

Patrick Andrew Thompson

# AURORA

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for viola and piano

First Performance on November 14, 2018  
Cohen-Davison Auditorium, Baltimore MD  
Allison Tsai piano, Carrie Jones viola

### COMPOSER'S NOTE

Above all else, Aurora is an exploration of dialogue between two equal partners whose roles are constantly evolving over the course of a dramatic narrative. Traditional soloist/accompanist relationships are rejected: sometimes the viola and piano work together to build a single melodic line from their individual fragments, sometimes they speak over each other, sometimes one floats above the other, and in a few special moments their chaotically independent lines converge to powerful unisons.

While not in any classical form, Aurora is nonetheless based on concepts of development and return, and it attempts to strike a balance between familiarity and evolution. The piece thrives on placing established ideas into new contexts and having material constantly respond to what has come before.

The title comes from images of colorful, flowing lights which kept playing in my mind as I wrote Aurora.

- Patrick Andrew Thompson

Duration: ca. 9 minutes

# AURORA

Patrick Andrew Thompson  
2018

♩ = 100 Boldly

Viola *ff*

Piano *ff*

5

*pp*

*p*

*p*

9

*pp mp*

*p*

*mf*

13

*mf* *f dim.*

5 6 5 3 5:4

6 5 7:6 3 5:4

5 *Rec.*

18 ♩ = ♩. (= 100) Fluidly

16

*mp* *pp*

3 4:3 2

5:6 4:3

*pp* *p*

4:3

*Rec.* *8vb*

20

*mf*

2 2

*Rec.* *8vb*

24

*pp* *mp* *mp*

Leo. Leo. Leo.

28

*mf* *f* *p sub.* *mp*

*f* *p sub.*

Leo. Leo. Leo.

32

*mf* *mp* *mf* *mp*

Leo. Leo.

Musical score for measures 36-39. The score is written for a single melodic line and a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). Measure 36 starts with a treble clef, 12/8 time signature, and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic, followed by a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. A wavy line above the staff indicates a tremolo effect. The grand staff continues with a forte (*f*) dynamic in the bass clef, followed by a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. A wavy line above the staff indicates a tremolo effect. The piece concludes with a repeat sign and a fermata over a whole note.

Musical score for measures 40-42. Measure 40 is marked with a boxed number '42'. The score is written for a single melodic line and a grand staff. Measure 40 starts with a treble clef, 12/8 time signature, and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody begins with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The grand staff continues with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The piece concludes with a repeat sign and a fermata over a whole note.

Musical score for measures 43-45. Measure 43 is marked with a boxed number '43'. The score is written for a single melodic line and a grand staff. Measure 43 starts with a treble clef, 12/8 time signature, and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic, followed by a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The grand staff continues with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The piece concludes with a repeat sign and a fermata over a whole note.

46

*mp*

*mp*

*p*

5

8

Leg.

49

*p*

*pp*

8<sup>va</sup>

*pp*

Leg.

52

*pp* *sempre legato e leggero*

*mp* *sempre l.v.*

Leg.

54

*p lirico*

56

*mf ritmico*

*p*

58

*p*



60

*p*

60

This system contains measures 60 and 61. The top staff is a vocal line with a long note in measure 60 and a half note in measure 61, both marked with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The piano accompaniment features a rapid sixteenth-note pattern in the right hand and rests in the left hand.

62

*p lirico*

*mp*  
*sc.*

62

This system contains measures 62 and 63. The vocal line has a long note in measure 62 and a half note in measure 63, marked with a piano (*p*) and *lirico* dynamic. The piano accompaniment continues with the sixteenth-note pattern in the right hand and has a chord in the left hand in measure 62, marked with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic and *sc.* (scordatura).

64

*p*

64

This system contains measures 64 and 65. The vocal line has a half note in measure 64 and a half note in measure 65, marked with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The piano accompaniment continues with the sixteenth-note pattern in the right hand and has a chord in the left hand in measure 64, marked with a piano (*p*) dynamic.

66

*mf ritmico*

68

*port.*

2

70

*p*

*p*

*mp*  
Ped.

72

*mp lirico*

74

5:6

*swa*

76

*mf ritmico*

*mf*  
Led.

*mp*

78

Musical score for measures 78-79. The system consists of three staves: a single treble clef staff at the top, and a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) below. The top staff contains a melodic line with slurs and accents. The grand staff contains a complex piano accompaniment with sixteenth-note patterns in the right hand and chords in the left hand.

80

Musical score for measures 80-81. The system consists of three staves: a single treble clef staff at the top, and a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) below. The top staff contains a melodic line with slurs. The grand staff contains a piano accompaniment with sixteenth-note patterns in the right hand and chords in the left hand.

82

83

Musical score for measures 82-83. The system consists of three staves: a single treble clef staff at the top, and a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) below. The top staff contains a melodic line with slurs and a dynamic marking of *f*. The grand staff contains a piano accompaniment with sixteenth-note patterns in the right hand and chords in the left hand, also marked with *f*. The word *ped.* is written below the bass staff in two locations.

Slightly Faster, ♩ = 116

86

*mf*

*mf*

Ped.

93 Senza misura  
accel. poco a poco

91

rall. -----

*mp*

*pp* cresc. poco a poco to m. 98

91

*mp*

*pp*

cresc. poco a poco to m. 98

8<sup>vb</sup>

Ped.

(accel.) -----

(cresc.)

(cresc.)

smooth accel.,  
not a doubling of rhythm

(accel.)

