

13 Years to Comet 67P

for two percussion, piano, and bass clarinet

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This composition follows the journey of the spaceprobe Rosetta to Comet 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko over the course of 13 years. Each minute in the piece is one year of the journey.

00:04 Scrubbed Launch
01:20 Successful Launch
02:20 Earth Gravity Assist
04:20 Mars Gravity Assist
05:00 Earth Gravity Assist
05:52 Asteroid Steins Flyby
07:00 Earth Gravity Assist (*last chance to see earth*)
07:40 Asteroid Lutetia Flyby
08:36 Enter Deep Space Hibernation (*dreaming of earth*)
11:12 Exit Deep Space Hibernation (*waking up*)
11:44 Rosetta Arrives at Comet
12:00 Philae Lands (*alone on the comet*)
13:00 Nominal End of Mission

Bass Clarinet

Percussion 1: vibraphone, suspended cymbal

Percussion 2: marimba, crotales, big gong, thai gong (Eb, F, G, [also f up the octave if available])

Piano

Each performer needs some kind of stopwatch.

Notes within brackets should be completed in the accompanying timeframe. If you arrive at the end of a bracketed item before the marked time, hold the last bracketed note.

Parenthetical units inside the brackets are more free, and are either played in the given order or in an order of the player's choosing, depending on accompanying instructions.

Noteheads with no stems indicate approximate/improvised rhythm with specific pitches.

Timeframes such as (00:04 - 00:06) indicate that a gesture should begin at 4 seconds and continue up to 6 seconds.

Sections without barlines are loosely notated, relying on timecodes.

00:12 to 04:08 - loose

04:08 to 09:16 - strict (thai gong brings us back in at 4:08)

09:16 to 10:20 - loose

10:20 to 12:08 - strict (thai gong brings us back in at 10:20)

12:08 to 13:00 - loose

13 Years to Comet 67P

Michael Maiorana

start stopwatch

whirlwind upwards
any rhythm or pitches

(ca. 00:16 - ca. 00:56)

Bass Clarinet in B $\flat$

pp $<$ ff p mf

start stopwatch

Sus. Cymbal

Vibraphone
Suspended Cymbal

p $<$ ff

start stopwatch

Thai Gong

Marimba
Thai Gong
Big Gong
Crotales

whirlwind upwards
any rhythm or pitches

(ca. 00:20 - ca. 00:50)

play any options in any order,
for any length of time
slowly

pp $<$ ff p

start stopwatch

whirlwind upwards
any rhythm or pitches

(ca. 00:28 - ca. 00:54)

play any options in any order,
for any length of time
slowly

Piano

pp $<$ ff sempre ped to 0:56

-4" 0" 4" 8" 12" 16" 20" 24" 28"

10

B. Cl.

ca. (00:34)

Vibraphone

p

(ca. 00:56)

slowly increase roll speed

Vib.

p pp

Mar.

(jostle wood chimes)
(unvoiced wind sound)

Pno.

(ca. 00:56 - 01:20)

legato

p mp

(unvoiced wind sound)

32" 36" 40" 44" 48" 52" 56"

A

(ca. 01:00) - (01:16) slowly increase trill speed

B. Cl. *mf* *p*

(ca. 01:16) whirlwind upwards any rhythm or pitches

(01:20) harshly at first, smoothing out

Vib. (ca. 01:00) - (01:16) *mf* *p* *ff*

(ca. 01:16) whirlwind upwards any rhythm or pitches

(01:20)

Mar. Big Gong (01:04) *ppp* (01:20) *mp*

Pno. *mf* *f* *ff*

(01:20 - ca. 01:40) play erratic white key clusters, slowing down. forearms, then w/ spread fingers, then w/ closed fingers

1'00" 1'04" 1'08" 1'12" 1'16" 1'20" 1'24"

B

(ca. 01:52) slowly, out of tempo play groups in this order, repeat groups ad lib.

