

Popular Music of Planet X
for Piano Quintet
(chamber version of Symphony No. 1)

Viola
for Electronic Music Readers



Bill Robinson

Popular Music of Planet X for Piano Quintet

(chamber version of *Symphony No. 1*) Duration: about 26'

Composed September 1990; 2004; Feb. 10—May 27, 2015; Nov. 2—Dec. 8, 2023

for Eric Pritchard

In 1990 I wrote several works for my friend Fred Robinson (no relation), who was the composer/arranger at Warner Robins Air Force Base in Georgia. Among these was a work for jazz band, *The Popular Music of Planet X*. The idea was the rather whimsical one that somewhere among the myriad planets there could be a civilization where music like this could actually be commercially successful. Clearly, such a planet must be far, far away. I also wrote some chamber works, including a brass quintet. The Air Force didn't seem to appreciate the effort, and the scores and parts were returned. (When you bomb with the Air Force...you *REALLY BOMB!*)

In 2004 I wrote new versions of these scores, but still could not find performance. Thus in 2015 I started over, this time with *PMPX* as a symphony for concert band. The only surviving movement from the old *PMPX* was the bulk of *Burlesque* (then titled *Bump and Grind*). The first movement was originally from the now-defunct brass quintet of 1990 and 2004. The second movement's opening was from the original *PMPX*, and has a chamber version for piano and woodwind quintet. The third movement was from the *Clarinet Sextet*.

As the piece remained unperformed, I realized it would be better for orchestra as *Symphony No. 1: Popular Music of Planet X*. Orchestral writing is much more to my taste and experience than band. I first composed this piano quintet version to make various improvements, and to get the piece performed and recorded. The third movement is new, inspired by a few bits from the original third movement from 1990. The four movements of the band version of *PMPX* from 2015 are now offered only as separate works.

Considering that this is my personal vision of what music intended for mass consumption could be in a more ideal world, I've allowed the influence of some popular idioms. However, as is true for all of my music, this is in the classical tradition, with no improvisation, and to be treated in the same way as other "serious" art music—even, and perhaps especially, when it's intended to be for fun.

Cover; London casino, 1938

Bill Robinson

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Viola part for electronic music readers

Popular Music of Planet X for Piano Quintet

I. Polytonalmodalyodel [7']

Bill Robinson

Musical score pages 2 through 34. The score includes multiple staves for different instruments. Measures 2-3 show high-octave sixteenth-note patterns on the top staff. Measures 34-35 feature bassoon entries with grace notes and dynamic markings like $\frac{3}{8}$. Measures 36-37 show a transition with a piano part and a glissando instruction. Measures 38-39 continue the bassoon lines with dynamic markings like $\frac{3}{8}$ and $\frac{8}{8}$.

Musical score pages 42 through 48. Measures 42-43 show a continuation of the bassoon parts. Measure 44 features a piano part with eighth-note chords. Measures 45-46 show the bassoon parts again. Measures 47-48 show a return to the piano part with eighth-note chords.

Musical score pages 52 through 58. Measures 52-53 show the bassoon parts. Measures 54-55 show the piano part with eighth-note chords. Measures 56-57 show the bassoon parts. Measures 58-59 show the piano part with eighth-note chords.

59

59

13 6 8 #
8
mp
8
mp f ff

59

8
mp
8
f ff

66

66

8
p
8

66

13 8
8
p
8

66

8
p
72

73

73

8
mp
8
mp

73

13 6 8
8
mp
8

73

8
mp

79

79

81

79

81

85

85

85

85

90

90

91

90

91

95

95

98

pizz.
arco
p cresc.

95

98

p mp

101

101

mp cresc. (mf) f ff

(mp) f ff

101

ff

106

106

f

106

f

109

109

110

109

110

f

113

ff

113

ff

113

ff

mf

cresc.

f

ff

117

mf

cresc.

f

ff

mf

cresc.

f

ff

117

mf

cresc.

f

ff

122

122

126

122

126

128

128

128

pizz.
p
arco

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

136

136

136

(mp)

(mf)

f

f

(mp)

(mf)

f

f

136

142

142

145

mp

f

mp

147

147

cresc.

(*mf*)

f

cresc.

(*mf*)

f

147

151

ff

non stacc.

ff

ff *non stacc.*

155

mp

mp

ff

non stacc.

155

mp

Musical score for piano showing measures 164-168. The score consists of four staves. The top two staves are treble clef, and the bottom two are bass clef. Measure 164 starts with a forte dynamic (f) in the treble and bass staves. Measures 165-166 show various rhythmic patterns with dynamics ff and f. Measure 167 continues with ff dynamics. Measure 168 begins with a dynamic ff. The score includes measure numbers 164, 165, 166, 167, and 168.

