

Darwin Fish

(2008)

for Percussion Sextet

Jocelyn Morlock

Thanks to the BC Arts Council for the Arts for their generous support in funding this piece.

Darwin Fish was commissioned by Vancouver New Music and its first performance was March 25, 2006. My thanks to the BC Arts Council for their assistance in the commissioning of this fish.

Performance Notes:

1. Total instrumental requirement for the piece is as follows: 18 woodblocks/temple blocks, 18 cowbells, 12 windchimes (or more), 1 vibraphone, 1 marimba, 1 xylophone.
2. All six players need three cowbells, three woodblocks or temple blocks, and at least two windchimes each. The windchimes should preferably be wooden or bamboo, although shell/glass would be acceptable. (Don't use metal windchimes that are too "pitched" in timbre.) Player one also plays vib, player two also plays marimba, and player three also plays xylophone. Player four needs one extra woodblock which should be as high and sharp a sound as possible. It is notated with "x" notation on the high C (extra ledger line above the cowbells), and used only in the middle section of the piece where the other players are playing the keyboard percussion.
3. Ideally, the total sum of eighteen cowbells and eighteen woodblocks should be varied in pitch. They should be dispersed, from high to low, so that each player has one high, one medium, and one low of each type, with player one's instruments being highest and player six's instruments being lowest. That is to say, if there are 18 instruments, player one gets #1, #7, and #13; player two gets #2, #8 and #14, player three gets #3, #9, and #15, etc.
4. Instead of cowbells, some players may use other bells (or ethnic cowbells from other countries, etc.) to increase the variety of pitch and timbre found in the cowbell sections of the piece. As long as they are clapperless metal bells with very fast decay, they should work.
5. Accidentals hold for the entire bar (unless cancelled, of course.)

Percussion required for each player (notated as follows in each part):



Program Notes:

Darwin Fish (yes that's true, a fish with legs...)

Scored for vibraphone, marimba, xylophone, windchimes, woodblocks and, of course, cowbells.

Aside from the obvious reference to evolution (but really, all music evolves/devolves in some way or another, whether becoming more/less complex or simply progressing through time) the *other* reason for naming the quartet after a Darwin fish was that the very idea of a fish with legs, and the type of locomotion that it would be capable of, completely fascinates me. I mean, can you imagine the way that a fish with legs would move??? The combination of walking/swimming/wiggling would be excellent. I think sometimes it would be more of a torsion-inflected style of side-to-side motion, and at other times perhaps it would hop. (These ruminations may well be reflected in the different sections of music found in this quartet.)

