

---

*Invisible Cities (i):*  
**ZAIRA**

---

*for*  
Eight Players

*Composed by*  
JOSÉPHINE WOLF OBERHOLTZER

2014, revised 2016

# PREFACE

## 1

*In vain, great-hearted Kublai, shall I attempt to describe Zaira, city of high bastions. I could tell you how many steps make up the streets rising like stairways, and the degree of the arcades' curves, and what kind of zinc scales cover the roofs; but I already know this would be the same as telling you nothing. The city does not consist of this, but of relationships between the measurements of its space and the events of its past: the height of a lamppost and the distance from the ground of a hanged usurper's swaying feet; the line strung from the lamppost to the railing opposite and the festoons that decorate the course of the queen's nuptial procession; the height of that railing and the leap of the adulterer who climbed over it at dawn; the tilt of a guttering and a cat's progress along it as he slips into the same window; the firing range of a gunboat which has suddenly appeared beyond the cape and the bomb that destroys the guttering; the rips in the fish net and the three old men seated on the dock mending nets and telling each other for the hundredth time the story of the gunboat of the usurper, who some say was the queen's illegitimate son, abandoned in his swaddling clothes there on the dock.*

*As this wave from memories flows in, the city soaks it up like a sponge and expands. A description of Zaira as it is today should contain all of Zaira's past. The city; however, does not tell its past, but contains it like the lines of a hand, written in the corners of the streets, the gratings of the windows, the banisters of the steps, the antennae of the lightning rods, the poles of the flags, every segment marked in turn with scratches, indentations, scrolls.*

- Italo Calvino, *Invisible Cities*

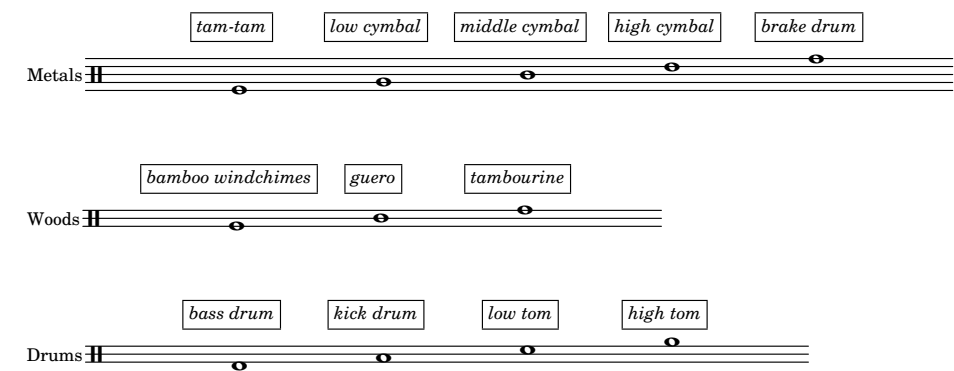
## 2 Instrumentation

- Flute, with shaker

- Oboe

- Clarinet in b-flat, with shaker

- Percussion



Mallets: hard sticks or bare hands, wire brushes, superballs

- Piano

Prepare the strings in the lowest and highest octaves with any combination of felt, tape or rubber to dampen and distort the timbre of the strings. Putty-like substances work particularly well.

Guero passages should be played with a piece of hard paper or plastic (e.g. a credit card), on the keys. The register of the motions is left to the performer.

- Violin, with shaker

- Viola, with shaker

- Cello

Auxiliary shakers should be maracas, cabasas, brazil nut shakers or simliar. Uniform and disparate selections are equally interesting.

*Invisible Cities (i):*

# ZAIRA

*for Ensemble Mosaik*

Joséphine Wolf Oberholtzer (1984)

♩ = 72

♩ = 48

$\frac{2}{4}$   $\frac{5}{16}$   $\frac{2}{4}$   $\frac{3}{8}$   $\frac{4}{4}$   $\frac{5}{16}$

Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in B-flat

Metals

Woods

Drums

Piano

Violin

Viola

Cello

click

7:6

3:2

6:5

slap

mf

mp

mf

mp

slap

mf

mp

5:4

4:3

7:6

brush

fff

mf

brush

mp

brush

fff

mf

brush

mp

prepared

9:7

p

mf

prepared

3:2

p

flautando

p

mf

flautando

9:8

fp

ppp

flautando

5:4

fp

24

44

6



44

34

22

This musical score is for the piece "The Great Wall" by John Adams. It is a full orchestral score with the following instruments and parts:

