

Ania Vu

Tik-Tak

for soprano, flute, clarinet, violin, percussion

(2019)

Instrumentation

Soprano

Flute

Clarinet in Bb

Violin

Percussion: vibraphone, two bongos, two woodblocks

Written for and premiered by the TAK Ensemble in March 2019, University of Pennsylvania.

Score in C

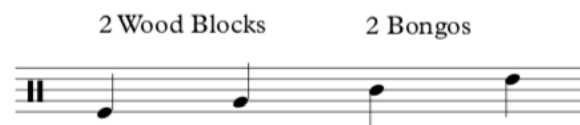
Duration: 5 minutes

Time moves on mercilessly — independent of, and indifferent to any of our human events and interactions. Any meaningful moment that we would like to hold on to... vanishes irrevocably, *as if nothing had happened*. This line opens and closes the poem. *Tik-Tak* reminds us of the relentless flow of time with the incessant sounds of a ticking clock. I chose to write in Polish because the clock's “tik-tak” contains the word “tak”, which has a number of meanings in this language — *yes, such as, as if, as much* — all of them being used in the poem. Finally, this word is also a bow to the ensemble it was written for: the TAK ensemble.

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Performance notes

Percussion key:



Voice



Tik-Tak

Nic...

Jak gdyby nic

Jak gdyby nigdy nic

Zegar tyka
Czas upływa
Nic nie wraca

Znów ucieka
Nie ogląda się za siebie
Goni cały czas
Ale dokąd? Dokąd on tak goni?
Czemu on *nas* goni,
...tak nietaktownie?

Teraz chwila ta
Czułe spojrzenia twe
I niesłychane mi dotąd wyznania

Znikną!
Tak o tak.

Za pięć tysięcy lat
Zegary ustąpią
A czas dalej będzie gonił

Tik-tak
Tik-tak...

Tak, jak gdyby nigdy nic.

Tick-Tock

Nothing...

As if nothing

As if nothing had happened

Clock is ticking
Time is running
With no return

It's running again,
It does not look back
It keeps rushing the whole time
But where to? Where is it rushing to?
Why is it rushing *us*,
...so untactfully?

Now this very moment
Your tender gaze
And unheard-of confessions

Will vanish!
Just like that

In five thousand years
The clocks will cease ticking
But time will still be running

Tick-tock
Tick-tock...

As if nothing had happened.

Tik-Tak

Ania Vu

Precise ♩=120

[f] make "ts" sound whistly, and similar to the wind

Soprano

ni- c(ts) jak gdy-by ni c(ts) jak

Flute

Clarinet in B \flat

Violin

hammer-on pizz.

Vibraphone

Vibraphone motor off; hands

Bongos fingers

Vib. hands

Bongos fingers

ppp pp ppp p mp p

Red.

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for a piece titled 'Tik-Tak' by Ania Vu. It is in 4/4 time with a tempo of 120 beats per minute. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The Soprano part has lyrics: 'ni- c(ts) jak gdy-by ni c(ts) jak'. The Flute part starts with a *pp* dynamic and has a whistling-like texture. The Clarinet in B \flat part is mostly silent. The Violin part includes a 'hammer-on' and 'pizz.' (pizzicato) section. The Vibraphone part is divided into sections: 'Vibraphone motor off; hands' (ppp), 'Bongos fingers' (p), 'Vib. hands' (mp), and 'Bongos fingers' (p). There is a 'Red.' marking at the end of the Vibraphone part.

11 **A**

S. *p* gdy-by nig-dy ni - - - - c(ts)! *mp* nic - - - - nic nic

Fl. *pp* *p*

Cl. *pp*

Vln. *pp* arco *p* pizz.

Bg. To W.B. Wood blocks sticks *ppp*

21 **B**

S. *p* ze - gar ty - ka cza - s u - ply - wa *mf* nic nie nie nie nie nie nie nie wra-ca

Fl. *mp* *f*

Cl. *sempre pp* *f*

Vln. *sempre p*

W.B.

29 **C**

S. *mp* *f* *mf* **D** *mf*
 ni — c nie wra — ca znów znów

Fl. *p* *mf* *f*

Cl. *p* *mf* *p* *mp* *f* *p*

Vln. *arco* *mf*

W.B. *mp*

36

S. *f* *ff* *f*
 znów znó-ó-ó-ó-ów u-cie-ka znów znó-ó-ó-ó-ów u-cie-ka nie Nie o-glą-da sie za sie-bie

Fl. *f* *f* *mf* *p*

Cl. *f* *f* *mf* *p*

Vln. *f* *mf* *p*

W.B. *fp* *p* *mf* to Vibraphone