

# Kindling

*for pierrot plus percussion*

Charles Peck

## Program Notes

*Kindling* is a reflection on the spontaneous, yet repetitive motion of fire. From the outset of the piece, the ricochet bowing of the cello and the steady pulse of the kick drum stoke the flame, while the violin flickers and flares in response. As the piece builds, a flurry of tremolos and natural harmonics are used to express motion that is both active and static. Eventually, the ensemble, led by the piano and strings, conjures a steady orange glow with a series of phrases that quickly appear and dissipate. The rapid alternations between these distinct phrases coalesce to form a continuous, burning texture.

## Instrumentation

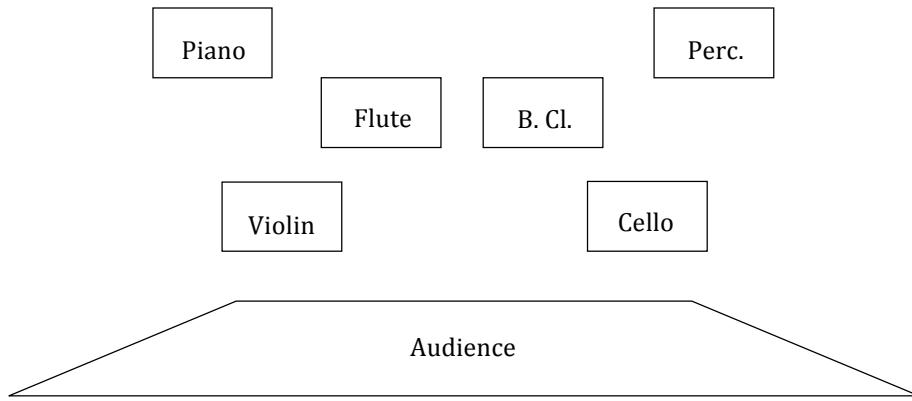
Flute, Bass Clarinet in Bb, Percussion, Piano, Violin, Cello

### – Percussion List –

- 1 Kick Drum (dampened with a blanket inside)
- 1 Hi and Low Tom (with a cloth over the drumhead)
- 1 Hi Bongo, 1 Woodblock, Snare Sticks

## Arrangement

The violin and cello are heavily featured in this piece, so the arrangement of the ensemble should reflect that. Use the layout below as a guide. Additionally, the violinist should stand and the cellist should be angled such that the audience can see the cello well.



## Duration

8 minutes

## Composition Details

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Score in C

# Kindling

*for pierrot plus percussion*

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**Animated** ♩ = 132

Kick drum

Percussion

*mf*

Violin

play on indicated strings  
deaden strings with left hand on X noteheads  
number of ricochet bounces are approximate

Cello

*ric.*

*f*

(1) (2) (3) (4) (5)

A

Perc.

Vln.

Vc.

(6) (7) (8) (9) (10)

A

Fl.

Perc.

Vln.

very breathy

*mf*

Vc.

light pressure  
flautando

*mf* <>

*f* =

*f* =

(11) (12) (13) (14) (15) (16)

A

## Kindling

**B**

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

(17) (18) (19) (20)

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

(21) (22) (23) (24)

**C**

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

*sul pont.  
very fast tremolos*

*pizz.*

*mp*

*ff*

*arco*

*f*

*as high as possible*

(25) (26) (27) (28)

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

*< ff >*

*f*

*< ff >*

*< ff > f*

*fp*

*ff*

(29) (30) (31) (32)

## Kindling

**D**

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

*8va*

*poco sul pont.*

*fp* *ff* *f* *mp* *f*

(33) (34) (35) (36)

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

play on indicated strings  
deaden strings with left hand on X noteheads  
number of ricochet bounces are approximate

*ric.*

*mf*

increasingly sul pont.  
increasingly noisy

*mp* *f* *mp* *f* *ff* *mp* *f* *ff*

(37) (38) (39) (40)

## Kindling

5

**E**use indicated fingerings and  
speak into the flute with highly percussive consonants

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

"t" "k"  
"k"  
"t"

