

Six Haiku

after Bashô

for percussion quartet

by Paul Cowell

2015

- 1 A cuckoo**
- 2 Lightning**
- 3 Spring rain**
- 4 Autumn storm**
- 5 Temple bell**
- 6 A cicada shell**

The haiku

1 A cuckoo

A cuckoo cries
and through the vast bamboo thicket
the moon's light

時鳥
大竹藪を
もる月夜

hototogisu
ôtakeyabu o
moru tsukiyo

2 Lightning

A lightning gleam:
into the darkness
a night-heron's cry

稲妻や
闇の方行く
五位の声

inazuma ya
yami no kata yuku
goi no koe

3 Spring rain

Spring rain
leaking through the roof
dripping from the wasp's nest

春雨や
蜂の巣つたふ
屋根の漏り

harusame ya
hachi no su tsutau
yane no mori

5 Autumn storm

Wild boars too
are blown along
an autumn wind

猪も
ともに吹かるる
野分かな

inoshishi mo
tomo ni fukaruru
nowaki kana

6 Temple bell (My grass-thatched hut)

Clouds of cherry blossoms
the temple bell in Ueno
or Asakusa?

花の雲
鐘は上野か
浅草か

hana no kumo
kane wa ueno ka
asakusa ka

7 A cicada shell

A cicada shell:
it sang itself
utterly away

声にみな
泣きしまふてや
蝉の殻

koe ni mina
nakishimôte ya
semi no kara

The haiku may optionally be recited before or after each of the movements

Performance notes

	Player 1	Player 2	Player 3	Player 4
1	Snare drum 1	Bell plate Triangle Suspended cymbal	Woodblocks (3)	Bongos
2	Snare drum 1	Triangle Suspended cymbal	Woodblocks (3)	Bongos
3	Snare drum 1	Castanets	Woodblocks (3)	Bongos
4	Snare drum 1	Triangle Suspended cymbal	Tambourine	Snare drum 2
5	Bell plate Triangle	Suspended cymbal	Tambourine	Maracas
6	Claves	Castanets	Woodblocks (3)	Güiro

Suggested layout

	Castanets		
	Suspended cymbal	Tambourine	
	Triangle	Woodblocks	
Bell plate			Maracas
Claves			Güiro
Snare drum 1			Bongos
			Snare drum 2

This arrangement provides separation between the snares and bongos, but other convenient arrangements are possible. The bell plate may be any resonant metal plate with a long sustain. It need not be large as long as it is fairly bell-like. A large handbell may be a possible alternative.

Cuculus optatus

The Oriental cuckoo or Horsfield's cuckoo

Gorsachius goisagi

The Japanese night heron

Six Haiku after Bashô for percussion quartet was awarded second prize by the Portland Percussion Group (www.portlandpercussiongroup.com) in “Nothing with Wheels 2015”. *Six Haiku* was first performed by the group in Portland in May 2015.

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September 2015

Six haiku after Bashô

1 A cuckoo

Paul Cowell
January 2015

Andante ♩ = 84

1. Snare drum 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ snares off

2. Bell plate $\frac{3}{4}$

Triangle $\frac{3}{4}$

Suspended cymbal $\frac{3}{4}$

3. Woodblocks (3) $\frac{3}{4}$ Cuculus optatus *mp*
soft mallets

4. Bongos $\frac{3}{4}$ *pp* hands

4

1. Snare 1 $\frac{5:6$ stick-shot $\frac{5:4$ $\frac{5:6$

2. Bell pl. $\frac{5:6$

Tri.

Sus. cym.

3. Wbl. *mp*

4. Bongos

7

1. Snare 1 stick-shot $\frac{5:6$ *ppp*

2. Bell pl. $\frac{5:6$

Tri.

Sus. cym.

3. Wbl. *mp*

4. Bongos

11

P 5:6

1. Snare 1

2. Bell pl.

Tri.

Sus. cym.

3. Wbl.

4. Bongos

P sticks

stick-shot

15

pp 5:6

1. Snare 1

2. Bell pl.

Tri.

Sus. cym.

3. Wbl.

4. Bongos

pp sticks

stick-shot

mp 3

mp 3

P 3

19

ppp

1. Snare 1

2. Bell pl.

Tri.

Sus. cym.

3. Wbl.

4. Bongos

P 3

ppp

ppp

ppp

P 3

2 Lightning

Paul Cowell
January 2015

Moderato ♩ = 90

1. Snare drum 1

2. Triangle

Suspended cymbal

3. Woodblocks (3)

4. Bongos

ppp

pp
dome
soft sticks

Gorsachius goisagi

p

13

1. Snare 1

2. Tri.

Sus. cym.

3. Wbl.

4. Bongos

p

24

p

f

p

f

31

1. Snare 1

2. Tri.

Sus. cym.