B. Cl. *p*

(ca. 01:30 - 2:08) Vibraphone, bowed occasionally add mallet *mp*

(ca. 01:50 - 02:20) slowly, out of sync play groups in this order, repeat groups ad lib. transition to ♩

Marimba *pp* *p*

(ca. 01:44 - 02:20) slowly, out of sync play groups in this order, repeat groups ad lib. transition to ♩

(ca. 01:48 - 02:10) create rumbling sounds by scratching/strumming/drumming inside piano with all finger tips *ppp* *mp*

Pno.

1'28" 1'32" 1'36" 1'40" 1'44" 1'48" 1'52" 1'56" 2'00" 2'04" 2'08"

B

(ca. 2:12)

35

B. Cl.

(02:24)

f

mf

(02:16) Sus. Cymbal

p

mf

(02:26) Vibraphone

mf

(02:38)

(02:20 - 02:37)

approx. 1/8 notes, out of sync
repeat 3 note figure in parentheses
occasionally add sub-bracketed note

mf

(02:37 - 02:49)

(02:20 - 02:37)

approx. 1/8 notes, out of sync
repeat 3 note figure in parentheses
occasionally add from the sub-bracketed notes

mf

(02:37 - 02:49)

(02:20 - 03:10)

pp

mf

pp

2'12" 2'16" 2'20" 2'24" 2'28" 2'32" 2'36"

42

B. Cl.

(ca. 02:52 - ca. 03:04)

breathe as necessary

mp

mf

(ca. 02:52)

mp

p

(02:49 - 03:00)

mp

(03:00 - 03:04)

p

(ca. 03:04 - 4:04)

repeat, ornament and improvise

mp

(02:49 - 03:00)

mp

(03:00 - 03:09)

p

2'40" 2'44" 2'48" 2'52" 2'56" 3'00" 3'04" 3'08"

C

hold each note for one breath

B. Cl.

Vib. (03:12 - 04:12) *mp*

Mar.

Pno. (03:12 - 04:20) *pp mp p mp mf mp mf*

sempre ped to letter D

rumble around on lowest white keys *pppp mf*

3'12" 3'16" 3'20" 3'24" 3'28" 3'32" 3'36" 3'40" 3'44" 3'48" 3'52"

61 (ca. 04:08)

B. Cl.

Vib. (ca. 04:08) *p mf* Sus. Cymbal *p mf* Vibraphone *mp*

Mar. (04:08) Thai Gong *p mf* Marimba *p mf*

Pno. (ca. 04:08) *ppp mf pp f p mf*

3'56" 4'00" 4'04" 4'08" 4'12" 4'16" 4'20" pedal normally 4'24"

69

B. Cl.

Vib.

Mar.

Pno.

mp

mf

f

p

pp

4'28" 4'32" 4'36" 4'40"

73

B. Cl.

Vib.

Mar.

Pno.

mp

f

p

mf

Sus. Cymbal

4'44" 4'48" 4'52" 4'56"

77

B. Cl. *mf* *mp*

Vib. *mf* *p* sempre ped to letter F *pp* *p*

Mar. *f* *mf*

Pno. *mf* *mp* *mp*

5'00" 5'04" 5'08" 5'12" 5'16" 5'20"

83

B. Cl. *mp* *p*

Vib. *mp*

Mar. *mp* *p*

Pno.

5'24" 5'28" 5'32" 5'36"

87

B. Cl. a swell of harmonics passing by, focusing on C (written) *ppp* *mp*

Vib. *mf*

Mar. *ppp* *mp*

Pno.

5'40" 5'44" 5'48" 5'52"

91

B. Cl.

Vib.

Mar.

Pno.

ppp

p

mf

ppp

mf

improvise medium slow in F mixolydian

sempre ped to measure 102

5'56" 6'00" 6'04" 6'08"

95

B. Cl.

Vib.

Mar.

Pno.

mp

mp

improvise medium slow in G dorian (written)

6'12" 6'16" 6'20" 6'24"

10

99

B. Cl.

Vib.

Mar.

