

Collapse

for three cellos, two basses, and two percussionists

by

M. Scott Johnson

Collapse

this is a work created to be accessible to persons with hearing-impairments,
through the music itself as well as through visual elements of the performance and vibrotactile stimulation

- instances of repeat signs followed by numbers (eg. "x16"), this number includes the initial statement
- this work is intended to be performed with some sort of visual element that corresponds and enhances the music
 - all instruments should be visible at all times of the performance (for the audience to see bowings, etc.)
 - a video is available to be played along during the performance
a click track may be used to insure that the performance syncs up with the video
 - another visual medium may be used (such as dance, special staging, or lighting)
 - you may choose to present something other than the narrative of a star collapsing,
presenting the idea of "collapse" and the expanding and contracting motion in a different way
- the sensation of vibrations from the music plays an important role in the musical narrative and reception of the work
 - choose a performance space that is conducive to the vibrations in the music,
if one is not available, use amplification as needed (subwoofers, etc.)
 - external vibrotactile aids may be used to enhance this experience,
inflated balloons are an excellent aid, and can be handed to all members of the audience with instructions
- the final section of the piece (with graphic notation) should be performed as smoothly as possible.

Percussion Used

	3 timpani:
percussionist 1 -	32" - G
	25" - Db
	21" - A

	2 timpani:
percussionist 2 -	28" - A
	23" - E
	bass drum

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The Steady Heartbeat of a Star (♩ = 74)

The score consists of the following parts and markings:

- Cello 1:** Starts with a multi-measure rest for 5 measures, then plays a quarter note followed by two eighth notes. Dynamic: *pp*.
- Cello 2:** Starts with a multi-measure rest for 19 measures, then plays a quarter note followed by two eighth notes. Dynamic: *pp*, marked *pizz.*
- Cello 3:** Starts with a multi-measure rest for 36 measures, then plays a quarter note followed by two eighth notes. Dynamic: *pp*.
- Bass 1:** Starts with a multi-measure rest for 36 measures, then plays a quarter note followed by two eighth notes. Dynamic: *pp*.
- Bass 2:** Starts with a multi-measure rest for 38 measures, then plays a quarter note followed by two eighth notes. Dynamic: *pp*, marked *pizz.*
- Timpani 1 (G, C#, A):** Plays a quarter note followed by two eighth notes. Dynamic: *pp*.
- Timpani 2 (A, E):** Remains silent throughout the piece.
- Bass Drum:** Plays a quarter note followed by two eighth notes. Dynamic: *pp*, marked *dampen*.

Collapse

A

9

Vlc. 1

p *espress.* *pp*

tutti

cresc. poco a poco

Detailed description: This system contains measures 9 through 16. The Violin 1 part begins with a melodic line in the bass clef, marked with a box 'A' above measure 9. Dynamics include *p* (piano), *espress.* (espressivo), and *pp* (pianissimo). The tutti section below is a dense, rhythmic texture that gradually increases in volume, indicated by the instruction *cresc. poco a poco*.

17

Vlc. 1

pizz. *pp*

cresc. poco a poco

Vlc. 2

arco

p *espress.*

tutti

17

Detailed description: This system contains measures 17 through 20. Violin 1 plays a pizzicato (pizz.) line, marked *pp*, with a *cresc. poco a poco* instruction. Violin 2 enters in measure 17 with an arco (arco) line, marked *p* and *espress.*. The tutti section continues with a dense texture.

25

Vlc. 1

Vlc. 2

tutti

Musical score for measures 25-32. Vlc. 1: Tremolo. Vlc. 2: Melodic line with accents (> and <) and hairpins. tutti: Tremolo.

33

Vlc. 1

Vlc. 2

tutti

arco

p legato

Musical score for measures 33-40. Vlc. 1: arco, *p* legato. Vlc. 2: Melodic line with hairpins. tutti: Tremolo. Time signature: 4/4.

