

# *Sang Plato's Ghost*

for flute, oboe, percussion, harp, accordion, viola, and double-bass

by Kyle Gann  
2013

## *Sang Plato's Ghost* (2013)

*Sang Plato's Ghost* – for flute, oboe, percussion (trap set + glockenspiel), harp, accordion, viola, and double bass – was written at the request of Ben Richter for his group, the Ghost Ensemble. Given the chance to write for accordion, I first imagined a tango, then put that tango in 5/4, and then started to write clouds of tango allusions on either side of it. The title is taken from W.B. Yeats's poem *What Then?* –

The work is done,' grown old he thought,  
'According to my boyish plan;  
Let the fools rage, I swerved in naught,  
Something to perfection brought';  
But louder sang that ghost, 'What then?'

which may have more to do with the mood in which I wrote the piece than the piece itself.

- Kyle Gann

## Drum set notation

bass  
drum  
(soft mallet  
always, or  
foot pedal) --- toms --- snare drum crash cymbal China cymbal --- ride --- cymbals glockenspiel

The musical staff shows a sequence of notes and markings. It starts with a bass drum (indicated by a double vertical bar). Following it is a note on a snare drum. Then comes a note on a tom-tom, followed by another note on a snare drum. Above the third snare drum note is an 'x', indicating a crash cymbal. Above the fourth snare drum note is an asterisk (\*), indicating a China cymbal. Above the fifth snare drum note is another 'x', indicating a ride cymbal. Above the sixth snare drum note is another 'x', indicating another ride cymbal. Finally, there is a note on a glockenspiel (bell). The staff concludes with a double bar line.

In general the percussion should be a gentle, jazz-style background,  
all soft mallets except for the snare drum and glockenspiel, and  
brushes for the cymbals.

*for Ben Richter and the Ghost Ensemble*

## Sang Plato's Ghost

Mysterious  
 $\downarrow = 96$

Kyle Gann  
2013

Flute

Oboe

Drum Set

Harp CDEF#GABB<sub>b</sub> *mp*

Accordion

Viola  $\downarrow = 96$

Contrabass *p*

Musical score for orchestra and choir, page 2. The score consists of six staves:

- Fl.** (Flute) in G clef, playing eighth-note patterns with grace notes.
- Ob.** (Oboe) in G clef, playing eighth-note patterns with grace notes.
- Dr.** (Drum) in common time, playing eighth-note patterns with 'x' marks.
- Hp.** (Horn) in G clef, with two staves: treble and bass, playing eighth-note patterns.
- Accord.** (Accordions) in G clef, with two staves: treble and bass, playing eighth-note chords.
- Vla.** (Violin) in C clef, playing eighth-note patterns.
- Cb.** (Cello) in C clef, playing eighth-note patterns.

The score is divided into measures by vertical bar lines. The instrumentation includes woodwind instruments (Flute, Oboe), percussion (Drum), brass instruments (Horn), keyboards (Accordions), strings (Violin, Cello), and vocal parts (Vocal parts).

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**A**

Fl.

Ob.

Dr.

Bassoon:

C-C#  
B-B

Harp:

C#DEF#GAB

Accordion:

Vla.

Cb.

pizz.

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23

**B**

Fl.

Ob.

Dr.

Hp.

D-D<sup>#</sup>  
A<sub>b</sub>-A<sup>#</sup>

C<sup>#</sup>D<sup>#</sup>E<sup>F</sup><sup>#</sup>G<sup>A</sup><sup>#</sup>B

Accord.

**B**

Vla.

Cb.

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**C**

Fl.

Ob.

Dr.

Hp.  
D#-D  
F#-F

C#DEFGA#B

Accord.

Vla.

Cb.