Pno.

improvise medium slow in F natural minor

mp

6'28" 6'32" 6'36"

102

B. Cl.

Vib.

Mar.

Pno.

mf

mf

pp

6'40" 6'44" 6'48"

105

B. Cl.

Vib.

Mar.

Pno.

f *mf* *mp*

mf *mp*

ped. ord.

f *mf* *mp*

f *pp* *p*

6'52" 6'56" 7'00" 7'04" 7'08"

110

B. Cl.

Vib.

Mar.

Pno.

p *mf* *p*

mp *mf*

3 3 3 6 6 6 6

7'12" 7'16" 7'20" 7'24"

114

B. Cl.

Vib.

Mar.

Pno.

p

p

sempre ped to m. 131

pedal wetly

7'28" 7'32" 7'36"

117

B. Cl.

Vib.

Mar.

Pno.

7'40" 7'44" 7'48"

120

B. Cl.

Vib.

Mar.

Crotales

p

Pno.

7'52" 7'56" 8'00"

123

B. Cl.

Vib.

Mar.

Pno.

8'04" 8'08" 8'12"

p

f

fp

slowly decrease roll speed

Marimba

126

B. Cl.

Vib.

Mar.

Pno.

8'16" 8'20" 8'24"

pp *mp*

mf *pp*

Crotales

129

B. Cl.

Vib.

Mar.

Pno.

f

sub. p

mf

p

mf

sub. p

release pedal, sempre ped to m. 159

pp

sub. p

sempre ped to m. 161

8'28" 8'32" 8'36"

132

B. Cl.

Vib.

Mar.

Pno.

pp

8'40" 8'44" 8'48" 8'52"

(ca. 9:24 - ca. 10:10)
play any options in any order,
for any length of time
slowly

H 09:16

136

B. Cl.

Vib.

Mar.

Pno.

p

8'56" 9'00" 9'04" 9'08" 9'12" 9'16" 9'20" 9'24"

(blow air through inst.)
(key clicks)
(quiet shifting harmonics)

144

B. Cl.

bowed
played slowly in any order, for any length of time
(ca. 9:30 - 10:24)

p

Vib.

(ca. 9:32 - ca. 10:14)

Bowed Crotales

play any options in any order, for any length of time slowly

Big Gong

Mar.

Marimba

(jostle wood chimes)
(unvoiced wind sound)

p

(ca. 9:40 - ca. 10:24)

play any options in any order, for any length of time, slowly

Pno.

(unvoiced wind sound)

9'28"

9'32"

9'36"

9'40"

9'44"

9'48"

9'52"

9'56"

10'00"

10'04"

10'08"

10'12"

10'16"

I 10:20

157

B. Cl.

p

mp

Vib.

p

pedal normally

mp

(10:20)

Thai Gong

Crotales, bowed

Mar.

mp

p

p

Pno.

mp

mf

p

pedal normally

10'20"

10'24"

10'28"

10'32"

10'36"

10'40"

10'44"

10'48"

10'52"

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172

B. Cl.

Vib.

Mar.

Pno.

11'20" 11'24" 11'28"

175

B. Cl.

Vib.

Mar.

Pno.

11'32" 11'36"

177

B. Cl.

Vib.

Mar.

Pno.

11'40" 11'44"

179

B. Cl.

Vib.

Mar.

Pno.

11'48" 11'52" 11'56" 12'00" 12'04" 12'08" 12'12"

L

186

B. Cl.

(ca. 12:36 - ca. 13:00)

p

Vib.

(ca. 12:16 - ca. 13:06)

con rubato

p

Mar.

Thai Gong

play any options in any order, for any length of time slowly

Big Gong

(jostle wood chimes)
(unvoiced wind sound)

Marimba

p

Pno.

12'16" 12'20" 12'24" 12'28" 12'32" 12'36"

192

B. Cl.

Vib.

Mar.

Pno.

12'40" 12'44" 12'48" 12'52" 12'56" 13'00" 13'04" 13'08"