

Kinshi
for ensemble
(2015)

ROGER MARSH



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EDITION

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Kinshi (2015)
for ensemble
dur. ca. 7 mins.

In the 1990s I wrote a number of pieces inspired by my study of Japanese traditional music. These ranged from large scale pieces like Kagura for ensemble and Sukeroku for percussion quartet, to smaller pieces like Hoichi for solo alto flute and electronics and Atsumari for solo O-Tsuzumi and percussion. When I agreed to write this short Japanese inspired ensemble piece for Vaganza, the first thing that came to my mind was the amazing vocal music of Kinshi Tsuruta—a blind biwa player who also sang the Heike ballads (Heike Monogatari). She can be heard singing the ballad Dan no Ura all through the final story in Kobayashi's 1967 film Kwaidan. The opening phrase of that ballad is woven into the music here, and is heard clearly at the end. Otherwise the music is more influenced by the orchestral gagaku—in that each instrument or pair of instruments has a single function and a small repertoire of phrases which vary only slightly. This is not Japanese music—but it behaves (a little bit) like Japanese music.

Kinshi was commissioned by Vaganza, the new music ensemble of the University of Manchester. It was premiered by them on 13 March 2015 in a concert entitled 'Eastern Exchanges' at the Cosmo Rodewald Concert Hall, University of Manchester.

instrumentation

piccolo
bass clarinet
harp

percussion one
marimba/crotales
percussion two
small drum

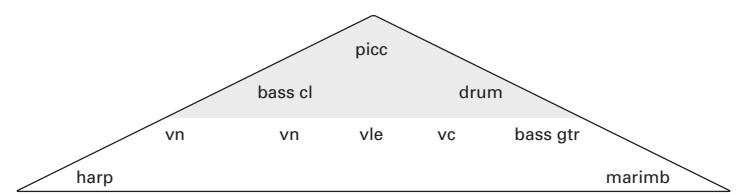
two violins
viola
cello
bass guitar

All players face forward. Piccolo, bass clarinet and drum should be on a raised platform or step.

Conducting should be minimal: cueing gestures but with no expressive movement.

Score is in C

Layout:



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$\text{♩} = 50$

shril and sharp

Picc.

WIND

Bass Cl.

4

4

pp — **p**

f > **p** < **f**

1. Crotales (bowed)

PERC

Side Dr. (very small; dry)

2.

4

4

f

p

HARP

mf

l.v.

mf

sul pont.

Vn1

Vn2

f

sul pont.

f

STR

Vle

f

Vcl

4

4

Bass Gtr.

with plectrum;
dry hard attack

mf

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

7

f

pp

To Mar.

p

mf

m.s.p.

senza vibrato, sempre

sul pont.

p

m.s.p.

f

p

m.s.p.

f

sul pont.

f

m.s.p.

f

p

mf

12

mp

5

p

f *fp* *f*

sul pont. *fp*

sul pont. *f* *fp*

pp

pp

pp

pp

3

16

pp

ff *fp* *f*

harmonic (sounding)

pp *harmonic (sounding)*

f

4

stringendo

19

sul pont.
m.s.p.

f *mf*
sul pont.
m.s.p.

f *mf*
m.s.p.

mf
m.s.p.

mf
gliss.

gliss.

gliss.

gliss.

gliss.

gliss.

gliss.

21

f *mpf* >

p *mf* *p*

mf 3

mf

sul pont. 5 *f*

sul pont. 5 *f*

sul pont. gliss. 5

sul pont. 5

b>

23

f

mp

5

f f

sempre

mp

5

p

5

5

5

pizz. >

Musical score page 25, featuring six staves of music for string instruments. The score includes dynamic markings such as *p*, *f*, and *pizz.*. Performance instructions like "To Crot." and "arco, sul pont." are also present. Measure numbers 25, 26, and 27 are indicated above the staves. The music consists of six measures per staff, with measure 27 concluding with a fermata over the bass clef staff.

30

Top staff: Fermata, note, note, note, note, note
 Second staff: *p*, fermata, note, note, note, note, note
 Third staff: *f*, fermata, note, note, note, note, note
 Fourth staff: *f*, fermata, note, note, note, note, note
 Fifth staff: *p*, fermata, note, note, note, note, note
 Bottom staff: *f*, fermata, note, note, note, note, note

pizz.
f
arco, m.s.p.
p < mf
f

35

accel. - - - - - molto accel. - - - - -

arco, m.s.p.

pp

arco, m.s.p.

pp

arco, m.s.p.

pp

$mf \ll f \gg$

Tempo primo ($\text{♩} = 50$)

38

Instrumentation: Crotale, Violin, Cello, Double Bass, Piano, Trombone

Dynamic Markings:

- Violin: f , p , f , pp , mp , f
- Crotale: Crotales (bowed), f
- Cello: mf
- Piano: $sul pont.$, f , $sul pont.$, pp
- Trombone: f , arco, $sul pont.$, f
- Double Bass: mf

Musical Elements:

- Violin: Slurs, grace notes, slurs, grace notes.
- Crotale: Bowed strokes.
- Cello: Slurs.
- Piano: Slurs, grace notes.
- Trombone: Slurs, grace notes.
- Double Bass: Slurs.