Darwin Fish

Jocelyn Morlock

♩ = 108

Wood Blocks

Wood Blocks

Wood Blocks

Wood Blocks

Wood Blocks

Wood Blocks

Wood Blocks

3 cowbells/3 woodblocks

mp

3 cowbells/3 woodblocks

mp

3 cowbells/3 woodblocks

p

3 cowbells/3 woodblocks

p

3 cowbells/3 woodblocks

p

3 cowbells/3 woodblocks

p

6

W. Bl.

W. Bl.

W. Bl.

W. Bl.

W. Bl.

W. Bl.

mp

mf

mf

mp

mf *p*

mp

11

W. Bl. *f* *mf* *p*

W. Bl. *mf* *p*

W. Bl. *mf* *p*

W. Bl. *f* *mf* *p*

W. Bl. *mf* *p*

W. Bl. *mf* *f* *mp*

16

W. Bl. *f*

W. Bl. *f*

W. Bl. *f*

W. Bl. *f*

W. Bl. *f*

W. Bl. *f*

21

W. Bl. $\frac{5}{4}$ f

W. Bl. $\frac{5}{4}$ mf 3

W. Bl. $\frac{5}{4}$

W. Bl. $\frac{5}{4}$

W. Bl. $\frac{5}{4}$ (3 cowbells) mp

W. Bl. $\frac{5}{4}$ mp

W. Bl. $\frac{5}{4}$ mf mp 3 3 3 3

25

W. Bl. $\frac{5}{4}$ 3 f

W. Bl. $\frac{5}{4}$ 6 6 mf 6 6 3 6 3

W. Bl. $\frac{5}{4}$ mf f 3

W. Bl. $\frac{5}{4}$ mp mf 6

W. Bl. $\frac{5}{4}$ 3 3 3 3

W. Bl. $\frac{5}{4}$ mf 3 f 3

W. Bl. $\frac{5}{4}$ 3 3 3 3

33

W. Bl. (cresc.)

W. Bl. (cresc.) 3

W. Bl. (cresc.)

W. Bl. (cresc.)

W. Bl. (cresc.)

W. Bl. (cresc.) 3

37

W. Bl. *(cresc.)*

W. Bl. *(cresc.)* 3

W. Bl. *(cresc.)*

W. Bl. *(cresc.)*

W. Bl. *(cresc.)*

W. Bl. *(cresc.)* 3

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

41

W. Bl. 3 3 3 3

W. Bl. 3 3 3 3

W. Bl. 3 3 3 3

W. Bl. 3 3 3 3

W. Bl. *ff*

W. Bl. *ff*

45

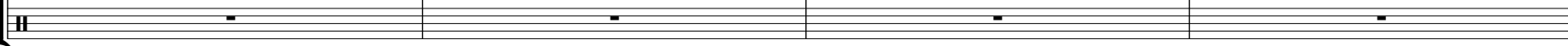
W. Bl. 

W. Bl. 

W. Bl. 

W. Bl. 

W. Bl. 

W. Bl. 

49

W. Bl. 

W. Bl. 

W. Bl. 

W. Bl. 

W. Bl. 

W. Bl. 

52

W. Bl. *(cresc.)*

W. Bl. *(cresc.)*

W. Bl. *(cresc.)*

W. Bl. *(cresc.)*

W. Bl. *(cresc.)*

W. Bl. *(cresc.)*

55

W. Bl. *fff*

W. Bl.

W. Bl.

W. Bl.

W. Bl.

W. Bl.

58

W. Bl. *(cresc.)*

W. Bl. *fff*

W. Bl. *(cresc.)* *fff*

W. Bl. *(cresc.)* *fff*

W. Bl. *(cresc.)* *fff*

W. Bl. *(cresc.)* *fff*

62

W. Bl. *pp* *mp*

W. Bl. *pp* *mp*

W. Bl. *pp* *mp*

W. Bl. *pp* *mp*

W. Bl.

W. Bl.

66 poco a poco rit. To Vib.

W. Bl. *mf* 6 6 6 6 *ff*

W. Bl. *mf* *ff* *f*

W. Bl. *mp* 6 6 6 6 6 6 *ff* 6 6 *f*

W. Bl. *mp* *ff* *mf*

W. Bl. *mp* *ff* *mf*

W. Bl. *mp* *ff* *mf*

70 Vibraphone

W. Bl. *ppp* 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

W. Bl. *mf* *mp* *pp* To Mar.

W. Bl. *mf* *mp* *pp* To Xyl.

W. Bl. *mf* *p*

W. Bl. *ppp*

W. Bl. *ppp*

[illegible]

[illegible]

90

Vib. *mp* *mf* *ff* *p* *ff*

Mar. *mp* *mp* *mf*

Xyl. *mf* *mp* *mp*

W. Bl. *pp* *pp* *f* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mp*

W. Bl.

W. Bl.

94

Vib. *p* *ff* *p* *ff* *p* *ff* *p* *mp*

Mar. *ff* *p* *ff* *p* *ff* *p* *ff* *pp*

Xyl. *mf* *ff* *p* *ff* *p* *mp*

W. Bl. *mf* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

W. Bl.

W. Bl.

98

Vib. *f* *mf*

Mar.

