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# ROBERT G. PATTERSON

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## **377 (in time of plague)**

*for any large ensemble*  
*(2020)*



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PATTERSON

**377 (in time of plague)**

*for any large ensemble*

*duration 6:07*

Great River Music  
Memphis, TN

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## INSTRUMENTATION

“377 (in time of plague)” was commissioned by Patrick Bolton and the Christian Brothers High School Band for virtual performance during the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic. It is written in a style similar to the number pieces of John Cage, though in this case the number indicates the number of seconds in the piece.

- The score consists of four separate parts: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass.
- The ensemble divides up the parts so that they balance equally and are comfortable for the ranges of the instruments or voices performing them. The ensemble should be consist of at least twenty to thirty performers.
- Each part consists of a sequence of notes with a start and end time given for each.
- All performers watch a video that displays a timer cycling from 0:00 to 6:17 (377 ticks). However the video is slightly time-compressed so that the 377 “seconds” elapse in the space of 367 actual seconds. (367 is a numerological number for COVID -19.)
- Each performer plays a single gesture on each note, beginning and ending within the allotted time segment. Within its time segment, a gesture can be of any length, technique (including mutes), or dynamic. Bursts of repeated tones are also permissible. Performers should be as creative as possible in varying their gestures in response to the gestures of their colleagues.
- Be spontaneous. Each run-through of the piece should be quite different than the previous.

Since the original commission was for wind band, here are suggested part assignments for wind band.

Flutes, Piccolos, High Clarinets, Oboes, High Trumpets	Soprano
Low Clarinets, Alto Sax 1, Low Trumpets, High French Horns	Alto
Alto Sax 2, Tenor Sax, Bassoon 1, Low French Horns, Tenor Trombone, Baritones	Tenor
Bari Sax, Bassoon 2, Contrabassoon, Bass Clarinet, Bass Trombone, Basses, Timpani	Bass

Pitched Percussion may play any part.

Unpitched Percussion may play any part, producing an unpitched sound for each note in the part.

Hommage à John Cage

377

(in time of plague)

R. G. PATTERSON (2020)

0:00 0:01 0:02 0:03 0:04 0:05 0:06 0:07 0:08 0:09 0:10 0:11 0:12 0:13 0:14 0:15 0:16

*Soprano may perform notes in higher octaves ad lib.*

**SOPRANO** 0:00 0:21

**ALTO** 0:00 0:13 0:13 0:26

**TENOR** 0:12 0:36

**BASS** 0:00 0:24

*Bass may perform notes in lower octaves ad lib.*

0:17 0:18 0:19 0:20 0:21 0:22 0:23 0:24 0:25 0:26 0:27 0:28 0:29 0:30 0:31 0:32 0:33 0:34 0:35 0:36 0:37 0:38 0:39

0:00 0:34 0:34 0:55

0:26 0:47

0:36 1:00

0:24 0:48

0:40 0:41 0:42 0:43 0:44 0:45 0:46 0:47 0:48 0:49 0:50 0:51 0:52 0:53 0:54 0:55 0:56 0:57 0:58 0:59 1:00 1:01

0:55 1:16

0:47 1:08

1:00 1:24

0:48 1:12

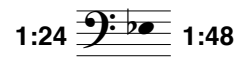
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1:16 1:29

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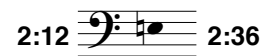
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2:47 2:48 2:49 2:50 2:51 2:52 2:53 2:54 2:55 2:56 2:57 2:58 2:59 3:00 3:01 3:02 3:03 3:04 3:05 3:06 3:07



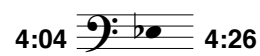
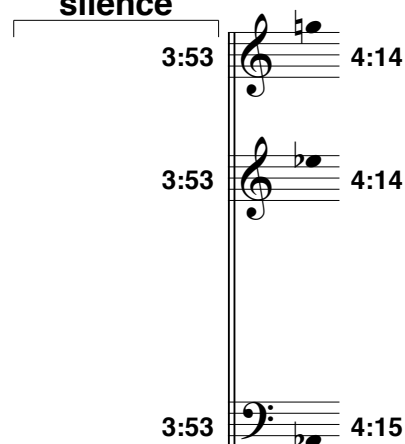
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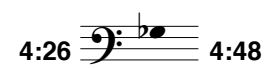
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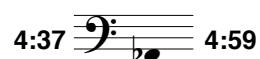
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silence



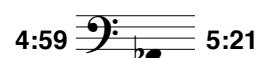
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4:32 4:33 4:34 4:35 4:36 4:37 4:38 4:39 4:40 4:41 4:42 4:43 4:44 4:45 4:46 4:47 4:48 4:49 4:50 4:51 4:52



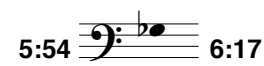
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