This musical score page contains six staves of music. The top two staves are for Flute (Fl.) and Oboe (Ob.), both in treble clef. The third staff is for the Drum (Dr.). The fourth staff is for Bassoon (Horn) with a bass clef, and it includes a note head with 'D#-D' and 'F#-F'. Below this is a bracketed section labeled 'C#DEFGA#B'. The fifth staff is for the Accordion (Accord.). The bottom two staves are for Violin (Vla.) and Cello (Cb.), both in bass clef. A dynamic marking 'mf' is placed above the Cello staff. The score begins with a section labeled 'C' and ends with a section labeled 'C#DEFGA#B'.

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37

**D**

Fl.

Ob.

Dr.

Hp.

A♯-A

mf

C♯DEFGAB

Accord.

Vla.

Cb.

mf

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Musical score page 7, featuring seven staves of music for various instruments. The score includes:

- Fl.** (Flute) in treble clef, playing eighth-note patterns with grace notes.
- Ob.** (Oboe) in treble clef, playing eighth-note patterns with grace notes.
- Dr.** (Drum) in common time, indicated by a single vertical bar line.
- Hp.** (Bassoon) in treble and bass clefs, playing sixteenth-note patterns.
- Accord.** (Accordion) in treble and bass clefs, playing chords with sustained notes.
- Vla.** (Violin) in treble clef, playing eighth-note patterns with grace notes.
- Cb.** (Cello) in bass clef, playing eighth-note patterns with grace notes.

The score is numbered 44 at the top left. The key signature changes from common time to 3/4 time in the middle section. Measure numbers are present above the first two staves.

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**E**

51

Fl.

Ob.

Dr. snare drum (hard mallets)

Hp. C#-C

Accord.

Vla.

Cb.

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58

Fl.

Ob.

Dr.

Hp.

Accord.

Vla.

Cb.

**F**

soft mallets brushes

C-C#  
E-E♭

G-G#  
A-A♯

C♯DE♭FGAB

C♯DE♭FG♯A♯B

The musical score page 58 features six staves of music. The top two staves are for Flute (Fl.) and Oboe (Ob.), both in treble clef. The third staff is for the Drum (Dr.), indicated by a bass clef and a snare drum symbol. The fourth staff is for Bassoon (Hp.), also in bass clef. The fifth staff is for Accordion (Accord.), shown with two sets of staves. The bottom two staves are for Violin (Vla.) and Cello (Cb.), both in bass clef. Measure 58 begins with eighth-note patterns in the Flute and Oboe. The Drum part consists of vertical strokes. The Bassoon part shows melodic lines with grace notes. The Accordion part has sustained chords. The Violin and Cello parts provide harmonic support. A large bracket labeled 'F' covers the last four measures of the page. Measure 59 starts with a dynamic 'mp' and includes instructions for 'soft mallets brushes' on the Drum. Fingerings like C-C#, E-E♭, G-G#, and A-A♯ are marked above specific notes. Measure 60 concludes with a dynamic 'f'.

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Fl.

Ob.

Dr.

Hp.

C♯D♯E♭F G♯A♯B      C♯D♯E♯F♯G♯A♯B

Accord.

Vla.

Cb.

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G

Fl.

Ob.

Dr.

Hp.

A#-A

C#D#E#F#G#AB

C#DE#F#G#AB

CDEF#GAB

Accord.

mp

mp

Vla.

Cb.

mf

arco

mf

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**H**

Fl.

Ob.

Dr.

Hp.

Accord.

Vla.

Cb.

*mf*

*mf*

D-D<sub>b</sub>  
F#-F  
A-A<sub>b</sub>  
B-B<sub>b</sub>

*f*

CD<sub>b</sub>EFGA<sub>b</sub>B<sub>b</sub>

*mf*

*mf*

**H**

pizz.

*mf*

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Fl.

Ob.

Dr.

Hp.

G-G<sub>b</sub>

E-E<sub>b</sub>

G<sub>b</sub>-G

CD<sub>b</sub>EFG<sub>b</sub>A<sub>b</sub>B<sub>b</sub>

CD<sub>b</sub>E<sub>b</sub>FG<sub>b</sub>A<sub>b</sub>B<sub>b</sub>

Accord.