B

41

Vlc. 1

Vlc. 2

Vlc. 3

Cb. 1

Cb. 2

Timp. 1

B. Dr.

mp *cresc. poco a poco* *mf*

mp *cresc. poco a poco* *sim.*

mp *cresc. poco a poco*

mp *cresc. poco a poco*

mp let ring *cresc. poco a poco*

47

Vlc. 1

Vlc. 2

Vlc. 3

Cb. 1

Cb. 2

Timp. 1

B. Dr.

cresc. poco a poco

mf

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for measures 47 through 51. It features seven staves. Violin 1 (Vlc. 1) and Violin 2 (Vlc. 2) are in the upper system, both in bass clef. Violin 1 has a melodic line starting with a half note G2, followed by quarter notes A2, B2, and C3, then a half note D3. Violin 2 has a similar line but with a flat on the first note (F2). Both violins have a *cresc. poco a poco* marking. Violin 3 (Vlc. 3) is in the middle system, bass clef, with a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes. Clarinet 1 (Cb. 1) and Clarinet 2 (Cb. 2) are in the lower system, both in treble clef. Cb. 1 has a melodic line with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. Cb. 2 has a similar line but with a flat on the first note (F4). Timpani 1 (Timp. 1) and Bass Drum (B. Dr.) are in the bottom system. Timp. 1 has a rhythmic pattern of quarter notes. B. Dr. has a steady pulse of quarter notes.

52

Vlc. 1

Vlc. 2

Vlc. 3

Cb. 1

Cb. 2

Timp. 1

B. Dr.

legato

Detailed description: This musical score page, numbered 52, is titled 'Collapse'. It features six staves. The top three staves are for Violins 1, 2, and 3, all in bass clef. Violins 1 and 2 play a complex melodic line with various accidentals and slurs. Violin 3 has a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The middle two staves are for Clarinets 1 and 2, in treble clef. Clarinet 1 has a melodic line with a 'legato' marking. Clarinet 2 has a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The bottom two staves are for Timpani 1 and Bass Drum. Timpani 1 has a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with slurs. Bass Drum has a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with slurs.

57

Vlc. 1

Vlc. 2

Vlc. 3

Cb. 1

Cb. 2

Timp. 1

B. Dr.

legato

Detailed description: This page of a musical score, titled 'Collapse', contains measures 57 through 61. The score is arranged in a system with seven staves. The top three staves are for Violins 1, 2, and 3, all in bass clef. Violin 1 and 2 play melodic lines with various accidentals (flats and sharps) and slurs. Violin 3 plays a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes. The middle two staves are for Clarinets 1 and 2, both in treble clef. Clarinet 1 has a 'legato' marking under its line. The bottom two staves are for Timpani 1 and Bass Drum. Timpani 1 plays a series of quarter notes with slurs. The Bass Drum part consists of a series of quarter notes with slurs, indicating a steady rhythmic pattern.

62

Vlc. 1

Vlc. 2

Vlc. 3

Cb. 1

Cb. 2

Timp. 1

B. Dr.

f ⁵ *p* *f*

mf *p* *f*

mf *p*

Detailed description: This page of a musical score, titled 'Collapse', contains measures 62 through 65. The score is arranged in a system with seven staves. The top three staves are for Violins 1, 2, and 3, all in bass clef. Violins 1 and 2 play a melodic line with eighth-note patterns and slurs. Violin 3 plays a sustained chord in the lower register. The next two staves are for Clarinets 1 and 2, both in treble clef. Clarinet 1 plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment, while Clarinet 2 plays a sustained chord. The fifth staff is for Timpani 1, featuring a series of quarter notes with slurs. The bottom staff is for Bass Drum, showing a rhythmic pattern of quarter notes with slurs. Dynamic markings include *f*, *p*, *mf*, and *f* with hairpins. A fermata is present over a measure in the Violin 3 part.