3. Wbl.

4. Bongos

fff

sticks

ff

ff

P

P

38

1. Snare 1

2. Tri.

Sus. cym.

3. Wbl.

4. Bongos

ppp

pp

dome

soft sticks

dome

dome

dome

dome

51

1. Snare 1

2. Tri.

Sus. cym.

3. Wbl.

4. Bongos

P

pp

P

56

1. Snare 1

2. Tri.

Sus. cym.

3. Wbl.

4. Bongos

pp

ppp

ppp

P

pp

3 Spring rain

Paul Cowell
January 2015

Allegro ♩ = 120

1. Snare drum 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ *P* stick-shot stick-shot

2. Castanets *P*

3. Woodblocks (3) $\frac{3}{4}$ soft mallets *P*

4. Bongos *P*

1. Snare 1 6

2. Cast.

3. Wbl.

4. Bongos

1. Snare 1 12 stick-shot stick-shot

2. Cast.

3. Wbl.

4. Bongos

1. Snare 1 17 stick-shot

2. Cast.

3. Wbl.

4. Bongos

1. Snare 1 22

2. Cast.

3. Wbl.

4. Bongos

26

1. Snare 1

2. Cast.

3. Wbl.

4. Bongos

stick-shot

31

1. Snare 1

2. Cast.

3. Wbl.

4. Bongos

34

1. Snare 1

2. Cast.

3. Wbl.

4. Bongos

38

1. Snare 1

2. Cast.

3. Wbl.

4. Bongos

42

1. Snare 1

2. Cast.

3. Wbl.

4. Bongos

stick-shot

10

5

p

5

ff
rimshot

1. Snare 1

2. Tri.

Sus. cym.

3. Tamb.

4. Snare 2

5

p

5

14

rimshot

rimshot

ff
rimshot

rimshot

1. Snare 1

2. Tri.

Sus. cym.

3. Tamb.

4. Snare 2

18

f

5

5

1. Snare 1

2. Tri.

Sus. cym.

3. Tamb.

4. Snare 2

f

5

5

20

ff

ff

1. Snare 1

2. Tri.

Sus. cym.

3. Tamb.

4. Snare 2

5 Temple bell (My grass-thatched hut)

Paul Cowell
January 2015

Andante moderato $\text{♩} = 132$

1. Bell plate

Triangle

2. Suspended cymbal

3. Tambourine

4. Maracas

pp

p

This system shows the first four measures of the piece. The percussion parts are: 1. Bell plate and Triangle (silent), 2. Suspended cymbal (silent), 3. Tambourine (quarter notes with accents, *pp*), and 4. Maracas (eighth notes, *p*). A double bar line is at the end of the system.

1. Bell pl.

Tri.

2. Sus. cym.

3. Tamb.

4. Mrc.

$(\text{♩} = 132)$

f

ppp

mf

pp

p

bowed (sempre)

p

This system shows measures 5-8. The percussion parts are: 1. Bell plate (half notes, *f*), 2. Suspended cymbal (half notes, *p*, bowed), 3. Tambourine (silent), 4. Maracas (quarter notes, *p*). The triangle plays a half note (*ppp*) in measure 6 and another (*pp*) in measure 8. A double bar line is at the end of the system.

1. Bell pl.

Tri.

2. Sus. cym.

3. Tamb.

4. Mrc.

$(\text{♩} = 132)$

p

pp

p

This system shows measures 9-12. The percussion parts are: 1. Bell plate (half notes, *p*), 2. Suspended cymbal (half notes, *p*), 3. Tambourine (eighth notes, *p*), 4. Maracas (eighth notes, *pp*). A double bar line is at the end of the system.

14

1. Bell pl. $\left(\text{♩} = 132 \right)$ *P* *PP*

Tri.

2. Sus. cym. *PP*

3. Tamb.

4. Mrc.

19 $\left(\text{♩} = 132 \right)$

1. Bell pl.

Tri.

2. Sus. cym.

3. Tamb. *P*

4. Mrc. *P*

23

1. Bell pl.

Tri.

2. Sus. cym.

3. Tamb.

4. Mrc. *PP*

25 $\left(\text{♩} = 132 \right)$ *PPP* *PPP*

1. Bell pl.

Tri.

2. Sus. cym. *PPP*

3. Tamb.

4. Mrc.

6 A cicada shell

Paul Cowell
January 2015

Moderato $\text{♩} = 80$ *p*

1. Claves

2. Castanets

3. Woodblocks (3)
hard mallets

4. Guiro

7

1. Clav.

2. Cast.

3. Wbl.

4. Guiro

14

1. Clav.

2. Cast.

3. Wbl.

4. Guiro

18

1. Clav. *mf* *f*

2. Cast. *f*

3. Wbl. *mf* *f*

4. Guiro

24

1. Clav. *mf* *p*

2. Cast. *mf*

3. Wbl. *pp* *ppp*

4. Guiro