Vla.

Cb.

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97

**I**

Fl.

Ob.

Dr.

Hp.

D♭-D      *mf*      F-F♯

F-E♭      E♭-E

CDE♭FGA♭B♭

Accord.

**I**

Vla.

Cb.

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Fl. **J**

Ob.

Dr.

Hp. C-C# f B-B  
C#DEF#GABb

Accord.

Vla. **J**

Cb. mp

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109

Fl.

Ob.

Dr. soft mallets  
mp

Hp. C♯-C  
mf  
F♯-F  
CDEFGAB  
CDEFGAB

Accord. *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Cb. *mf*

**K**

**K**

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Fl. *p*

Ob. *p*

Dr.

Hp. D-D $\flat$   
E-E $\flat$   
A-A $\flat$   
B-B $\flat$

Accord. *p*

Vla. *mf*

Cb. arco *p*

This musical score page contains six staves of music. The top two staves feature Flute and Oboe parts, both marked with a dynamic 'p'. The third staff is for the Drum. The fourth staff features Bassoon (Horn) with harmonic labels: D-D $\flat$ , E-E $\flat$ , A-A $\flat$ , and B-B $\flat$ . The fifth staff is for the Accordion. The bottom two staves feature Violin (Vla.) and Cello (Cb.) parts. The Violin part is marked 'mf' and includes a dynamic 'p' at the end. The Cello part is marked 'arco' and also includes a dynamic 'p' at the end. The score is numbered 17 in the top right corner.

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**L**

125

Fl.

Ob.

Dr.

Hp. *mf* CD**b**E**b**FGA**b**B**b** F-F $\sharp$

Accord.

Vla.

Cb.

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133

M

Fl.

Ob. *p*

Dr. *mp*

Hp. D<sub>b</sub>-D E<sub>b</sub>-E B<sub>b</sub>-B *mp* CDEF<sup>#</sup>GAB A<sub>b</sub>-A

Accord.

Vla. *p* pizz. Cb.

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141

Fl.

Ob.

p

with metal brushes

Dr.

B-B $\flat$  mp

Hp.

CDEF#GAB $\flat$

Accord.

mp

3

Vla.

mf

mp

Cb.

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149

N

Fl. - *p*

Ob. - *p*

Dr. - *p*

Hp. - *mp* B $\flat$ -B A-A $\sharp$

Accord. - *p*

Vla. - *p* pizz.

Cb. - *p*

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157

Fl.

Ob.

Dr.

Hp.

Accord.

Vla.

Cb.

The musical score consists of six staves. The top two staves are for woodwind instruments: Flute (Fl.) and Oboe (Ob.). The third staff is for the Drum (Dr.). The fourth staff is for Bassoon (Hp.). The fifth staff is for Accordion (Accord.). The bottom two staves are for strings: Violin (Vla.) and Cello (Cb.). The score is numbered 157 at the top left. The Accordion part features sustained chords with grace notes. The Violin and Cello parts show rhythmic patterns with eighth and sixteenth notes. Measure lines are present between the staves.

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165

**O**

somewhat soft at first, but building to joyous abandon

Fl.

Ob.

Dr.

Hp.

C-D#EF#GA#B

Accord.

Vla.

Cb.

mp

somewhat soft at first, but building to joyous abandon

this section in 5/4 might allow for some improvised departure from the notation

mp

mp somewhat soft at first, but building to joyous abandon

somewhat soft at first, but building to joyous abandon

mp

somewhat soft at first, but building to joyous abandon

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171

Fl.

Ob.

Dr.

Hb.

Accord.

Vla.

Cb.

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177

Fl.

Ob.

Dr.

Hp.

Accord.

Vla.

Cb.

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183

Fl.

Ob.

Dr.

Hp.

Accord.

Vla.

Cb.

Slightly quicker  
P  $\text{♩} = 104$

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188

Fl.

Ob.

Dr.