- Fl. (Flute):** Features melodic lines with dynamic markings like *mp* and *mf*, and articulation like *click*.
- Ob. (Oboe):** Includes rapid sixteenth-note passages, dynamic markings (*p*, *f*, *ff*, *mf*), and articulation like *slap*.
- Cl. in B-flat (Clarinet in B-flat):** Provides harmonic support with dynamic markings (*mf*, *mp*) and articulation like *slap*.
- Metals:** Features a *brush* articulation and dynamic markings (*mf*, *mp*, *mf*).
- Drums:** Includes dynamic markings (*mf*, *mp*, *mf*, *mp*) and articulation like *brush*.
- Pf. (Piano):** Features complex rhythmic patterns with dynamic markings (*ff*, *fp*, *pp*, *mf*, *f*, *p*) and articulation like *prepared*.
- Vn. (Violin):** Includes melodic lines with dynamic markings (*fp*, *pp*, *p*, *mf*, *fp*, *ppp*) and articulation like *flautando*.
- Va. (Viola):** Features melodic lines with dynamic markings (*p*, *fp*, *p*, *mf*, *fp*, *ppp*) and articulation like *flautando*.
- Vc. (Cello):** Includes melodic lines with dynamic markings (*ppp*, *p*, *mf*, *fp*, *p*, *fp*, *ppp*) and articulation like *flautando*.

The score is written in 4/4 time and includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, dynamic markings, and articulation symbols.

The musical score for "The Fire of Love" by John Adams is presented in a multi-staff format. The instruments included are Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet in B-flat (Cl. in B-flat), Metals, Woods, Drums, Piano (Pf.), Violin (Vn.), Viola (Va.), and Violoncello (Vc.). The score is divided into measures, with various musical notations such as dynamics (e.g., *mp*, *mf*, *f*, *pp*, *fff*), articulations (e.g., *click*, *slap*, *shaker*, *brush*), and performance instructions (e.g., *prepared*, *flautando*, *overpressure*). The score includes complex rhythmic patterns, including triplets and sixteenth notes, and features a variety of musical symbols and notation.

This musical score is for 'The Firebird' by Igor Stravinsky, specifically the section from measures 31 to 40. The score is written for a large orchestra and includes the following instruments and parts:

- Flute (Fl.):** Features a melodic line with dynamic markings such as *p*, *fp*, and *p*. It includes a 'shaker' effect in measure 35.
- Oboe (Ob.):** Plays a complex rhythmic pattern with dynamic markings like *p*, *mf*, *mp*, and *fp*. It includes 'slap' and 'shaker' effects.
- Clarinet in B-flat (Cl. in B-flat):** Provides a melodic line with dynamic markings like *p*, *fp*, and *p*. It includes a 'shaker' effect.
- Woods:** Features a melodic line with dynamic markings like *mf*, *mp*, and *mf*. It includes a 'brush' effect in measure 35.
- Drums:** Provides a rhythmic foundation with dynamic markings like *mf*, *mp*, and *ff*. It includes a 'brush' effect in measure 35.
- Piano (Pf.):** Features a melodic line with dynamic markings like *mf*, *mp*, and *fp*. It includes a 'shaker' effect in measure 35.
- Violin (Vn.):** Provides a melodic line with dynamic markings like *p*, *mp*, and *fp*. It includes a 'shaker' effect in measure 35.
- Viola (Va.):** Provides a melodic line with dynamic markings like *p*, *mp*, and *fp*. It includes a 'shaker' effect in measure 35.
- Violoncello (Vc.):** Provides a melodic line with dynamic markings like *p*, *mp*, and *fp*. It includes a 'shaker' effect in measure 35.

The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings. It also includes a list of instruments and their parts, and a list of dynamic markings.