10

177

178

183

183

188

189

188

189

194

194

194

200

200

207

207

211

207

12

non stacc.

213

non stacc.

214

gliss.

gliss.

215

f

ff

216

ff

219

219

mf cresc.

220

mf cresc.

221

mf cresc.

222

mf cresc.

224

ff

ff

ff

ff

228

228

Andante (♩ = 46)

229

Andante (♩ = 46)

233

233

Tempo I (♩ = 105)

234

pp

pizz.

235

Tempo I (♩ = 105)

241

241

(no rit.)

242

243

(no rit.)

II. A Little Poem

[5:30]

Violin I

Violin II

Largo ($\text{♩} = 40$)

Viola

Cello

Piano

Largo ($\text{♩} = 40$)

7

lunga

lunga

lunga

lunga

7

lunga

mp

mf

p

7

lunga

mf

p

p

12

p

12

16

12 (8^{va})

16

17

17

17

17

23

23

24

23

24

29

29

29

29

35

B4

mf cresc. *f*

35

cresc. *f*

39

mf *mp*

39

f *mf* *mp+* *mp* *p*

42

f *mf* *mp+* *mp* *p*

39

f *mf* *mp* *p*

42

43

p *pp* *cresc.* *p* *mf*

a tempo

43 rit.

pp

cresc. *p*

p

43 rit. *a tempo*

47

47

47

50

50

50

54

54

54

54

S. A. D. (♩.= 60)

Violin 1 *mp* *cresc.* *(mf)* *non stacc.*

9 *f* *ff*

18

27 *p*

27 *p*

27 *p*

38 *cresc.* *mp* *cresc.* *mf* *cresc.* *mf* *cresc.* *mf*

38 *cresc.* *mp* *cresc.* *mf* *cresc.* *mf*

43

49

49

53

49

53

58

58

64

58

64

58

67

67

68

67

69

67

20 74

74

74

74

79 80

79 80

non stacc.

79 80

87 93

87

93

87

87 93

96

96

105

96

105

96

105

106

(mf) f dim. p dolce mp dolce mp dolce mp

106

(mf) f dim. p dolce mp dolce mp dolce mp

106

(mf) f dim. p dolce mp dolce mp dolce mp

113

114

114

114

dolce mp

22 124

124

131

124

131

ff

133

133

141

133

141

ff

142

142

142

ff.

150 *Trio* ($\text{d} = 70$)

p cresc. *p. a. p.*

150 *Trio* ($\text{d} = 70$)

ff *p* cresc. *p. a. p.*

150 *Trio* ($\text{d} = 70$)

ff *p* cresc. *p. a. p.*

160 *(mf)* *f*

160 *(mf)* *f*

160 *(mf)* *f*

160 *mf* cresc. *f*

169 *ff*

169 *ff*

169 *ff*

173

173

169 *ff*

173

24 178

178

pizz.

mf

pizz.

mf

pizz.

178

mf

188

arco

f

arco

f

f cresc.

188

arco

f

arco

f cresc.

188

f cresc.

f cresc.

f cresc.

196

ff

ff

196

ff

ff

196

ff

203

204

203

204

203

204

210

210

cresc. p. a p.

210

cresc. p. a p.

cresc. p. a p.

cresc. p. a p.

210

217

217

ff

ff

ff

ff

225

225

225

225

226

Musical score for measures 226-228. The score consists of six staves. Measures 226 and 227 show mostly rests with dynamic markings *p* and *pp*. Measure 228 begins with a bass line in 12/8 time, followed by a treble line with eighth-note patterns.

232

Musical score for measures 232-234. The score consists of six staves. Measures 232 and 233 feature sustained notes with grace notes above them. Measure 234 shows a bass line with sustained notes and grace notes.

239 S. A. D.

(♩ = 60)

Musical score for measures 239-241. The score consists of six staves. Measure 239 starts with a forte dynamic *f* and includes slurs and grace notes. Measures 240 and 241 continue the melodic line with slurs and grace notes, with measure 241 ending with a dynamic marking *non stacc.*. Measure 242 concludes with a dynamic *f*.

247

247

248

249

255

255

256

257

264 > 265

264 265

266

267

28

275

275

281

275

281

285

mf cresc.

285

mf cresc.

291

mf

285

(mf)

291

294

294

294

A musical score page featuring four staves. The top staff is for the piano, showing a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a tempo marking of 3/4. The second staff is for the first violin, the third for the second violin, and the fourth for the cello. The page number '349' appears twice, once above the piano staff and once below the bassoon staff. The score consists of two systems of music, separated by a repeat sign with a '3' superscript.