67

Vlc. 1

Vlc. 2

Vlc. 3

Cb. 1

Cb. 2

Timp. 1

B. Dr.

f ⁵ *p* *f*

mp *f*

f

ff *sp* <

rit.-----

A Red Giant (♩ = 60)

72

Vlc. 1 *ff* x12

Vlc. 2 *ff* x4 *espress.* *f* *ff* *p*

Vlc. 3 *ff* *p* x12

Cb. 1 *pizz.* *ff* *p* x12

Cb. 2 *ff* *p* x12

Timp. 1 *ff* *pp* x11

Timp. 2 *mf* *pp* x12

B. Dr. *ff*

Detailed description: This page of a musical score, titled 'A Red Giant' with a tempo of quarter note = 60, contains parts for seven instruments. The score is in 5/4 time. Vln. 1 and Vln. 2 have a first ending of 12 measures and a second ending of 4 measures. Vln. 3, Cb. 1, Cb. 2, Timp. 1, and Timp. 2 each have a first ending of 12 measures. Timp. 1 has a first ending of 11 measures. The B. Dr. part has a first ending of 12 measures. Dynamics range from fortissimo (ff) to pianissimo (pp). Vln. 2 has an 'espress.' marking and a dynamic contour from f to ff to p. Cb. 1 has a 'pizz.' marking and a dynamic contour from ff to p. Timp. 1 has a dynamic contour from ff to pp. Timp. 2 has a dynamic contour from mf to pp. The B. Dr. part has a dynamic contour from ff to p. The score includes various articulations such as accents, slurs, and a triplet in the Cb. 1 part.

78

Vlc. 1

Vlc. 2

Vlc. 3

Cb. 1

Cb. 2

Timp. 1

Timp. 2

B. Dr.

sul pont.

p mp pp

ppp

ppp

ppp

ff sp

84 C gradual accel.-----

Vlc. 1
Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Measure 85: Treble clef, common time. Dynamics: *p*, *legato*.

Vlc. 2
Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Dynamics: *p*, *legato*.

Vlc. 3
Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Dynamics: *p*, *legato*.

Cb. 1
Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Dynamics: *p*.

Cb. 2
Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Dynamics: *ff* \triangleright *p*, *mf* \triangleright *p*, *mp* \triangleright *pp*, *p* \triangleright *pp*, *sim.*

Timp. 1
Bass clef, 4/4 time signature.

Timp. 2
Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Dynamics: *mf*, *mp*.

B. Dr.
Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Dynamics: *ff*, *mf*, *mp*, *p*, *sim.*

89 (gradual accel.)

The musical score for measures 89-94 of 'Collapse' is arranged in a system with seven staves. A dashed line at the top indicates a 'gradual accel.' (gradual acceleration) starting at measure 89. The parts are:

- Vlc. 1:** Treble clef, playing a melodic line with long notes and slurs.
- Vlc. 2:** Bass clef, playing a melodic line with long notes and slurs.
- Vlc. 3:** Bass clef, playing a melodic line with long notes and slurs.
- Cb. 1:** Bass clef, playing sustained chords with dynamic markings *p* (piano) and *sim.* (sforzando).
- Cb. 2:** Bass clef, playing triplet patterns.
- Timp. 1:** Bass clef, playing a steady rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.
- B. Dr.:** Bass clef, playing a steady rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.

D

101 (gradual accel.)

Vlc. 1

Vlc. 2

Vlc. 3

Cb. 1

Cb. 2

Timp. 1

B. Dr.

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

116 (gradual accel.)