41

f > *p*

p

mp

f

To Mar.

f

ff

f

ff

f

alla punta

p < *mf*

gliss.

p — *f*

alla punta

mf

gliss.

m.s.p.

p

m.s.p.

p

43

3 3

p *mf*

5 5 5

mp *p* *pp*

m.s.p. *p* *f mp* *exaggerated vib.*

m.s.p. *mp* *p*

mp *mp* *mp* *p*

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

exaggerated vib.

45

f

fp — *f*

mp

Marimba

sul pont.

pp

f

mp

pp

sul pont.

pp

sul pont.

gliss.

gliss.

gliss.

47

5 5

mf

6 *p*

6 6

6 6

gliss.

sul pont. 5

sul pont. 5

gliss.

sul pont. 5

sul pont. 5

49

mp

m.s.p.

p

mf

m.s.p.

p < mf

mf

m.s.p.

mf

16

Musical score page 53, featuring six staves of music. The score includes dynamic markings such as *mp*, *mf*, *p*, *m.s.p.*, and *p < mp*. Performance instructions like "3" and "5" are also present. The music consists of measures 53 through 58, with measure 53 starting on a treble clef staff and measure 58 ending on a bass clef staff.

56

To Crot.

f

m.s.p.

p < *mp*

m.s.p.

p — *mf*

m.s.p.

p — *f*

p — *m.s.p.*

m.s.p.

p — *mf*

mf

accel.

57

57

f

fp

f

Crotales (stick)

To Mar.

mp

f

f

f

sul pont.

m.s.p.

f

mp

pp

sul pont.

m.s.p.

f

mp

pp

mp

pp

m.s.p.

mp

pp

A tempo ($\text{♩} = 50$)
accel.

58

A tempo ($\text{♩} = 50$)
5
1 4 ff

sul pont. >
m.s.p.
f
sul pont. >
m.s.p.
f
m.s.p.
mp
m.s.p.
mp
m.s.p.
mp
m.s.p.
mp
muffled
5
1 4 pp

pp
pp
pp
pp
pp
pp

mf
pp

60

Musical score page 62, featuring six staves of music for string instruments. The score includes dynamic markings such as *f*, *mf*, *p*, *pp*, *mp*, and *pizz.*. Performance instructions include "arco senza vib. sempre" and "sul tasto → m.s.p.". Measure numbers 5 and 6 are indicated above the staves. The music consists of complex rhythmic patterns with many grace notes and slurs.

64

f *sub.p* *ff*

mf

pp *mf*

arco *pizz.*

pp *mf*

sul tasto → *m.s.p.*

p

sul tasto → *m.s.p.*

p

mp *pp*

mp *pp*

5

66

f

5

6

mp

6

6

mf

areo

pizz.

pp

mf

mf

arco

pizz.

pp

sul tasto → *m.s.p.*

p

sul tasto → *m.s.p.*

p

mp

pp

mp

pp

68

5

6

6

mf

arco

pp

mf

pizz.

mf

mf

arco

pp

mf

pizz.

mf

sul tasto → m.s.p.

p

sul tasto → m.s.p.

mp

pp

mp

pp

p

25

70

5

6

6

6

6

arco **p**

arco **p**

sul tasto → m.s.p.

p

sul tasto → m.s.p.

p

pizz. **mf** pizz.

arco, m.s.p. **mp** arco, m.s.p.

mf **mp**

26

72

p

pizz.

mf

sul tasto → *m.s.p.*

p

pp

sul tasto → *m.s.p.*

p

pp

pizz.

mf

pizz.

mf

74

p

mp ***pp***

v *v* *v* *v* *v* *v*

v *v* *v* *v* *v* *v*

v > > > > > >

arco ***p*** ***mf***

arco ***p*** ***mf***

v *v* *v* *v* *v* *v*

vibrato *v* *v* *v* *v* *v* *v*

muffled *3* *3*

mp *3* *3*

port. ***mp***

mp ***pp***

77

p *pp* *niente*

swipe with back
of hand; fingernails

f

pizz.

f

pizz.

f

pizz.

f

port.

p *port.* *niente*