Musical score for the first system. It features a piano introduction with a wavy line in the upper right. The piano part includes a crescendo marking (cresc.) and a series of chords and melodic lines. The bass line consists of a steady eighth-note pattern.

In Tempo, ♩ = 100

Musical score for the second system, starting at measure 94. It features various time signatures (4/4, 3/4, 5/4, 5/6) and dynamic markings (mf cresc.). The piano part includes complex rhythmic patterns and fingerings (6, 5, 7:6, 3, 5:4, 5:6). The bass line includes a 'Ped.' marking.

98

Musical score for the third system, starting at measure 97. It features dynamic markings (ff) and articulation (accents). The piano part includes complex rhythmic patterns and fingerings (4:3, 3, 5:4). The bass line includes a 'Ped.' marking and a '8va' marking.

Musical score for measures 101-103. The system includes a single bass staff and a grand staff (treble and bass). Measure 101 features a five-note quintuplet in the bass staff and a triplet in the treble. Measure 102 continues with a six-note sextuplet in the bass and a triplet in the treble. Measure 103 shows a triplet in the bass and a triplet in the treble. Dynamics include *p* and *mp*. A *secco* marking is present at the end of the system.

Musical score for measures 104-106. Measure 104 includes a five-note quintuplet in the bass and a triplet in the treble. Measure 105 features a triplet in the bass and a triplet in the treble. Measure 106 is marked with a tempo of  $\text{♩} = \text{♩} (= 100)$  and the instruction "Energetic". Dynamics include *f*, *p*, and *pp*. A *secco* marking is present at the end of the system.

Musical score for measures 107-109. Measure 107 features a triplet in the bass and a triplet in the treble. Measure 108 continues with a triplet in the bass and a triplet in the treble. Measure 109 shows a triplet in the bass and a triplet in the treble. Dynamics include *mp*.

111

*sf* *pizz.* *arco*

114

*f* *f*

Rec.

117

*mp* *sf* *pizz.* *arco*

*mf* *secco* *8va* *8vb*



120

*f* *pizz.* *arco*

123

*mf* *sf* *arco*

126

*f* *mf* *ff* *arco*

129 *fff* *relentless*

129 *fff* *Rel.* *Sub*

132

132 *Rel.* *Sub*

137 ♩ = 88 **Suspended, Mysterious**

135 *p espressivo* *pp*

*sul D*  
*sul tasto*

135 *pp espressivo*

*Rel.* *Sub* *Rel.*

141 *p* sul G *pp* *p* sul C

5 5

8<sup>va</sup>

Red.

150  $\bullet = 100$  ord.

149 *pp* *pp* sempre legato e leggero

*mp* sempre lv.

Red.

152 *p* lirico

152 *p*

154

Musical score for measures 154-155. The top staff is a single melodic line with a long slur. The middle and bottom staves are a grand staff with a complex rhythmic accompaniment in the right hand and sparse notes in the left hand.

156

*mf ritmico*

Musical score for measures 156-157. The top staff has a melodic line with accents and slurs. The middle and bottom staves are a grand staff with a complex rhythmic accompaniment in the right hand and sparse notes in the left hand.

158

*8va*

Musical score for measures 158-159. The top staff has a melodic line with a long slur and an 8va marking. The middle and bottom staves are a grand staff with a complex rhythmic accompaniment in the right hand and sparse notes in the left hand.

160

*pp* *lirico*

*mp*  
*leg.*

162

*p*

*p*

8<sup>va</sup>-----

164

*mp*

*p*

*mp*  
*leg.*

2

166

4:3

3

3

8vb

168

*pp*

*mf ritmico*

*p*

2

170

*mf*

*mf*

*Ad.*

172

*port.*

*mp*

174

174

176

*mp cresc.*

176

*8va*

*Rec.*

178

*mf*

178

*And.*

180

*f* *mf*

*8va*

180

*mf*

*f* *8vb*

*And.*

182

*8va*

182

*f* *mf*

*And.*



184

184

*f*

*mf*

Ped.

186

186

*f*

*mf*

*mf*

*f*

Ped.

188

188

*f*

*mf*

*mf*

*f*

Ped.

190

*mf* *f*

Ped. Ped.

192

*f* *mf*

Ped.

194

*mf* *f*

Ped. Ped.

196 ♩ = ♩ (= 100)

ff dim. *8va*

196

ff dim.

*8vb*

Reo.

(dim.)

199

(dim.)

rall.

*8va*

*8vb*

Reo.

204 In Tempo, ♩ = 100

203

ppp

pp cresc. poco a poco al fine

*8va*

203

ppp pp cresc. poco a poco al fine

*8vb*

Reo.

207

(cresc.)

*p*

(cresc.)

5:4 4:3 3/4 4/4 3/4 3/4 7:8

5:4 7:8

3 3 3 3

5:4 7:8

3 3 3

Red.

211

(cresc.)

3 3 3 3

7:8 7:8 7:8

(cresc.)

7:8 7:8

7:8 7:8

### Senza mizura

repeat each measure for approximately 3 seconds  
do not synchronize with piano until m. 219  
smooth accel. to m. 218 tremolo

214

(*mf* cresc.)

repeat each measure for approximately 3 seconds  
do not synchronize with viola until m. 219  
smooth accel. to m. 218 tremolo

(*mf* cresc.)

In Tempo, ♩ = 116 Aggressive

Musical score for piano, measures 218-221. The score is in 4/4 time and features a complex melodic line with sixteenth notes and sixteenth rests, along with a bass line. Dynamics range from *ff* to *fff*. A final note is marked *8vb-1*.

January 10, 2018  
Baltimore, MD