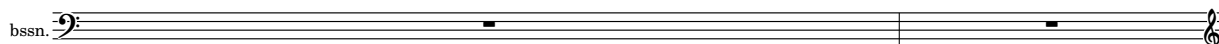


mf = 120 _____

148

5/4

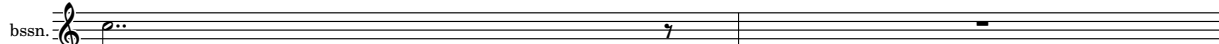
2/4



150

4/4

3/4



ff _____

152 $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ 11:12

bssn. ff mf p

154 $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ (S)

bssn. pp mf ff

156 $\frac{5}{4}$ 11:12

bssn. ff mf

157 $\frac{5}{4}$ 5:4

bssn. p pp ff

158 $\frac{3}{4}$ 9:8 $\frac{3}{4}$

bssn. ff mf

160 $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$

bssn. mf ff p pp

162 $\frac{5}{4}$

bssn. ff mf

163 $\frac{5}{4}$ 7:8 $\frac{3}{4}$ (T)

bssn. ff mf mf

165 $\frac{3}{4}$ 11:12 $\frac{2}{4}$

bssn. p pp ff

167 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$

bssn. mf ff mf

169

3/4

4/4

13:12

U

bssn.

171

3/4

5/4

11:12

bssn.

173

3/4

3/4

bssn.

175

4/4

3/4

bssn.

177

3/4

4/4

13:12

bssn.

179

5/4

bssn.

180

4/4

3/4

bssn.

182

5/4

W

21:20

bssn.

183

5/4

bssn.

184


5
4

bssn. 

ff *mf*

185


5
4

bssn. 

186

4
44
4

X

bssn. 

ff *mf* *p*

188

5
4

bssn. 

pp

189


5
4

bssn. 

p *pp*

190

4
44
4

bssn. 

p *pp* *p*

192

3
44
4

bssn. 

pp *p* *pp*

194

4
43
4

bssn. 

p *pp*

196

9
8

bssn. 

p