3/4 5/8 3/8 5/16 5/16 C 2/4 3/8 5/16 3/4

Fl. *p* *shaker* *p* *p* *fp* *p*

Ob. *p* *slap* *mp* *mf* *mp* *fp* *p*

Cl. in B-flat *p* *p* *p* *slap* *fp* *p* *fp*

Metals *fff* 5:3 *fff* *mf* 7:6

Woods *mp* *mf* *p* 3:2 *f* *ff* *mp* *p* *f* *ff*

Drums *f* 6:5 *brush* *mf* *fff*

Pf. *fast* *mf* *ff* *fp* 5:4 *ppp* *slow* *guero* *mp* *slow* *guero* *mp* *fast* *guero* *mf* *slow* *guero* *mp* *prepared* *p* *mf* *p* *fp* *fp* *p*

Vn. *shaker* *p* *shaker* *p* *shaker* *p* *flautando* *p* *mf* *ppp* *fp* *pp*

Va. *p* *shaker* *p* *shaker* *p* *shaker* *p* *flautando* *fp* 7:6 *ppp*

Vc. *mf* *flautando* 4:3 *col legno* *f* *p* *flautando* *p* *overpressure* 5:4 *mp* *mf* *p* *flautando* 5:4 *p* 3:2 *mf*





This musical score is for 'The Rite of Spring' by Igor Stravinsky. It is a full orchestral score with various instruments and percussion. The score is written in 2/4 time and features a complex, driving rhythm. The instruments include Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet in B-flat (Cl. in B-flat), Metals (Metals), Drums (Drums), Piano (Pf.), Violin (Vn.), Viola (Va.), and Violoncello (Vc.). The score is divided into measures, with various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings (e.g., *mf*, *mp*, *f*, *ff*, *p*). The score also includes performance instructions like 'ram', 'click', 'slap', 'brush', 'slow', 'guero', 'fast', 'overpressure', and '3:2'. The score is written in a standard musical notation with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a time signature of 2/4.

8

3/4 6/8 4/4 2/4 3/8 5/16 4/4 5/16

Fl. *p* *fp* *mf* *p* *mp* *ram* *5:4* *click* *ram* *5:4* *fp* *mf* *ram* *5:4* *mp* *p* *fp* *mf* *ram*

Ob. *p* *f* *fp* *ff* *mf* *slap* *7:6* *mp* *mp* *mp* *ram* *5:4* *p* *fp* *slap* *6:5* *fp* *p*

Cl. in B-flat *mp* *fp* *pp* *fp* *mf* *slap* *7:6* *mp* *p* *mf* *5:4* *mp* *mp* *mp* *ram* *5:4* *fp* *p* *fp* *slap* *3:2* *mf* *mp*

Metals *mf* *6:5* *mf* *mp* *mf* *ff* *brush* *mp* *f* *3:2*

Drums *ff* *5:4* *brush* *mf* *f* *brush* *mp* *7:5* *fff* *mf* *brush* *mf* *mp*

Pf. *fast* *mp* *fp* *3:2* *ppp* *prepared* *15* *p* *6:5* *4:3* *prepared* *ppp* *p* *ff* *mf* *f* *5:4* *mf*

Vn. *fp* *overpressure* *5:4* *mp* *overpressure* *3:2* *mp* *fp* *fp*

Va. *mf* *mp* *p* *mf* *overpressure* *3:2* *mp* *fp* *p* *fp*

Vc. *mf* *5:3* *fp* *overpressure* *5:4* *mp* *mf* *p* *fp* *p*

[illegible]

5  
16

4  
4

5  
16

5  
8

3  
8

4  
4

3  
8

4  
4

Fl. *shaker* *p*

Ob. *mf* *p* *slap* *mf* *mp* *mf*

Cl. in B-flat *shaker* *p* *shaker* *p* *slap* *mf* *shaker* *p* *shaker* *p*

Metals *ff* *fp* *pp* *mf* *p* *superball* *p* *brush* *p* *mf* *fp* *fp* *superball* *p* *brush* *p* *mf* *p* *superball* *fp* *brush*

Drums *mf* *fp* *ff* *p* *mf* *p* *superball* *p* *mf* *fp* *brush* *ppp* *p* *superball* *fp* *pp* *fp* *pp*

