

Walker Williams

IN MEMORIAM CASSINI

For Wind Ensemble

Preview Score, not for performance



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For Wind Ensemble

c. 7:30 - 8:00

Piccolo
2 Flutes
2 Oboes
2 Bassoons
3 Clarinets in Bb
Bass Clarinet
Soprano Saxophone
Alto Saxophone
Tenor Saxophone
Baritone Saxophone
3 Trumpets in Bb
4 Horns in F
2 Trombones
Bass Trombone
Euphonium
Tuba

Percussion 1: Vibraphone, One Timpano, Bowed Cymbal, Tam-tam
Percussion 2: Crotales, One Timpano, Bowed Cymbal, Crash Cymbal
Percussion 3: Glockenspiel, One Timpano, Bowed Cymbal, Snare Drum
Percussion 4: One Timpano, Bowed Cymbal, Bass Drum

The Cassini Program was a joint effort between NASA, ESA, and ASI (the US, EU, and Italian space agencies); the mission goal was to gather as much data as possible about Saturn, as well as its rings and moons. The Cassini-Huygens probe was launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida, on October 15, 1997, and arrived at Saturn seven years later in 2004. During the mission, Cassini gathered vast amounts of data about Saturn and its moons, particularly Titan, which was explored by the Huygens probe, and Enceladus, which has exhibited liquid water and conditions potentially suitable for life.

The mission was scheduled to end in 2008, but two extensions, the Equinox Mission and the Solstice Mission, continued Cassini's exploration until September of 2017. To prevent the possible contamination of Titan or Enceladus with microscopic organisms from Earth that might have been carried on the probe, the mission team decided to destroy Cassini by sending it into Saturn's atmosphere. Before this final mission, however, Cassini embarked on its "Grand Finale", a series of close orbits sending it between Saturn and its rings, maneuvers that were too risky to undertake earlier in the mission.

On September 15, 2017, in the final phase of the Grand Finale, Cassini entered Saturn's atmosphere and was destroyed.

This work is loosely programmatic; my goal was to use the science as a basis to tell a story, and to try to capture the emotions that Cassini's images have brought into our collective imagination. The beginning and ending are modeled after specific elements in the story of Cassini, but the middle sections are more of an artist's rendition than an attempt at a detailed portrayal of the mission. Much more information on the Cassini Mission, including images, art, and sound recordings (including the radio emissions that were my inspiration for the section at measure 33) can be found at the NASA/JPL website.

Walker Williams
2017

Performance Notes:

The timpani in this piece are not used as a single melodic instrument, but rather as individual drums. Each percussionist will have their own timpano, as well as a cymbal and bow, for the section at measure 33. Pitch/size is not specifically indicated, but larger drums are preferable, and the largest available timpani should be given to players 2 and 3. In the sections starting at measure 2 and measure 117, the timpani should be tuned to their lowest respective notes.

The low brass pedal in the sections starting at measure 3 and measure 117 should create the effect of a low-frequency rumbling noise. The specific pitches are unimportant, except that the players should not all be playing the same pitch.

The whispering effects (starting in measure 32) can be placed very far forward in the mouth, creating a quasi-whistling noise. The notated pitch indicates relative pitch of 'shhh'.

The aleatoric percussion from measure 80-94 should be unmetered and uncoordinated between the parts. The speed of the notes is not relative to the tempo marking, so the accelerandos in this section do not indicate an increasing speed of mallet percussion notes.

In Memoriam Cassini

Transposing Score

Walker Williams

Unmetered

Launch from Cape Canaveral

c. 8 seconds c. 4 sec. c. 4 sec. c. 6 sec. c. 6 sec. c. 4 sec. c. 6 sec.

(Ignition) **(Liftoff)**

The score consists of seven staves for woodwind instruments. The first four staves (Piccolo, Flute 1, Flute 2, Oboe 1) play short, rhythmic patterns labeled "jet whistle". The Bassoon 1 and Bassoon 2 staves play sustained notes labeled "air note *". The Clarinet 1 and Clarinets 2/3 staves play sustained notes labeled "air note *". The Bass Clarinet staff also plays a sustained note labeled "air note *". The Soprano Saxophone and Alto Saxophone staves play sustained notes labeled "air note *". The Tenor Saxophone and Baritone Saxophone staves play sustained notes labeled "air note *".

Preview Score, not for performance

solo **p**

The score consists of ten staves. The Trumpet 1 staff plays a sustained note labeled "air note *". The Trumpets 2 and 3 staves play sustained notes labeled "air note *". The Horns 1 and 2 staves play sustained notes labeled "air note *". The Horns 3 and 4 staves play sustained notes labeled "air note *". The Trombones 1 and 2 staves play sustained notes labeled "very low pedal tone". The Bass Trombone staff plays a sustained note labeled "very low pedal tone". The Euphonium staff plays sustained notes labeled "air note *". The Tuba staff plays sustained notes labeled "air note *". The Percussion 1 staff plays a sustained note labeled "tam-tam". The Percussion 2 staff plays a sustained note labeled "a low timpano". The Percussion 3 staff plays a sustained note labeled "a low timpano". The Percussion 4 staff plays a sustained note labeled "bass drum".