Xyl. *f* *mf* *f*

W. Bl. *mp* *pp* *mf*

W. Bl. *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mf*

W. Bl.

102

Vib. *f* *mf* *mp* *f*

Mar. *ff* *mf*

Xyl. *f* *mf* *mp* *f*

W. Bl.

W. Bl. *3*

W. Bl.

[illegible]

114

Vib. *3 3 3* *5* *3* *5* *3 3 3* *3 3 3* *mp*

Mar. *3 3* *5* *ppp*

Xyl. *ppp* *mf* *f* *3* *mp*

W. Bl. *-*

W. Bl. *-*

W. Bl. *-*

118

Vib. *5* *3* *6* *mf* *mp* *3* *5* *3* *3* *3* *mf*

Mar. *pp* *3 3 5* *5* *3 3* *mf*

Xyl. *3 3* *f* *3* *3* *5* *ppp*

W. Bl. *-*

W. Bl. *-*

W. Bl. *-*

122

Vib. *mp* *mf* *p*

Mar. *f* *mp* *mf*

Xyl. *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp*

W. Bl. *H*

W. Bl. *H*

W. Bl. *H*

126

Vib. *mf* *p* *mf* *f* *mp*

Mar. *f*

Xyl. *f* *pp* *f*

W. Bl. *H*

W. Bl. *H*

W. Bl. *H*

130

Vib. *pp* *f* *mf* *p*

Mar. *mf* *ff* *mp*

Xyl. *pp* *p* *f*

W. Bl. *p* *mf* *mp* *f*

W. Bl. *p* *mf* *mp* *f*

W. Bl. *p* *mf* *mp* *f*

134

Vib. *f* *mf* *mp* *f*

Mar. *mf* *f* *mp* *f*

Xyl. *mp* *f* *p* *f*

W. Bl. *p* *mf* *mp* *f*

W. Bl. *p* *mf* *mp* *f*

W. Bl. *p* *mf* *mp* *f*

138

Vib. *mf* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *mf*

Mar. *mp* *mf* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

Xyl. *f* *p* *f* *ppp*

W. Bl. *p* *mf*

W. Bl.

W. Bl.

142

Vib. *mp* *f* *p* *f* *mp* *f* *mp*

Mar. *mp* *f* *p* *f* *mp*

Xyl. *f* *p*

W. Bl. *p* *mf*

W. Bl. *mf*

W. Bl. *p* *mf*

146

Vib. *f*

Mar. *f*

Xyl. *mf* *p* *f* *p* *f*

W. Bl.

W. Bl.

W. Bl.

150

Vib. *pp*

Mar. *mp* *mf*

Xyl.

W. Bl.

W. Bl.

W. Bl.

154

Vib. *p*

Mar. *p*

Xyl. *p* 6 3 3 3 3

W. Bl.

W. Bl.

W. Bl.

158

Vib.

Mar.

Xyl. *p* 6 6 3 6 3 3

W. Bl.

W. Bl.

W. Bl.

162

Vib. *mp*

Mar.

Xyl. *p* 6 3 6 6

W. Bl. *pp* *mp* 3

W. Bl. *mp* 3

W. Bl. *mp* 3

166

Vib.

Mar.

Xyl. Perc. III go to Wood Blocks *ppp*

W. Bl. 6 6 6 6 3

W. Bl. 6 3 3 6

W. Bl. 6 3 3

170 Perc. I go to Wood Blocks

Vib. *pp*

Mar. Perc. II go to Wood Blocks *pp*

W. Bl. *mp* *mf*

W. Bl. *mp* *mf*

W. Bl. *mp*

W. Bl. *mp*

174

W. Bl. *mp* *mf*

W. Bl. *mp* *mf*

W. Bl. *mp* *mf*

W. Bl. *mp* *mf*

W. Bl. *mf*

W. Bl. *mf*

178 $(\text{♩} = 72)$ *poco a poco string.*

W. Bl. p

W. Bl. p p

W. Bl. p

W. Bl. pp 3

W. Bl.

W. Bl. pp

182

W. Bl. mf 3

W. Bl. mp

W. Bl. p

W. Bl. mp 3 3

W. Bl. p 3

W. Bl. p 3 mp

186

W. Bl. *mf* *poco cresc.*

W. Bl. *mf* *poco cresc.*

W. Bl. *mf* *poco cresc.*

W. Bl. *mf* *poco cresc.*

W. Bl. *mf* *poco cresc.*

W. Bl. *mf* *poco cresc.*

190

W. Bl. *(cresc.)* *ff*

W. Bl. *(cresc.)* *ff*

W. Bl. *(cresc.)* *ff*

W. Bl. *(cresc.)* *ff*

W. Bl. *(cresc.)* *ff*

W. Bl. *(cresc.)* *ff*

[illegible][illegible]