A musical score page showing measures 349 and 350. The score consists of six staves. Measures 349 begin with a forte dynamic (f) in the first and third staves. Measures 350 begin with a piano dynamic (p) in the first and third staves. The score includes various dynamics, including forte, piano, and accents. Measure 350 ends with a repeat sign and a double bar line.

A musical score for piano, showing two staves of music. The top staff uses a treble clef and the bottom staff uses a bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#). Measure 356 starts with a sixteenth-note pattern in the treble staff, followed by eighth-note patterns in the bass staff. Measure 357 continues with eighth-note patterns in both staves. The score is on page 10, with measure numbers 356 and 357 indicated.

Musical score for orchestra, page 10, measures 356-357. The score consists of two staves. The top staff is for the strings (Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello) and the bottom staff is for the bassoon. The key signature is A major (three sharps). Measure 356 starts with a forte dynamic. Measure 357 begins with a piano dynamic.

A musical score page showing system 356. The top staff is for the orchestra, featuring multiple staves with various instruments. The bottom staff is for the piano, indicated by a treble clef and a bass clef. The key signature is A major (no sharps or flats). The time signature is common time. The music consists of six measures. Measure 1 starts with a forte dynamic. Measures 2-3 show a melodic line in the piano. Measures 4-5 continue the piano line. Measure 6 ends with a forte dynamic. Measure 7 begins with a piano dynamic. Measures 8-9 end with a forte dynamic.

363 *molto rit.*

Allegro spogliarello ($\text{♩} = 106$)

Violin I

Violin II

non stacc.

mf cresc.

non stacc.

Allegro spogliarello ($\text{♩} = 106$)

Viola

p = mf

p = mf

mf cresc.

Cello

non stacc.

cresc.

Piano

mf

non stacc.

cresc.

suo

6

f

6

f

6

f

10

ff

11

p = mf

p = mf

10

ff

11

p = mf

p = mf

ff

10

ff

mp

mp

mf

15

15

19

19

19

mp

mp

mp

mp

20

20

cresc.

(mf)

f

f

cresc.

(mf)

f

cresc.

(mf)

f

20

mf

f

24

24

f

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

34 28

28 29

ff

ff

28

29

ff

ff

28

29

ff

ff

32

32

ff

ff

32

2

2

ff

ff

32

2

2

ff

ff

35

35

ff

ff

35

2

2

ff

ff

35

ff

ff

38

38

40

38

40

38

40

42

42

42

45

45

45

35

PMPX

36 49

50

49 50

pizz.

mp

arco

mp

cresc.

(mf)

49 50

mp

mp

cresc.

(mf)

Musical score for orchestra and piano, page 54, measures 54-55. The score consists of three systems of music. The top system shows woodwind parts (Flute, Oboe, Clarinet) with dynamic markings *f*, *ff*, and *ff*. The middle system shows bassoon and cello parts with dynamic markings *f*, *ff*, and *ff*. The bottom system shows piano parts with dynamic markings *f*, *ff*, and *ff*. The music is in common time.

58

59

ff

58

59

ff

58

59

ff

p

mp

legato

p

mp

mp

Rosa

Musical score for orchestra and piano, page 12, measures 66-68. The score consists of five staves. The top two staves are for the orchestra, featuring woodwind instruments (flute, oboe, clarinet) and strings. The bottom three staves are for the piano. Measure 66 starts with a forte dynamic (ff) in 8/8 time. Measure 67 continues with ff in 8/8 time. Measure 68 begins with ff in 9/8 time, followed by a measure in 12/8 time. Measure 69 concludes the section in 12/8 time.

Musical score for orchestra and piano, page 10, measures 70-71. The score consists of five staves. The top two staves are for the orchestra, featuring woodwind instruments like oboes and bassoons. The bottom three staves are for the piano. Measure 70 starts with eighth-note patterns in the orchestra and eighth-note chords in the piano. Measure 71 begins with a dynamic of ***ff***, followed by ***p***. The piano part includes sustained notes and eighth-note chords. The score concludes with a dynamic of ***mf***.

