

ROGER BRIGGS

PULSARS

for full orchestra

(2010)



## INSTRUMENTATION

1 piccolo  
2 flutes  
2 oboes  
1 english horn  
2 clarinets in Bb  
1 bass clarinet in Bb  
2 bassoons  
1 contrabassoon

4 horns in F  
3 trumpets in C  
2 tenor trombones  
1 bass trombone  
1 tuba

timpani  
Percussion 1: bass drum  
Percussion 2: xylophone  
Percussion 3: vibraphone

celesta  
piano  
harp

strings

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Score is in C with the exception of octave transposing instruments.  
Accidentals work in the traditional 19th century manner.

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duration ca. 5' 30"

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Pulsars (PULSating stARS) emit powerful, regular pulsations of electromagnetic radiation. The observed periods of their pulses range from 1.4 milliseconds to 8.5 seconds. We are surrounded by millions of very dense stars which constantly bombard us with continuous and regular pulsations of enormous energies at varying rates of "tempi".

RB

Commissioned by Western Washington University and the Whatcom Symphony Orchestra (2009)

Premiered by the Whatcom Symphony Orchestra  
Roger Briggs, Conductor  
March 14, 2010  
Mount Baker Theatre, Bellingham, WA

# PULSARS

(2010)

*for the Whatcom Symphony Orchestra*

## Precise

$\text{♩} = 126$

Roger Briggs

Score for orchestra and piano, page 12, measures 1-4.

**Measure 1:** Piccolo, 2 Flutes, 2 Oboes, English Horn, Clarinets in B♭, Bass Clarinet in B♭, 2 Bassoon, Contrabassoon, 4 Horn in F, Trumpets in C, 2 Trombones, Bass Trombone, Tuba, Timpani, 1: Bass Drum, 2: Xylophone, 3: Vibraphone, Celesta, Piano, Harp, Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, Double Bass.

**Measure 2:** Piccolo, 2 Flutes, 2 Oboes, English Horn, Clarinets in B♭, Bass Clarinet in B♭, 2 Bassoon, Contrabassoon, 4 Horn in F, Trumpets in C, 2 Trombones, Bass Trombone, Tuba, Timpani, 1: Bass Drum, 2: Xylophone, 3: Vibraphone, Celesta, Piano, Harp, Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, Double Bass.

**Measure 3:** Piccolo, 2 Flutes, 2 Oboes, English Horn, Clarinets in B♭, Bass Clarinet in B♭, 2 Bassoon, Contrabassoon, 4 Horn in F, Trumpets in C, 2 Trombones, Bass Trombone, Tuba, Timpani, 1: Bass Drum, 2: Xylophone, 3: Vibraphone, Celesta, Piano, Harp, Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, Double Bass.

**Measure 4:** Piccolo, 2 Flutes, 2 Oboes, English Horn, Clarinets in B♭, Bass Clarinet in B♭, 2 Bassoon, Contrabassoon, 4 Horn in F, Trumpets in C, 2 Trombones, Bass Trombone, Tuba, Timpani, 1: Bass Drum, 2: Xylophone, 3: Vibraphone, Celesta, Piano, Harp, Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, Double Bass.

A

6

This musical score page contains ten staves of music for a large orchestra. The instruments are grouped into sections: woodwinds (2 Flutes, 2 Oboes, Clarinet in A, Bassoon, Bassoon), brass (4 Horns, 3 Trombones, 2 Trombones, Bass Trombone, Bass Trombone, Bassoon), percussion (Timpani, Bass Drum), piano (Pno.), harp (Hp. 1), and strings (Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, Double Bass). The music is divided into measures by vertical bar lines. Dynamics are indicated by symbols like *p* (piano), *ff* (fortissimo), and *fff* (fortississimo). Articulation marks such as dots and dashes are placed above and below the stems of notes. Measure 6 begins with dynamic *p* for most woodwind parts, followed by *ff* for the brass and *fff* for the bassoon. Measures 7 and 8 show various dynamics including *pp*, *ff*, and *fff*. Measure 9 features dynamic *p* and *ff*. Measure 10 concludes with dynamic *p* and *ff*.

11

2 Fl.      *pp*

2 Ob.      *p*      *fff*

C. A.

B. Cl.

2 Bsn.      *pp*

Cbsn.      *p*      *fff*

4 Hn.

3 Tpts.

2 Tbn.      *ppp*      *fff*

B. Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

B.D.

Pno.      *v.*      *v.*      *v.*      *v.*

*8vb*

Hp. 1      *v.*      *v.*

*8vb*

Vln. I      *pp*

Vln. II      *pp*

Vla.      *pp*

Vc.

D. B.