* blow air through instrument while fingering randomly

poco rit. . . $\text{♩} = \text{c. } 54$

Initial Approach to Saturn

Measure 11 (4/4) starts with a shimmering texture (3 3 3) for Flutes 1 and 2. The tempo is poco rit. The instrumentation includes Picc., Fl. 1, Fl. 2, Ob. 1, Ob. 2, Bsn. 1, Bsn. 2, Cl. 1, Cl. 2, B. Cl., Sop. Sax., A. Sax., T. Sax., and Bari. Sax.

Measure 12 (3/4) begins with a solo, rich and round section for Bassoon 1. The instrumentation includes Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2, Tpt. 3, Hn. 1, Hn. 2, Hn. 3, Hn. 4, Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2, B. Tbn., Euph., Tba., Vibraphone, Perc. 1, Perc. 2, Perc. 3, and Perc. 4.

Preview Score, not for performance

Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2, Tpt. 3, Hn. 1, Hn. 2, Hn. 3, Hn. 4, Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2, B. Tbn., Euph., Tba., Vibraphone (with pedal, motor off), Perc. 1, Perc. 2, Perc. 3, and Perc. 4.

Measure 13 (4/4) features a solo, rich and round section for Bassoon 1. The instrumentation includes Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2, Tpt. 3, Hn. 1, Hn. 2, Hn. 3, Hn. 4, Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2, B. Tbn., Euph., Tba., Vibraphone (with pedal, motor off), Perc. 1, Perc. 2, Perc. 3, and Perc. 4.

Measure 14 (3/4) includes parts for Crotale, Glockenspiel, sus. cymbal on timpano (roll), and sus. cymbal on timpano (roll). The instrumentation includes Vibraphone, Perc. 1, Perc. 2, Perc. 3, and Perc. 4.

poco rall. . . a tempo

21 **5** **3** **4** **4** **2** **3** **4**

Picc.

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Cl. 3

B. Cl.

Sop. Sax.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Bari. Sax.

Preview Score, not for performance

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Hn. 3

Hn. 4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Euph.

Tba.

Perc.

Perc.

Glock.

Perc.

4 a tempo

29 **3** **4** **poco accel.** **(33) Mysterious (♩ = c. 60)** **rit.** **2**

Saturnine Radio Emissions solo

freely, somewhat distant

Picc.

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

B. Cl.

Sop. Sax.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Bari. Sax.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Hn. 3

Hn. 4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Thbn.

Euph.

Tba.

Perc.

Perc.

Perc.

Perc.

3

Awe Inspiring (♩ = c. 50)

3(40)

**4
2**

3

The Ring Plane

Preview Score, not for performance

46

2 3 50

Picc.

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Cl. 3

B. Cl.

Sop. Sax.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Bari. Sax.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Hn. 3

Hn. 4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Euph.

Tba.

Vib.

Crot.

Glock.

sus. cymbal on timpano (roll)

Perc.

52

4 **2** **2** **3** **2** **4** **2** **3** **2** **2** **2**

Preview Score, not for performance

58 **$\frac{2}{2}$** **$\frac{3}{2}$** **$\frac{3}{4} (60)$** **$\frac{4}{4}$** **$\frac{3}{4}$** **$\frac{4}{4}$** **$\frac{3}{4}$** **(65)** **$\frac{4}{4}$** **$\frac{3}{4}$**
rall. . . . Majestically (♩ = c. 54)

Mission Extension, Saturnine Solstice (XXM)

The score consists of multiple staves for various instruments and voices. Key markings include $\frac{2}{2}$, $\frac{3}{2}$, $\frac{3}{4}$, $\frac{4}{4}$, and $\frac{3}{4}$. Dynamics range from *mf* to *pp*. Performance instructions include *air note*, *Shhh*, *open*, *solo*, *one player*, *straight mute*, *motor off*, and *solo, rich and round*.

Instrumentation includes Picc., Fl. 1, Fl. 2, Ob. 1, Ob. 2, Bsn. 1, Bsn. 2, Cl. 1, Cl. 2, Cl. 3, B. Cl., Sop. Sax., A. Sax., T. Sax., Bari. Sax., Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2, Tpt. 3, Hn. 1, Hn. 2, Hn. 3, Hn. 4, Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2, B. Tbn., Euph., Tba., Vib., Crot., Glock., Perc.

poco rall. a tempo

67 $\frac{3}{4}$ 5 $\frac{4}{4}$ 3 $\frac{4}{4}$

poco rall. a tempo

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

Preview Score, not for performance

With growing anticipation (♩ = c. 60)

The Grand Finale

76 **4** **3** **4** **4** **4** **3** **(81)** **4** **4**

The Grand Finale

With growing anticipation (♩ = c. 60)

76 **4** **3** **4** **4** **4** **3** **(81)** **4** **4**

Picc.