*f*  
slap tongue, no pitch  
*f*

*ff* *f*

*f*  
*8vb-*

*ff* sul pont. ord. heavy pressure *fff* *f*

(41) (42) (43) (44)

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

"t" "k"  
"k"  
"t"

*f*

"t" "k"  
"k"  
"t"

*8vb-*

at the frog *ff* *mf*

(45) (46) (47) (48)

## Kindling

**F**

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

"t" "k"  
"k"

"t" "k"  
"k"

"t"

(8<sup>vb</sup>)

*p* *ff*

audibly mute string with left hand

move towards sul pont over the course of this ricochet

(49) (50) (51) (52)

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

"t" "k"  
"k"

"t" "k"  
"k"

"t"

(8<sup>vb</sup>)

*ff*

at the frog

(53) (54) (55) (56)

**G**

Fl. "t" "k" "k"  
B. Cl. very breathy *mf*  
Perc. *ff*  
Pno. *ff*  
(8<sup>th</sup>)  
Vln. *ff*  
Vc. <*ff*> *f*

57      58      59      60

Fl.  
B. Cl. <*ff*>  
Perc.  
Pno.  
Vln.  
Vc. <*ff*> *f* *fp* *ff*

61      62      63      64

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

(65) (66) (67) (68)

**H** very fast tremolos

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

(69) (70) (71) (72)

## Kindling

9

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

(73) (74) (75) (76)

**I**

Perc.

Vln.

(77) (78) (79) (80) (81)

Perc.

Vln.

(82) (83) (84) (85)

Perc.

Vln.

(86) (87) (88) (89)

## Kindling

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

(90) (91) (92) (93)

**J**

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

(94) (95) (96)

Perc.

Vln.

(97) (98) (99)

Perc.

Vln.

(100) (101) (102) (103)

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

(104) (105) (106) (107)

**K**

Fl. *mf* — *p*

B. Cl. *pp*

Perc. *mf* — *p* *mp*

Pno. *mf* — *p*

Vln.

Vc. *mp*

*ff* *f* *ric.* *mf*

(108) (109) (110) (111)

Fl. *ff* — *ff*

B. Cl. *ff* — *ff*

Perc.

Pno.

Vln. *ff*

Vc. *ff*

(112) (113) (114) (115)

**L**

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

*p very connected, continuous sound*

(116) (117) (118) (119)

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

*mf* *ff* *ff*

(120) (121) (122) (123)

## Kindling

Fl. *p* *ff*

B. Cl. *f*

Perc. *f* *mp*

Pno. *p*

Vln. *sffz* *fff*

Vc. very fast tremolo *ff* *p* *ff*

(124) (125) (126) (127)

**M**

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc. *f* with some pedal to the end of the piece

Pno. *ff*

Vln. very choppy *mp*

Vc. *f*

(128) (129) (130) (131)

N

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

(132)

(133)

(134)

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

(135)

(136)

(137)

## Kindling

O

very short and percussive

*mp*

This section of the score shows six staves. The Flute and Bassoon are silent. The Percussion staff consists of eighth-note patterns with a dynamic of *mp*. The Piano staff features sixteenth-note patterns with a dynamic of *mf*. The Violin and Cello staves show sixteenth-note patterns with dynamics of *ff* and *ff*, respectively. Measure 138 ends with a circled measure number 138. Measures 139 and 140 follow.

This section of the score shows six staves. The Flute and Bassoon play sixteenth-note patterns. The Percussion staff consists of eighth-note patterns. The Piano staff features sixteenth-note patterns with dynamics of *f* and *f*. The Violin and Cello staves show sixteenth-note patterns with dynamics of *f* and *f*. Measure 141 ends with a circled measure number 141. Measures 142 and 143 follow.

## Kindling

17

**P**

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

(144)

(145)

(146)

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

*ff*

*mf*

(147)

(148)

(149)

## Kindling

**Q**

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

Measure 150: Flute and Bassoon play eighth-note patterns. Percussion plays eighth notes at *mp*. Piano has eighth-note pairs. Violin has sixteenth-note patterns at *ff*. Cello has eighth-note patterns at *mf*.

