



Hydropyre

for solo piano, metronome and video opus 101

ROBERT CASTEELS

© Copyright 2016 by Robert Casteels

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be copied or reproduced in any form or any means without prior permission of the composer

ISMN 979-0-9016526-2-0

Hydropyre

for solo piano, metronome and video opus 101

ROBERT CASTEELS

Duration:

exactly one minute

Performance instructions:

- use a mechanical metronome with pendulum with its slight irregularities; its swinging pendulum visually reinforces the idea of time;
- choose a tempo so that the whole piece is performed in one minute;
- perform the whole piece with all parts of the hands, forearms and elbows, never with fingers with the exception of the last sound;
- phrase according to the dotted slurs;
- notation of clusters: see example of white-key cluster in the right hand of "bar" 2, example of black-key cluster in the left hand of "bar" 2, example of chromatic cluster in 3rd chord of the right hand in "bar" 4;

Programme notes:

Hydropyre was composed in 2014 in response to a call by the Malaysian Composers Collective for a series of 15 one-minute piano pieces that will serve as inspiration and sound tracks to Malaysian film artists on the theme of water and fire. The objective of the films is to raise awareness of the dangers of climate change, especially in light of the current water crisis and environmental disaster of the haze, both of which are related to the man-made forest fires. There can be no life without water. Hydropyre is a neologism coined on the words water and fire. This one-minute composition consists of three metaphors: clusters for fire, emerging harmonics for water and the ominous ticking of the metronome for the urgency of time running out to save our forests. Asking the performer to use palm, wrist and forearm instead of fingers is connected to the medical condition the composer experienced in 2014 which disabled the digital mobility of his left hand. On 31 May 2015, Malaysian composer and pianist Jessica Cho premiered Hydropyre at the Kyoto City University of Arts during an International Music Festival entitled "Present of Orchestra Asia3". A repeat performance took place in Singapore during a SG50 concert entitled "Celebrating Nature in Singapore".

Hydropyre

Robert Casteels

set metronome @ 60 in motion
and simultaneously start the stop watch
to control the duration of the piece;
the metronome has to tick no more than sixty times

With crackling intensity

(= white-key cluster:
d, e, f, g, a, b and c)

One sostenuto pedal
until the end

f (= short
fermata)

(= black-key cluster:
c#, d#, f#, g# and a#)

(= chromatic cluster
from a# to f#)

sounding like a fierce glissando:
with a rapid movement of the wrist,
using first the side of the hand,
then the side of the small fingers

diamond-shaped notes
are depressed silently

f *ff* *f* *ff*

with knuckles

f *ff*

with whole of left forearm
and left hand

fff

ff

f

(= chromatic clusters by both hands)

mf *fff*

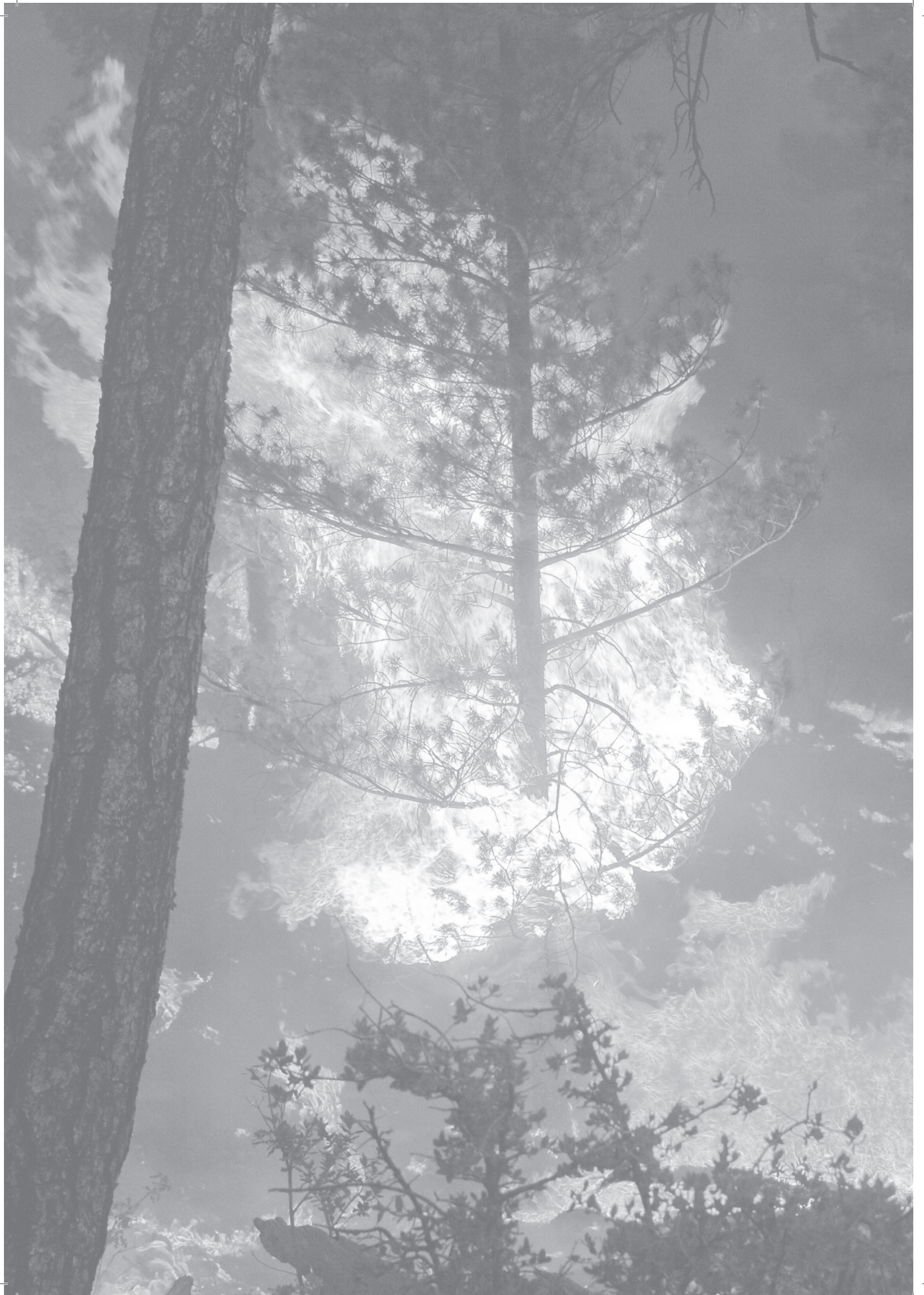
p *sfz sub.*

with knuckles

last tick of the metronome

with fingers with the 60th tick of the metronome

prepare to stop metronome and check timing on stopwatch



Publisher
Robert Casteels
www.robertcasteels.com

Graphic Designer
Neol Leung Yick Chuen

© Copyright 2016 by Robert Casteels

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be copied or reproduced
in any form or any means without prior permission of the composer

ISMN 979-0-9016526-2-0

