Clusters

by Coleman Rowlett
(2016)

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Clusters

for Bassoon and Cello

Duration ca. 4'44"

About the Piece:

In the summer 2016, Rowlett attended the Snow Pond Composers Workshop in Sidney, ME. A few weeks before the workshop, he came down with a severe headache. The pain was throbbing and debilitating. Rowlett found himself struggling to speak as his words were slurred. He was taking to an emergency room with the fear of a stroke, though unusual for someone at his young age of 21. The diagnosis was a cluster headache. Rowlett was prescribed some medication for the headaches that were still to come. The headaches in all spanned a period of over a month, encompassing Rowlett's time at the workshop. Clusters is a piece that uses musical episodes to represent the tension and release of cluster headaches., inspired by Rowlett's struggles with cluster headaches.

About the Composer:

Coleman Rowlett received his B.M. in Music Composition at Susquehanna University in 2016 where he studied composition under Dr. Patrick Long. In addition, Rowlett holds a M.M. in Music Composition from Butler University where he studied under Michael Schelle and James Aikman. Rowlett has been commissioned by Dr. Gail B. Levinsky, the Akira Quartet, Joshua Heaney, the SUSQ Quartet, the Quakertown Community Band, and the Mifflinburg Area High School Symphonic Band. In addition to his studies under Dr. Long, Dr. Schelle, and Dr. Aikman, Rowlett has had the privilege to participate in masterclasses and lessons with composers such as Marilyn Shrude and Libby Larsen and attended the 2016 Snow Pond Composer's workshop with Dr. Ed Jacobs and Dr. Richard Nelson. Rowlett has had compositions performed at multiple North American Saxophone Alliance conferences as well as the 40th Annual Navy Band Saxophone Symposium.

Rowlett’s compositions are eclectic in style, mixing various elements of some of his favorite music including jazz, classical, expressionist, avant-garde, serialist, and others. In addition to his compositional activities, Rowlett is also an active performer and teacher of the saxophone. When he is not composing or performing, Rowlett can be found hiding in the woods, meditating by bodies of water, or playing with his cat, Buttons.

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Rubato (♩ = 60)

Bassoon

no vib. *mp*

mp

p

strict time *mp*

Cello

no vib. *p*

mp

strict time *mp*

A **A little quicker** (♩ = 72)

fp *f*

fp *f*

pizz. arco *f* *mf*

pizz. arco *f*

mp

B **Slow** (♩ = 60)

mp espress.

mp

f

sul D *p espress.*

mp

C **Moderato** (♩ = c. 108)

f

pizz. *mp* *mf*

arco *f* *mf*

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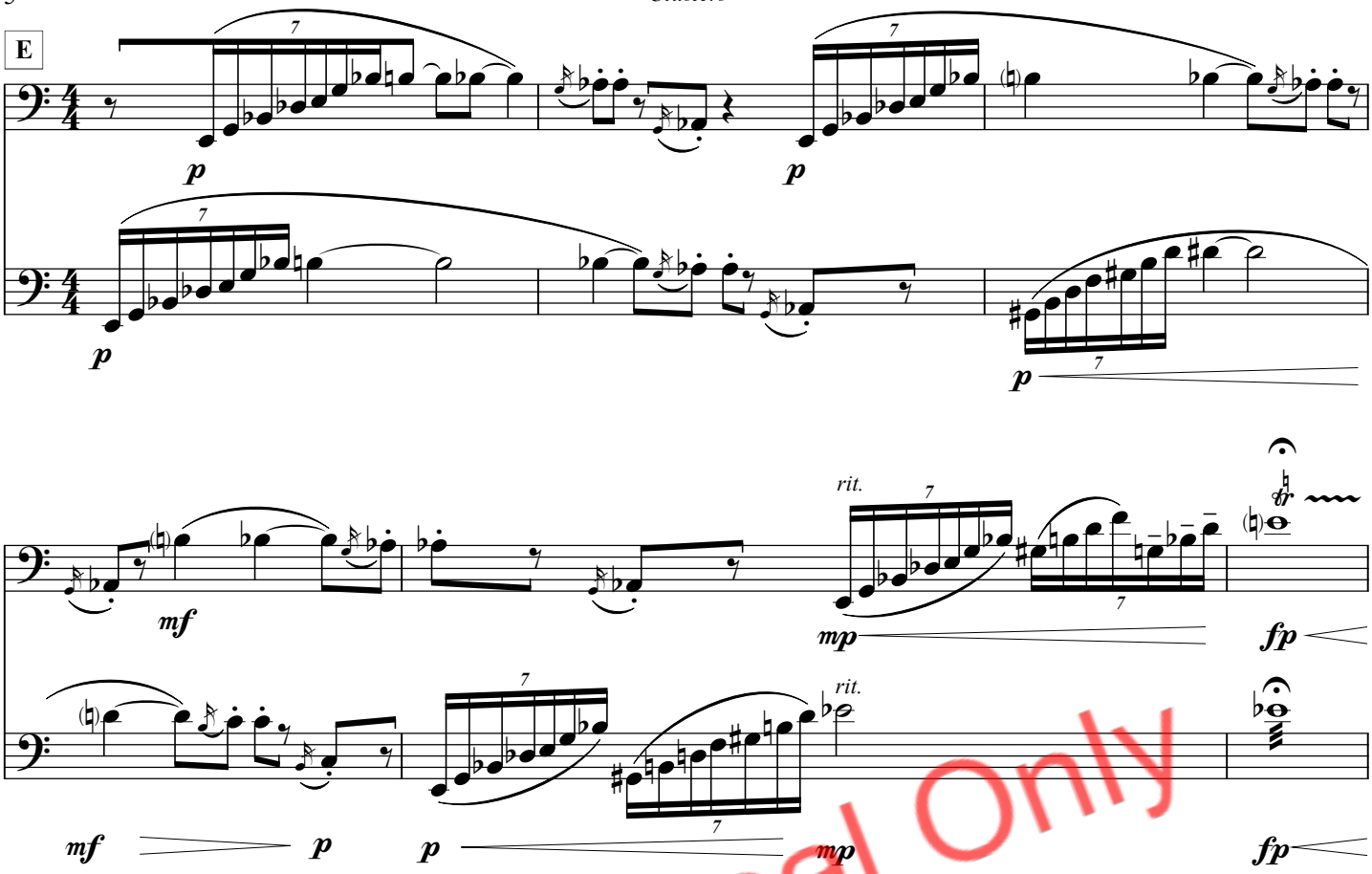

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