

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

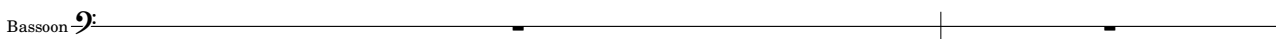
析世鑒—世紀末卷

f o r t w e l v e p l a y e r s
; o r , m a d w r i t i n g s i n a B o o k f r o m t h e S k y

Gregory Rowland Evans

5
4

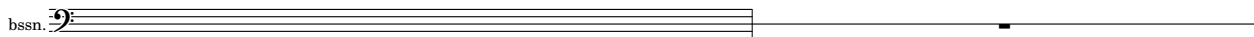
2
4



3

4
4

3
4



5

4
4

4
4



7

4
4

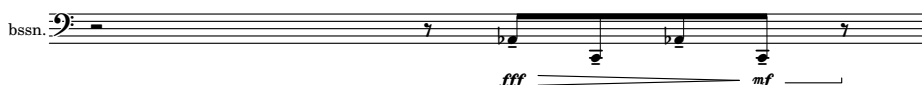
4
4

Ⓐ



9

5
4



10

5
4



11

3
4

3
4



13

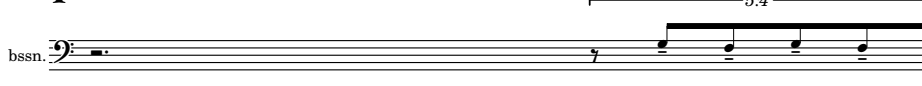
4
4

4
4



15

5
4



16

5
4

3
4

Ⓑ



18 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{2}{4}$

11:12

bssn.

mp *ff* *p*

20 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$

bssn.

mp *fff*

22 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ (C)

13:12

bssn.

mf *mp* *ff*

24 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{5}{4}$

8va₁ 8va₁

bssn.

fff *mf*

26 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$

bssn.

mp

28 $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$

8va₁ 8va₁ 8va₁ 8va₁ 11:12

bssn.

fff *mf*

30 $\frac{3}{4}$ (D) $\frac{4}{4}$

8va₁ 8va₁ 13:12

bssn.

mp *ff* *p* *p*

32 $\frac{5}{4}$

bssn.

mp *p*

33 $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$

bssn.

mp *mp*

35 $\frac{5}{4}$ (E)

8va₁ 8va₁ 8va₁

bssn.

fff *mf*

36 $\frac{5}{4}$

bssn.

37

 $\frac{5}{4}$

$8va_1$ $8va_1$ $8va_1$ $13:12$
 bssn.
fff mf

38

 $\frac{5}{4}$

bssn.

39

 $\frac{4}{4}$

$3:4$ $\frac{4}{4}$ $\textcircled{\text{F}}$
 bssn.
fff mp

41

 $\frac{5}{4}$

$8va_1$
 bssn.
ff

42

 $\frac{5}{4}$

bssn.
mp ff

43

 $\frac{4}{4}$

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

45

 $\frac{3}{4}$

$8va$ $7:8$ $\frac{4}{4}$
 bssn.
ff mp

47

 $\frac{4}{4}$

$13:12$ $\frac{3}{4}$ $8va_1$
 bssn.
mp ff

49

 $\frac{5}{4}$

$15:16$
 bssn.
mp 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 $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ $\textcircled{\text{G}}$

bsn. *ff* *mf* *p*

58 $\frac{5}{4}$ *mp*

59 $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{3:2$ *pp* *ff* *mp*

60 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$ *mp*

62 $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{3:2$ *mf* *p* *pp* *ff*

64 $\frac{5}{4}$ *mf*

65 $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$ $\textcircled{\text{H}}$ *p*

67 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{2}{4}$ *pp* *ff* *mf*

69 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ *mf*

71 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ $\textcircled{\text{I}}$ $\frac{3:2$ *mp* *pp* *ff*

73 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{5}{4}$ *mp* *mp*

75 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$ *p*

77

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

bsn. 

79

 $\frac{3}{4}$

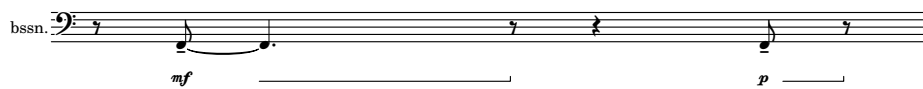
J

 $\frac{4}{4}$

bsn. 