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Ob. 1 *mp* *mf* *f*

Ob. 2 *mp* *mf* *f*

Bsn. 1 *3* *3* *n*

Bsn. 2 *3* *3* *3* *n*

Cl. 1 *n* *f*

Cl. 2 *n* *f*

B. Cl.

Sop. Sax.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Bari. Sax.

Tpt. 1 *mp* *mf* *f*

Tpt. 2 *mp* *mf* *f*

Tpt. 3 *mp* *mf* *f*

Hn. 1 *a. 2* *f*

Hn. 2 *mf* *f*

Hn. 3 *mf* *f*

Hn. 4 *mf* *f*

Tbn. 1 *mf* *f*

Tbn. 2 *mf* *f*

B. Tbn. *mf* *f*

Euph. *mf* *f*

Tba. *mf* *f*

Vib. *with pedal*
play quickly up and down this scale, non-metered

Crot. *pp*

Glock. *pp*

Perc. sus. cymbal on timpano (roll) *n*

85 **$\frac{4}{4}$ accel.** **$\frac{3}{4}$** = c. 66 **accel. $\frac{4}{4}$** **$\frac{3}{4}$** = c. 74

Picc.
Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Cl. 1
Cl. 2
B. Cl.
Sop. Sax.
A. Sax.
T. Sax.
Bari. Sax.

Tpt. 1
Tpt. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
Hn. 3
Hn. 4
Tbn. 1
B. Tbn.
Euph.
Tba.

Vib.
Crot.
Glock.
Perc.

92 accel. 95. = c, 90 $\frac{4}{4}$ accel. $\frac{3}{4}$ = 100 $\frac{4}{4}$ accel. . = 116 $\frac{3}{4}$

Picc. - ff

Fl. 1 f ff

Fl. 2 f# ff

Ob. 1 f ff

Ob. 2 mf ff

Bsn. 1 f# ff

Bsn. 2 f# ff

Cl. 1 f# ff

Cl. 2 a. 2 ff

B. Cl. f# ff

Sop. Sax. -

A. Sax. -

T. Sax. mf ff

Bari. Sax. mf ff

Tpt. 1 marcato f ff

Tpt. 2 marcato f ff

Tpt. 3 marcato f ff

Hn. 1 -

Hn. 2 -

Hn. 3 marcato ff

Hn. 4 -

Tbn. 1 marcato ff

Tbn. 2 marcato fp < f ff

B. Tbn. marcato fp < f ff

Euph. ff fp < f ff

Tba. marcato ff

Vib. -

Crot. -

Glock. B.D. mp ff

Perc. <f <f

The point of arrival ($\text{♩} = \text{c. } 98$)

103 **$\frac{3}{4}$** **$\frac{2}{4}$** **$\frac{3}{4}$** (105) **$\frac{4}{4}$**

excited, almost frantic

Picc.

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Cl. 3

B. Cl.

Sop. Sax.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Bari. Sax.

Preview Score, not for performance

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Hn. 3

Hn. 4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Euph.

Tba.

Vib.

Perc.

Perc.

Perc.

108

3
4

4
4

5
4

3
4

Picc.

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Cl. 3

B. Cl.

Sop. Sax.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Bari. Sax.

Tpt. 1

2

3

Hn. 2

3

Hn. 4

1

2

B. Tbn.

Euph.

Tba.

Vib.

Crotales

Perc.

Glockenspiel

Perc.

Perc.

very slowly

5
44
116

Preview Score, not for performance

15

114

all parts: breathe and re-enter as necessary

Atmospheric Entry

Picc. *f* *ff*

Fl. 1 *f* *ff*

Fl. 2 *f* *ff*

Ob. 1 *f* *ff*

Ob. 2 *f* *ff* tongue stop

Bsn. 1 *ff* tongue stop

Bsn. 2 *ff* tongue stop

Cl. 1 *f* *ff*

Cl. 2 *ff* tongue stop

B. Cl. *ff* tongue stop

Sop. Sax. *ff* tongue stop

A. Sax. *ff*

T. Sax. *ff* tongue stop

Bari. Sax. *ff*

Tpt. 1 *ff* triumphant! tongue stop

Tpt. 2 *ff* triumphant!

Tpt. 3 *ff* triumphant!

Hn. 1 *ff* tongue stop

Hn. 2 *ff*

Hn. 3 *ff*

Hn. 4 *ff*

Tbn. 1 *ff* triumphant!

Tbn. 2 *ff* triumphant!

B. Tbn. *ff*

Euph. *ff* very low pedal

Tba. *ff* very low pedal tam tam

Vib. *ff* crash cymbal

Crot. *ff* a low timpano

Glock. *mf* a low timpano

Perc. *f* a low timpano

123

5-8 sec.

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Cl. 3

B. Cl.

Sop. Sax.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Bari. Sax.

Preview Score, not for performance

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Hn. 3

Hn. 4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Thn.

Euph.

Tba.

Perc.

Perc.

Perc.

Perc.