

Vibraphone

# Pyrolysis

I. Black Sugar

II. Smoke Water

III. Beehive Coke

for Vibraphone, Piano and String Quartet

Kitra Razin

2019

## INSTRUMENTATION

Vibraphone  
Piano  
2 Violins  
Viola  
Cello

Duration: ca. 8.5 minutes

## PROGRAM NOTE

The process of pyrolysis irreversibly alters the composition of organic materials via thermal decomposition. A by-product of pyrolysis is black sugar, a shiny, powder pollutant. Additionally, pyrolysis produces a fuel from coal called coke. Coke is manufactured in brick beehive ovens.

Smoke water, though unrelated to pyrolysis, functions similarly to pyrolysis when it permanently alters seed structures during the germination of plant species.

The piece *Pyrolysis*, inspired by other chamber works, much like the chemical process itself, utilizes transformational techniques similar to pyrolytic reactions.

Each movement shares characteristics with both the chemical it is titled after and the colloquial secondary meaning.

“Black Sugar” is small (short) and sweet, and it is intended to complement as well as enhance the other movements.

“Smoke Water” is fluid with shifting tonal centers, like ripples in a lake, but its predominantly minor tonality and unorthodox modulations infuse the movement with a dark, impure, smoky quality.

“Beehive Coke” is the brightest movement and the first with an unambiguously major key, resembling an effervescent carbonated soda.

# I. Black Sugar

Vibraphone

Kitra Razin

$\text{♩} = 120$

6

10 **A**

15

19 **B**

*mp* *mf* *f* *p* *mf* *p*

I. Black Sugar  
Vibraphone

25 *f* *mf*

Musical staff 25-28: Treble clef, key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). Measure 25 starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The staff contains eighth and sixteenth notes with various articulations. Measure 26 has a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. Measure 27 has a 3/4 time signature change. Measure 28 ends with a 4/4 time signature change.

29 *mp* *mf* C

Musical staff 29-32: Treble clef, key signature of three flats. Measure 29 has a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. Measure 30 has a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. A box labeled 'C' is positioned above measure 31. The staff contains eighth and sixteenth notes with various articulations.

33 *f* *p* *mf* *pp*

Musical staff 33-37: Treble clef, key signature of three flats. Measure 33 has a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measure 34 has a piano (*p*) dynamic. Measure 35 has a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. Measure 36 has a pianissimo (*pp*) dynamic. The staff contains eighth and sixteenth notes with various articulations.

38 *p* *mf* D

Musical staff 38-42: Treble clef, key signature of three flats. Measure 38 has a piano (*p*) dynamic. Measure 39 has a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. A box labeled 'D' is positioned above measure 40. The staff contains eighth and sixteenth notes with various articulations.

43 *mp* *mf* E

Musical staff 43-46: Treble clef, key signature of three flats. Measure 43 has a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. Measure 44 has a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. A box labeled 'E' is positioned above measure 45. The staff contains eighth and sixteenth notes with various articulations.

47 *dim.* F

Musical staff 47-49: Treble clef, key signature of three flats. Measure 47 has a *dim.* (diminuendo) dynamic. A box labeled 'F' is positioned above measure 48. The staff contains eighth and sixteenth notes with various articulations.

50 *p*

Musical staff 50-51: Treble clef, key signature of three flats. Measure 50 has a piano (*p*) dynamic. The staff contains eighth and sixteenth notes with various articulations.

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# II. Smoke Water

Vibraphone

$\text{♩} = 60$   
(3 + 2)

*p* *cresc.*

3

*mp* *cresc.* *f*

5

*p* *cresc.* *poco a poco*

7

A

*f*

11

(3 + 2)

*mp* *cresc.*

13

*f*

II. Smoke Water  
Vibraphone

15

*subito p*

16

**B** (3 + 2)

*f* *mf* *mp* *p cresc.*  
*Ped.*

19

*f* *mf* *mp*

22

(3 + 2) (2 + 3) **C**

*pp cresc.* *mf* *pp cresc.*

26

*mf* *dim.*

28

*mf* *dim.*

30

**D** (3 + 2)

*p*  
*Ped.*

32

*p*  
*Ped.*

II. Smoke Water  
Vibraphone

34

3

38

(2 + 3) (3 + 2) (2 + 3)

3

42

(3 + 2) **E**

3

*mf*

46

3

*p* *f*

48

*p* *mp* *mf* *f*

51

*ff*

II. Smoke Water  
Vibraphone

F

*p*

55

*p*

57

*p*

59

*mp p mf*

61

*pp p mp*

63

*f* *attacca*

# III. Beehive Coke

Vibraphone

♩ = 90 - 112

A

12

*pp*

15

17

19

B

*mf* *p*

24

III. Beehive Coke  
Vibraphone

27

C

Musical staff 1: Treble clef, key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). Measure 27 starts with a sixteenth-note triplet. The staff continues with eighth notes and quarter notes, ending with a half note chord. A box labeled 'C' is above the staff. A hairpin crescendo is below the staff.

31

Musical staff 2: Treble clef, key signature of three flats. Measure 31 starts with a half note chord. The staff continues with eighth notes and quarter notes, ending with a half note chord.

36

Musical staff 3: Treble clef, key signature of three flats. Measure 36 starts with a half note chord. The staff continues with eighth notes and quarter notes, ending with a sixteenth-note triplet. A hairpin crescendo is below the staff.

D

*mf*

Musical staff 4: Treble clef, key signature of three flats. Measure 45 starts with a sixteenth-note triplet. The staff continues with eighth notes and quarter notes, ending with a half note chord. A box labeled 'D' is above the staff. A hairpin crescendo is below the staff.

45

Musical staff 5: Treble clef, key signature of three flats. Measure 45 starts with a sixteenth-note triplet. The staff continues with eighth notes and quarter notes, ending with a half note chord. A hairpin crescendo is below the staff.

48

E

*p cresc.*

*f*

Musical staff 6: Treble clef, key signature of three flats. Measure 48 starts with a sixteenth-note triplet. The staff continues with eighth notes and quarter notes, ending with a half note chord. A box labeled 'E' is above the staff. A hairpin crescendo is below the staff.