Hp.  
E-E#  
B-B#

C♯D♯E♯F♯G♯A♯B♯

A♯-A  
B-B♭

Accordion

Vla.

Cb.

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193

Fl.

Ob.

Dr.

Hp.

C $\sharp$ -D $\sharp$ E $\sharp$ F $\sharp$ G $\sharp$ A $\flat$ B $\flat$

C $\sharp$ -C  
D $\sharp$ -D $\flat$   
E $\sharp$ -E  
F $\sharp$ -F  
G $\sharp$ -G $\flat$   
A-A $\flat$

Accord.

Vla.

Cb.

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200

Fl.

Ob.

Dr.

Hp.

E-E $\flat$

CD $\flat$ EFGA $\flat$ B $\flat$

CD $\flat$ E $\flat$ F $\flat$ G $\flat$ A $\flat$ B $\flat$

Accord.

Vla.

Cb.

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Tempo I  
Q = 96

Fl. *mp*

Ob. *mp*

Dr. *mp*

Hp. *mp* C-C $\flat$  G-G $\flat$

Accord. *mp*

Vla. *mp*

Cb. *mp*

C $\flat$ D $\flat$ E $\flat$ F $\text{G}$ A $\flat$ B $\flat$

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214

R

Fl.

Ob.

Dr.

Hp.

E♭-E      C-**C**

CD♭EFG♭A♭B♭

Accord.

Vla.

Cb.

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222

Fl.

Ob.

Dr.

Hp.

C-C<sub>b</sub>  
E-E<sub>b</sub>

C<sub>b</sub>D<sub>b</sub>E<sub>b</sub>F<sub>g</sub><sub>b</sub>A<sub>b</sub>B<sub>b</sub>

Accord.

Vla.

Cb.

**S**

**f**

**f**

**S**

*f*

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Musical score for orchestra and piano, page 33, system 229. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Drum (Dr.), Bassoon (Hpf.), Accordion (Accord.), Violin (Vla.), and Cello (Cb.). The piano part is on the right.

The score consists of six staves. The Flute and Oboe play eighth-note patterns with grace notes. The Drum provides rhythmic support with eighth-note patterns. The Bassoon and Accordion provide harmonic support with sustained notes and eighth-note chords. The Violin and Cello play eighth-note patterns with grace notes, mirroring the Flute and Oboe. The piano part on the right provides harmonic support with sustained notes and eighth-note chords.

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235

Fl.

Ob.

Glock.

Hp.

E♭-E      D♭-D      C♭-C  
G♭-G

CDEFGA♭B♭

Accord.

Vla.

Cb.

T

p

p

p

pp

3

p  
arco

p

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242

Fl.

Ob.

Glock.

Dr.

Hp.

Accord.

Vla.

Cb.

**U**

p 3

**U**

pizz.

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250

Fl.

Ob.

p

Dr.

Bassoon:

C-C<sub>b</sub>

D-D<sub>b</sub>  
E-E<sub>b</sub>

Accordion:

C<sub>b</sub>D<sub>b</sub>E<sub>b</sub>FGA<sub>b</sub>B<sub>b</sub>

Vla.

Cb.

V

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258

Fl.

Ob.

Dr.

Hb.

F-F#

Accord.

Vla.

Cb.

*Sang Plato's Ghost*

**W**

265

Fl. *mp*

Ob. *mp*

Dr. *pp*

Hp.

E♭-E      B♭-B      D♭-D      A♭-A

C♯DE♭F♯GAB♭

Accord.

*pp*

Vla. *mp*

Cb. *pp*

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Musical score page 39, featuring seven staves of music for Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Drum (Dr.), Bassoon (Hb.), Accordion (Accord.), Violin (Vla.), and Cello (Cb.). The score is numbered 271. The Flute and Oboe play eighth-note patterns with grace notes. The Drum provides rhythmic support with sixteenth-note patterns. The Bassoon and Accordion provide harmonic foundation with sustained notes and bassoon slurs. The Violin and Cello play eighth-note patterns with slurs.

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