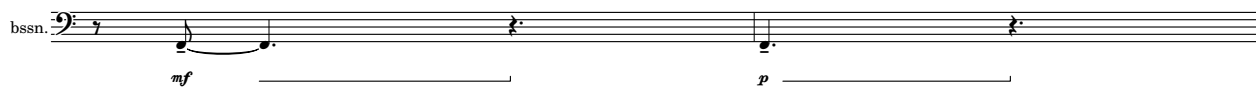
81

 $\frac{5}{4}$

bsn. 

82

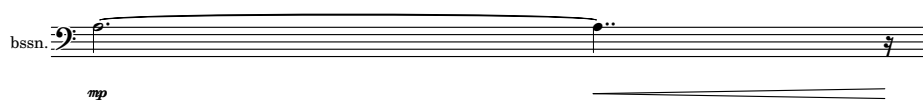
 $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$

bsn. 

84

 $\frac{5}{4}$

K

bsn. 

85

 $\frac{5}{4}$

bsn. 

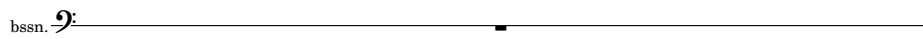
86

 $\frac{5}{4}$

bsn. 

87

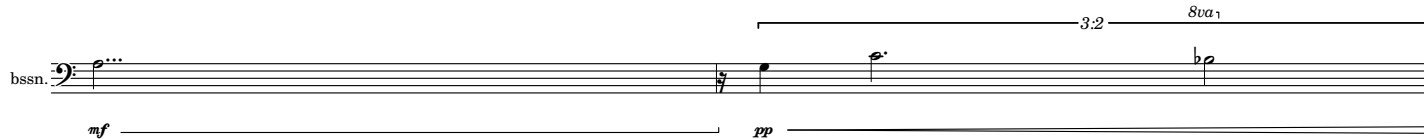
 $\frac{5}{4}$

bsn. 

88

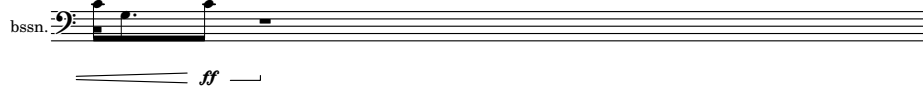
 $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$

L

bsn. 

90

 $\frac{5}{4}$

bsn. 

91

 $\frac{5}{4}$

bsn. 

92

4/4

3:2

4/4

3:2

bssn.

pp

ff

pp

94

3/4

3:2

4/4

3:2

bssn.

ff

pp

ff

96

4/4

3/4

3:2

bssn.

pp

ff

98

5/4

3:2

bssn.

pp

ff

99

5/4

2/4

bssn.

101

4/4

3/4

bssn.

f

103

4/4

4/4

bssn.

mf

mf

f

105

4/4

4/4

(M)

bssn.

f

mp

f

107

5/4

bssn.

mp

108

5/4

bssn.

mf

mp

109

3/4

3/4

bssn.

mf

111

4/4

4/4

bssn.

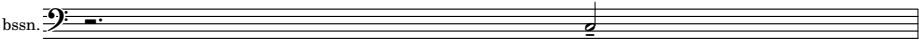
mp

f

f

113

5
4

bsn. 
mp _____

114

5
4

3
4

Ⓝ

bsn. 
mf _____ *mp* _____

116

3
4

2
4

bsn. 
mf _____ *f* _____ *f* _____

118

3
4

4
4

bsn. 
mp _____ *mp* _____

120

3
4

4
4

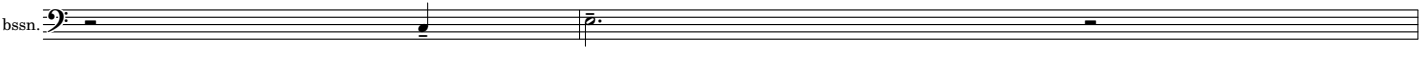
⓪

bsn. 
mf _____ *mf* _____

122

3
4

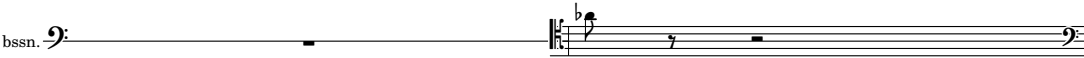
5
4

bsn. 
mp _____ *mf* _____

124

3
4

3
4

bsn. 
f _____

126

4
4

3
4

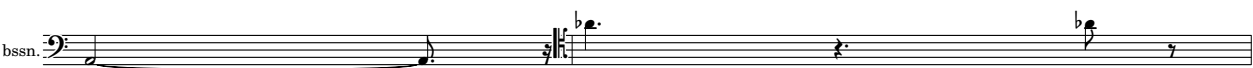
bsn. 
mf _____

128

3
4

Ⓟ

4
4

bsn. 
mf _____ *f* _____ *mp* _____ *f* _____

130

5
4

bsn. 
mp _____ *mp* _____

131

4
4

3
4

bsn. 
mp _____ *f* _____

133

5

4

Q

bsn.