38 74

74

13 8 - **12** - > **f**

6 8 > **9**

74

f

79 More Bump (♩ = 120)

non stacc. ff

79 More Bump (♩ = 120) *non stacc.* ff

79 More Bump (♩ = 120) ff

83 p

p mp

83 |p mp

|p mp

83 mp

87

87

87

90

90

90

91

91

91 (8^{va})

95

95

95

39

40 99

99

99

(8th)

103

cresc.

ff

103

cresc.

ff

cresc.

ff

103

cresc.

ff

(8th)

107

109

107

mf

109

mf

107

mf

109

mf

(8th)

III

111

112

113

114

115

116

115

115

116

117

118

119

119

120

121

122

123

124

125

42 123

123

123

123

127

127

127

127

131

132

131

132

131

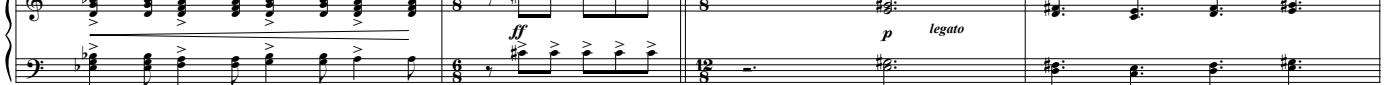
132

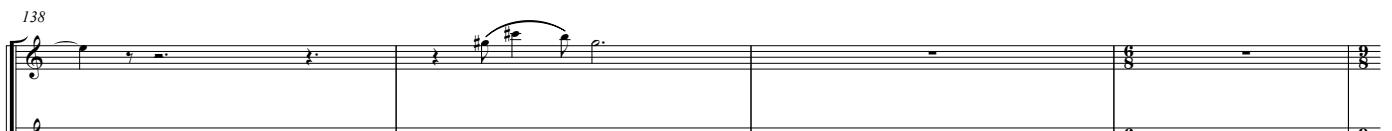
131

132

134 

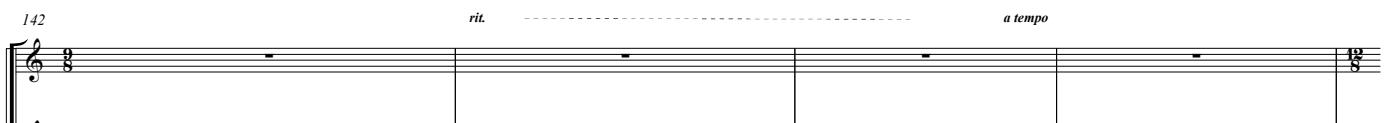
134 

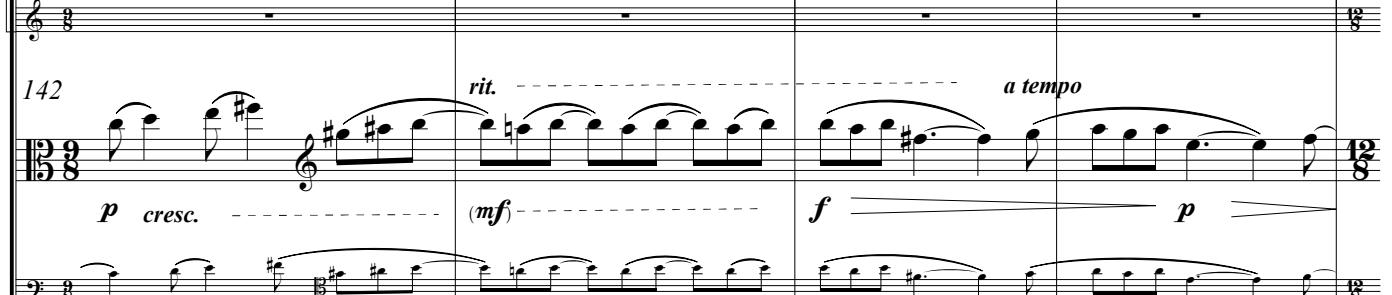
134 

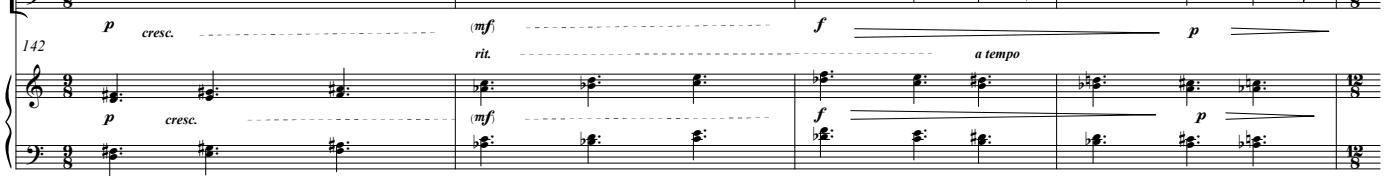
138 

138 

138 

142 

142 

142 

44 146

More Bump (♩ = 120)

146

More Bump (♩ = 120)

146

150

150

154

154

158

158

163

163

167

167

167