Pf. *p* *mf* *fp* *ppp* *p* *f* *p* *fp* *p* *fp* *ppp* *p*

Vn. *shaker* *p* *shaker* *p* *shaker* *p* *shaker* *p*

Va. *shaker* *p* *shaker* *p* *shaker* *p* *overpressure* *mp* *shaker* *p*

Vc. *overpressure* *5:4* *mf* *overpressure* *mp* *f*

Musical score for "The Great Wall" by David Laibman. The score is written for a large ensemble, including Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet in B-flat (Cl. in B-flat), Metals, Drums, Piano (Pf.), Violin (Vn.), Viola (Va.), and Violoncello (Vc.). The score is divided into measures, with time signatures 3/8, 4/4, 3/8, 5/16, 3/8, 5/16, 3/4, 3/8, 5/8, and 5/16. The score includes various dynamic markings (e.g., *fp*, *pp*, *p*, *f*, *mp*, *mf*, *ff*, *ppp*) and performance instructions (e.g., *shaker*, *slap*, *superball*, *brush*, *overpressure*, *col legno*). The score is presented in a standard musical notation format, with staves for each instrument and a common time signature.

$\frac{4}{4}$

$\frac{3}{8}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{6}{8}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\text{♩} = 48$   
 $\frac{2}{4}$  **F**

$\frac{3}{4}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

Fl. *fp* *p* *shaker*

Ob. *mf* *fp* *mf* *f* *p* *slap* *mp* *p*

Cl. in B-flat *p* *shaker* *p*

Metals *brush* *fp* *ppp* *ff* *p* *mf* *fp* *mf*

Drums *superball* *brush* *fp* *p* *mf* *p* *f* *fp* *ff* *p* *mf* *superball* *p* *mf*

Pf. *p* *fp* *ppp* *ff* *p* *mf* *fp* *pp* *p* *p* *mf*

Vn. *p* *shaker*

Va. *p* *shaker* *overpressure* *mp* *5:4* *mf* *p* *shaker* *overpressure* *mp*

Vc. *mf* *f* *col legno* *p* *4:5* *f* *overpressure* *mp* *5:4* *mf* *p* *shaker* *col legno* *p* *f* *ff*

4  
4

5  
16

3  
8

5  
8

4  
4

5  
16

4  
4

5  
16

3  
8

Fl.

shakerp

p

click5:3mp

shakerp

fp

shakerp

click7:5mp

6:5mp

Ob.

p

ff

slapmf

mp

ff

mf

slapmf

mf

Cl. in B-flat

shakerp

p

slap5:4mp

shakerp

fp

shakerp

slapmf

5:4mp

Metals

brushp

superballfp

pp

mf

brushfp

pp

superballp

mf

fp

ppp

Drums

brushp

mf

superballfp

pp

mf

brushfp

pp

superballp

Pf.

fp

pp

p

mf

pp

fp

ppp

Vn.

shakerp

p

overpressure3:2mf

shakerp

shakerp

overpressuremp

5:4mf

Va.

shakerp

p

shakerp

shakerp

overpressure3:2mf

Vc.

4:5mf

col legnof

p

4:5p

f

overpressuremf



15

The musical score for "The Great Wall" by John Adams is presented in a single system. The score is in 4/4 time and consists of 16 measures. The instruments included are Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet in B-flat (Cl. in B-flat), Metals, Drums, Piano (Pf.), Violin (Vn.), Viola (Va.), and Violoncello (Vc.). The score features a variety of musical notations, including notes, rests, and dynamic markings such as *p*, *f*, *ff*, *ppp*, and *mf*. Performance instructions like "overpressure" and "col legno" are also present. The score is divided into two systems of eight measures each, with a repeat sign at the end of the second system.

$\frac{4}{4}$

$\frac{3}{8}$

$\frac{4}{4}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

$\frac{5}{8}$

$\frac{3}{8}$  **H**

$\frac{3}{4}$

$\frac{5}{16}$

Fl. *p* *fp* *p* *fp* *p* *shaker* *p* *p*

Ob. *p* *fp* *p* *mf* *mf* *mp* *p*

Cl. in B-flat *p* *fp* *p* *fp* *p* *shaker* *p* *shaker* *p*

Metals *fff*

Woods *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf*

Drums *f* *ff* *mf* *mf* *f* *ff* *fff* *brush* *mf*

Pf. *p* *fp* *p* *ff* *ppp* *p* *fff* *f* *slow* *guero* *mf* *ff* *mf* *5:4* *prepared* *p*