134

5

4

bsn.

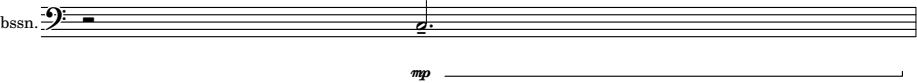


135

5

4

bsn.



136

5

4

bsn.



137

4

4

4

R

bsn.

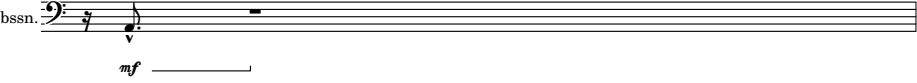


139

5

4

bsn.



140

5

4

bsn.



141

4

4

4

4

bsn.



143

3

4

4

4

bsn.



145

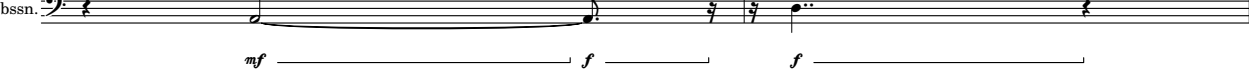
4

4

3

4

bsn.



147

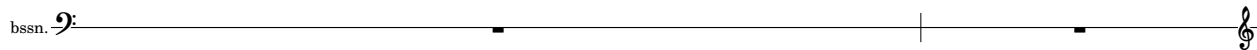
5

4

bsn.



148

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

150

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

152

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

154

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

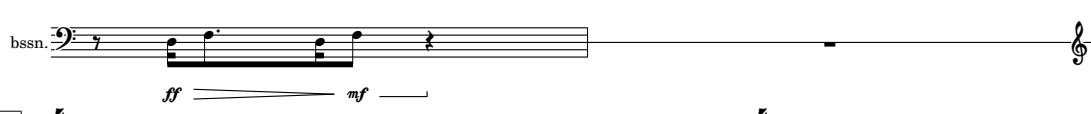
156

 $\frac{5}{4}$ 

157

 $\frac{5}{4}$ 

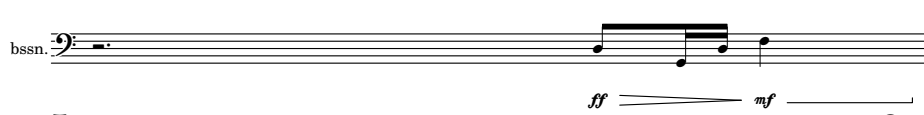
158

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

160

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

162

 $\frac{5}{4}$ 

163

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

165

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

167

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

169 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ U

8va₁
13:12

bsn.

171 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{5}{4}$

8va₁
11:12

bsn.

173 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$

bsn.

175 $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$

8va₁

bsn.

177 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ V

13:12

bsn.

179 $\frac{5}{4}$

bsn.

180 $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$

bsn.

182 $\frac{5}{4}$ W

8va.....
21:20

bsn.

183 $\frac{5}{4}$

bsn.

184 $\frac{5}{4}$

8va₁

bsn.

185 $\frac{5}{4}$

bsn.

186

$\frac{4}{4}$

$\frac{4}{4}$ X

15:16

8va₁

ff *mf* *p*

bsn.

188

$\frac{5}{4}$

pp

bsn.

189

$\frac{5}{4}$

8va₁ 8va₁ 8va₁

p *pp*

bsn.

190

$\frac{4}{4}$

$\frac{4}{4}$

8va₁ 5:4

p *pp*

8va₁

p

bsn.

192

$\frac{3}{4}$

$\frac{4}{4}$

7:8

8va

pp *p* *pp*

bsn.

194

$\frac{4}{4}$

$\frac{3}{4}$

13:12

p *pp*

bsn.

196

$\frac{9}{8}$

15:16

p

bsn.