Vlc. 1

Vlc. 2

Vlc. 3

Cb. 1

Cb. 2

Timp. 1

B. Dr.

Detailed description: This page of a musical score, titled 'Collapse', covers measures 116 to 123. It includes a tempo marking '(gradual accel.)' and a rehearsal mark '116'. The score is arranged in six staves. Violin 1 (Vlc. 1) is in treble clef, playing a sequence of quarter notes that change from G4 to A4, B4, and C5. Violin 2 (Vlc. 2) is in bass clef, playing a sequence of quarter notes: B2, A2, G2, F2, E2, D2, C2, B1, A1, G1, F1, E1, D1. Violin 3 (Vlc. 3) is in bass clef, playing a sequence of quarter notes: G2, F2, E2, D2, C2, B1, A1, G1, F1, E1, D1. Cello 1 (Cb. 1) is in bass clef, playing a sequence of quarter notes: G2, F2, E2, D2, C2, B1, A1, G1, F1, E1, D1. Cello 2 (Cb. 2) is in bass clef, playing a sequence of eighth notes: G2, F2, E2, D2, C2, B1, A1, G1, F1, E1, D1. Timpani 1 (Timp. 1) is in bass clef, playing a sequence of quarter notes: G2, F2, E2, D2, C2, B1, A1, G1, F1, E1, D1. Bass Drum (B. Dr.) is in common time, playing a sequence of quarter notes: G2, F2, E2, D2, C2, B1, A1, G1, F1, E1, D1.

Collapse

124 (gradual accel.)

Vlc. 1

Vlc. 2

Vlc. 3

Cb. 1

Cb. 2

Timp. 1

B. Dr.

White Dwarf (♩ = 100)

132

Vlc. 1 *pp* x16 x16

Vlc. 2 *pp* x16 x16

Vlc. 3 *pp* x16 x16

Cb. 1 *pp* x16 x16

Cb. 2 *pizz.* *pp* x16 x16

Timp. 1 *pp* x16 x16

Timp. 2 *pp* x16 x16

sul tasto → *ord.*

sul tasto → *ord.*

sul tasto → *ord.*

sul tasto → *ord.*

molto accel.

(♩ = 250)

Vlc. 1 *f* x16 *ff* x16

Vlc. 2 *f* x16 *ff* x16

Vlc. 3 *f* x16 *ff* x16

Cb. 1 *f* x16 *ff* x16

Cb. 2 *f* x16 *ff* x16

Timp. 1 *f* x16 *ff* x16

Timp. 2 *f* x16 *ff* *spp* x16

bass drum

From Supernova to Black Hole (smoothly)

195 [0:10] [0:20] [0:30] [0:40] [0:50]

Vlc. 1 *fff* *slow gliss.* *p*

Vlc. 2 *fff* *slow gliss.* *p*

Vlc. 3 *fff* *slow gliss.* *p* *sul tasto*

Cb. 1 *fff* *slow gliss.* *p*

Cb. 2 *fff* *slow gliss.* *p* legato - bow as necessary

Timp. 1 *fff* *slow gliss.* *p* (highest pitch possible) 25" (highest pitch possible) 21"

Timp. 2 *fff* *slow gliss.* *p* (highest pitch possible) 23" (highest pitch possible)

B. Dr. *fff*

Detailed description: This musical score page, titled 'Collapse', features a section from measure 195 to 210. The title 'From Supernova to Black Hole (smoothly)' is prominently displayed at the top. The score is arranged in a system with eight staves: Violin 1, Violin 2, Violin 3, Contrabass 1, Contrabass 2, Timpani 1, Timpani 2, and Bass Drum. The Violin and Contrabass parts are marked with a *fff* dynamic and a *slow gliss.* instruction, with a dynamic shift to *p* at the end of the section. The Violin 3 part includes the instruction *sul tasto* towards the end. The Timpani parts feature *fff* dynamics and *slow gliss.* instructions, with specific performance notes: '(highest pitch possible)' and boxed measurements of 25", 21", and 23". The Bass Drum part begins with a *fff* dynamic. Time markers [0:10], [0:20], [0:30], [0:40], and [0:50] are placed above the staves. The page number 21 is in the top right corner.

Collapse

[1:00] [1:10] [1:20] [1:30] [1:40] [1:50]

Vlc. 1 rapid pizzicato (two fingers +) -----
Vlc. 2 rapid pizzicato (two fingers +) -----
Vlc. 3 rapid pizzicato (two fingers +) -----
Cb. 1 rapid pizzicato (two fingers +) -----
Cb. 2 rapid pizzicato (two fingers +) -----
Timp. 1
Timp. 2 bass drum
pp *pp* ----- *n*