Measure 151: Percussion and Piano continue eighth-note patterns. Violin has sixteenth-note patterns at *ff*. Cello has eighth-note patterns.

Measure 152: Violin continues sixteenth-note patterns at *ff*. Cello has eighth-note patterns. Dynamic *ff* noisy, aggressive. Cello part includes instructions: "very high on the fingerboard use any natural harmonics in this register sul pont. III II I II I II III sim."

(150) (151) (152)

Perc.

Vc.

Measure 153: Percussion plays eighth notes. Cello has eighth-note patterns.

Measure 154: Percussion and Cello continue eighth-note patterns. Cello has sixteenth-note patterns.

Measure 155: Percussion and Cello continue eighth-note patterns. Cello has sixteenth-note patterns. Dynamic *f*. Text: "exact pitches starting here".

(153) (154) (155)

Perc.

Vc.

Measure 156: Percussion plays eighth notes. Cello has eighth-note patterns.

Measure 157: Percussion and Cello continue eighth-note patterns. Cello has sixteenth-note patterns.

Measure 158: Percussion and Cello continue eighth-note patterns. Cello has sixteenth-note patterns.

(156) (157) (158)

**R**

Perc.

Vc.

Measure 159: Percussion plays eighth notes. Cello has eighth-note patterns.

Measure 160: Percussion and Cello continue eighth-note patterns. Cello has sixteenth-note patterns.

Measure 161: Percussion and Cello continue eighth-note patterns. Cello has sixteenth-note patterns.

Measure 162: Percussion and Cello continue eighth-note patterns. Cello has sixteenth-note patterns. Dynamic *ff*. Text: "(sul pont.) - -"

(159) (160) (161) (162)

Perc.

Vc.

*f*

*mf*

heavy pressure

sul pont. as before

(sul pont.)

*3*

*f*

heavy pressure  
and increasingly noisy

ord.

163 164 165 166 167

Perc.

Vln.

Vc.

*mp*

*mf*

*glassy*

*fff*

168 169 170 171

**S**

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

*p*

*mp*

*sim.*

*f*

poco sul pont.

172 173 174 175

## Kindling

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

(176) (177) (178)

T

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

(179) (180) (181) (182)

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc. sul pont.

(183) (184) (185) (186)

**U**

Fl.

B. Cl. *ff*

Perc. *ff*

Pno. *fff*

Vln.

Vc. *p* — *ff*    *p < mf*    *p < mf*    *p < f*    *p < f*

(187) (188) (189) (190)

## Kindling

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc. *(8va)* *pp* *ff*<sup>3</sup> *Hi bongo*

Pno. *mp*

Vln. *p*

Vc. *f*

(191) (192) (193) (194)

Fl.

B. Cl. *ff*

Perc. *Woodblock*

Pno. *fff* *8va*

Vln.

Vc. *p* *ff* *p < f* *p = ff* *p < f* *p < f* *p = f* *p = ff*

(195) (196) (197) (198)

V

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

(8va)

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

*at the frog*

*sim.*

*f*

*p*

*mf*

*sim.*

*f*

*p < f*

*f*

199

200

201

202

Fl.

"t" "k"

"t" "k"

"t" "k"

"k"

"t" "k"

"t" "k"

"t" "k"

*f*

*mp*

*f*

*mp*

*slap tongue, no pitch*

*fp*

*ff*

*fp*

Perc.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

*p < ff*

*f*

203

204

205

206

## Kindling

W

Fl. "k" "k"  
 B. Cl. ff fp ff fp ff  
 Perc.  
 Pno. mp  
 Vln. f  
 Vc. p ff p ff p ff  
 (207) (208) (209) (210)

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno.

Vln. 3

Vc.

(211) (212) (213) (214)

**X**

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc. *mf*

Pno. *mf*

Vln. *mf*

Vc. *f* *ff* *warm* *f* *f* *ff*

(215) (216) (217)

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc. *ff* *sul pont.* *f* *ff* *warm* *mp*

(218) (219) (220)

## Kindling

**Y**

Fl.