Vn. *fp* *p* *shaker* *p* *overpressure* *fff* *flautando* *p*

Va. *p* *fp* *p* *shaker* *p*

Vc. *fp* *ff* *p* *fp* *p* *overpressure* *fff* *flautando* *p*

4/4 5/16 4/4 2/4 3/8 5/16

Fl. *shaker* *p* *click* *mp* *shaker* *p* *shaker* *p* *click* *3:2* *mp*

Ob. *slap* *mp* *5:4* *mf* *mf* *fp* *slap* *mp* *6:5* *p* *slap* *mf* *5:4* *mp* *6:5*

Cl. in B-flat *p* *p* *shaker* *p*

Woods *6:5* *mp* *mf* *mp* *5:4* *mf* *mp* *5:4* *mp* *mf* *5:4* *mf* *5:4* *mf*

Drums *mp* *brush* *mf* *brush* *mp* *brush* *mf*

Pf. *prepared* *p* *prepared* *fp* *fast* *guero* *mp* *f* *p* *f* *prepared* *p* *prepared* *fp* *mf* *f* *slow* *guero* *mf*

Vn. *shaker* *p* *shaker* *p* *shaker* *p* *shaker* *p* *shaker* *p* *shaker* *p*

Va. *flautando* *5:4* *fp* *ppp* *shaker* *p* *shaker* *p* *overpressure* *fff* *shaker* *p* *flautando* *fp* *ppp*

Vc. *fp* *p* *overpressure* *fff* *flautando* *7:6* *fp* *ppp* *overpressure* *fff* *flautando* *p* *mf* *fp* *pp*

Fl. *shaker* *p*

Ob. *p* *fp* *p* *mf*

Cl. in B-flat *shaker* *p*

Metals *superball* *fff* *p* *mf* *fp* *ppp* *brush* *superball* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *brush* *superball* *fp* *fp* *p*

Woods *mf* *mp* *mf* *mf*

Drums *fff* *mf*

Pf. *fff* *p* *mf* *fp* *pp* *p* *mf* *pp* *fp*

Vn. *shaker* *p* *overpressure* *mf* *mp* *shaker* *p* *overpressure* *3:2* *mp* *shaker* *p* *overpressure* *5:4* *mf* *mp*

Va. *shaker* *p* *overpressure* *mp* *shaker* *p* *overpressure* *3:2* *mf*

Vc. *col legno* *p* *ff* *mf* *overpressure* *6:5* *mf* *overpressure* *mp*

20

The musical score for "The Great Wall" by David Lang is presented in a multi-staff format. The score is divided into measures, with time signatures 3/8, 4/4, 3/8, 4/4, 3/8, 2/4, and 2/4 J indicated at the top. The instruments and parts include:

- Fl.** (Flute): Features a melodic line in the first measure, followed by rests and a shaker effect in the second measure.
- Ob.** (Oboe): Features a melodic line in the first measure, followed by rests and a shaker effect in the second measure.
- Cl. in B-flat** (Clarinet in B-flat): Features a melodic line in the first measure, followed by rests and a shaker effect in the second measure.
- Metals** (Metals): Features a melodic line in the first measure, followed by rests and a shaker effect in the second measure.
- Woods** (Woods): Features a melodic line in the first measure, followed by rests and a shaker effect in the second measure.
- Drums** (Drums): Features a melodic line in the first measure, followed by rests and a shaker effect in the second measure.
- Pf.** (Piano): Features a melodic line in the first measure, followed by rests and a shaker effect in the second measure.
- Vn.** (Violin): Features a melodic line in the first measure, followed by rests and a shaker effect in the second measure.
- Va.** (Viola): Features a melodic line in the first measure, followed by rests and a shaker effect in the second measure.
- Vc.** (Violoncello): Features a melodic line in the first measure, followed by rests and a shaker effect in the second measure.

The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings (e.g., *mf*, *mp*, *ff*, *pp*). It also includes performance instructions like "shaker", "superball", "overpressure", "col legno", and "prepared". The score is written in a complex, multi-measure format, with some measures containing multiple measures of music.

[illegible]



Fl.

Ob.

Cl. in B-flat

Metals

Pf.

Vn.

Va.

Vc.

WN-2014-02

*Scores available from the composer at*  
[www.josephine-wolf-oberholtzer.com](http://www.josephine-wolf-oberholtzer.com)

€58 / \$75