B. Cl. *ff*

Perc.

Pno. *fff*

Vln. *fff*

Vc. *ff* = *ff* *mp* <*ff* *mp* <*ff* *mp* <*ff* *mp*

(221) (222) (223)

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno. (8va) - *pp*

Vln.

Vc. <*ff* *mp*

(224) (225) (226) (227)

**Z**

Fl. "t" "k"  
B. Cl.  
Perc.  
Pno. *sim.* *p*  
Vln. *p*  
Vc. *mf*

Measure 228: Flute and Bassoon play eighth-note patterns. Percussion plays eighth notes. Piano has eighth-note chords. Violin and Cello play sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 229: Flute and Bassoon play eighth-note patterns. Percussion plays eighth notes. Piano has eighth-note chords. Violin and Cello play sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 230: Flute and Bassoon play eighth-note patterns. Percussion plays eighth notes. Piano has eighth-note chords. Violin and Cello play sixteenth-note patterns. Measures 229 and 230 include dynamic markings: *warm*, *f*, *mf*.

(228) (229) (230)

Fl. "t"  
B. Cl.  
Perc.  
Pno.  
Vln.  
Vc. *sul pont.* *f*

Measure 231: Flute and Bassoon play eighth-note patterns. Percussion plays eighth notes. Piano has eighth-note chords. Violin and Cello play sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 232: Flute and Bassoon play eighth-note patterns. Percussion plays eighth notes. Piano has eighth-note chords. Violin and Cello play sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 233: Flute and Bassoon play eighth-note patterns. Percussion plays eighth notes. Piano has eighth-note chords. Violin and Cello play sixteenth-note patterns. Measures 232 and 233 include dynamic markings: *warm*, *f*.

(231) (232) (233)

## Kindling

Fl. "t" "k"  
f

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno. *8va*  
mf  
mp

Vln. *mf*

Vc. sul pont.  
*ff*  
*f*

(234) (235) (236)

Fl. "t" "k"  
x x "t" "k"

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno. *8va*  
(8va)

Vln.

Vc. warm *ff* f very fast tremolo *mf*

(237) (238) (239)

**AA**

Fl. very breathy  $\# \text{C} \text{ E}$

B. Cl.  $\text{B} \text{ D} \text{ F}$  flz.  $\text{E} \text{ G} \text{ B}$   $\text{A} \text{ C} \text{ E}$   $\text{D} \text{ F} \text{ A}$

Perc.  $\text{E} \text{ G} \text{ B}$  ff

Pno. fff

Vln.  $\text{G} \text{ B} \text{ D} \text{ F} \text{ A}$   $\text{F} \text{ A} \text{ C} \text{ E} \text{ G}$  aggressive

Vc. ff

(240) (241) (242)

Fl.

B. Cl.  $\text{G} \text{ B} \text{ D} \text{ F}$   $\text{E} \text{ G} \text{ B}$   $\text{A} \text{ C} \text{ E}$   $\text{D} \text{ F} \text{ A}$  fp  $\text{E} \text{ G} \text{ B}$

Perc.  $\text{E} \text{ G} \text{ B}$

Pno.  $\text{B} \text{ D} \text{ F}$

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

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

(243) (244) (245)

## Kindling

Fl.

B. Cl. < *fff* > *mf* *fp* < *f*

Perc. *mf*

Pno. *mf* *ff* *sub-*

Vln.

Vc. *pizz.* *mf* *ff*

(246) (247) (248) (249)

**BB** very fast tremolos

Fl. *ff* < *fff* > *mf ff* < *ff* >

B. Cl. < *fff* >

Perc. *ff*

Pno. *fff*

Vln. sul pont.  
very fast tremolos

Vc. arco < *fff* > *f* < *ff* > *ff* < *fff* > *f*

(250) (251) (252)

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

(8<sup>va</sup>)

253

254

255

Fl.

B. Cl.

Perc.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

256

257

258

