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Ouroboros

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**Author**

Richards, Paul

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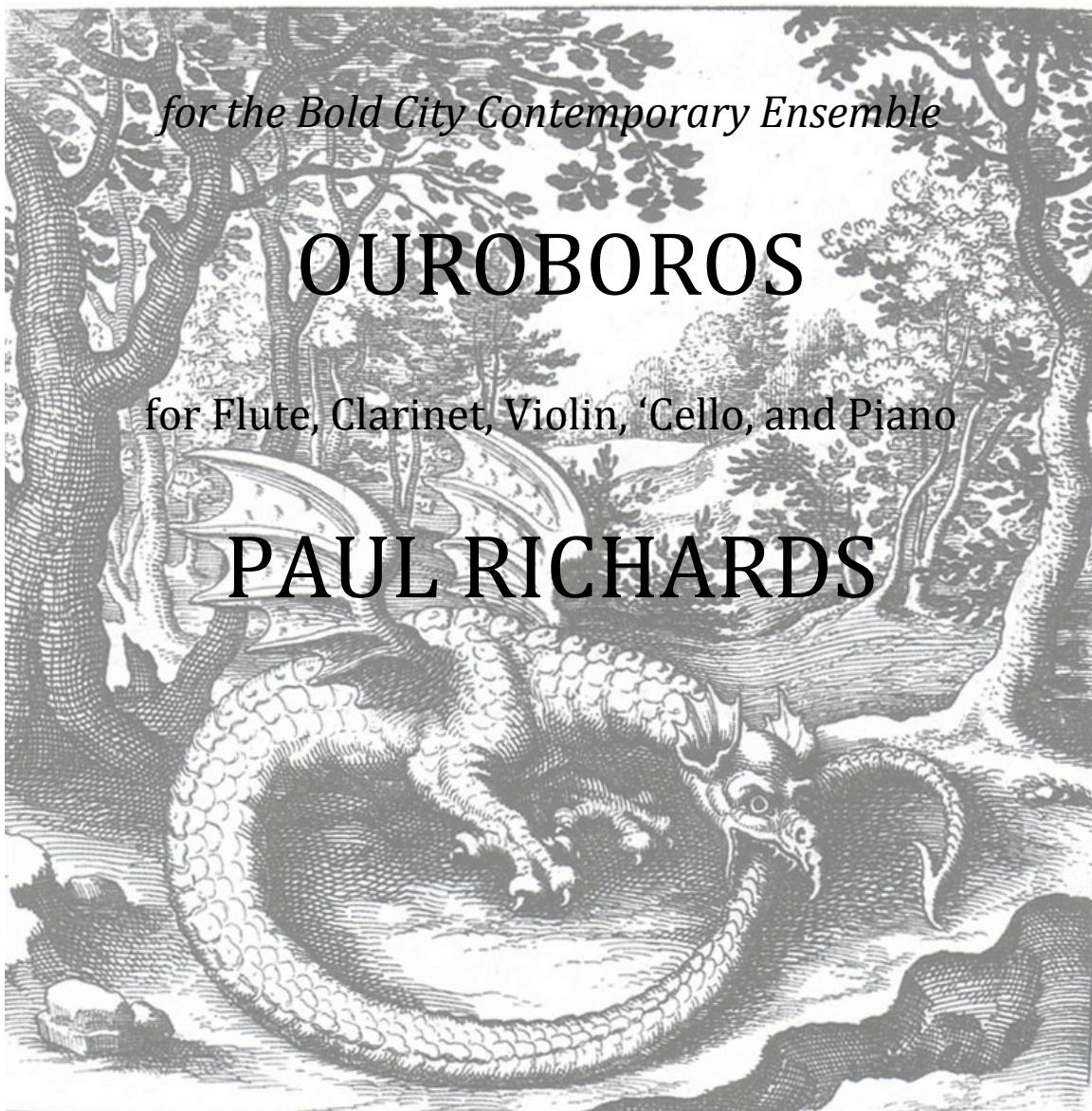
2020

*for the Bold City Contemporary Ensemble*

# OUROBOROS

for Flute, Clarinet, Violin, 'Cello, and Piano

PAUL RICHARDS



# OUROBOROS

for Flute, Clarinet in Bb, Violin, 'Cello, and Piano

PAUL RICHARDS

Duration: 13 minutes

Program note: Found in numerous ancient cultures, an ouroboros is a depiction of a serpent or dragon eating its own tail, typically symbolizing eternity or cyclical nature. Many of the musical materials in this work are cyclic in nature, with scales or interval patterns that are recursive in some way, exploring suggestions of infinity within a finite space.

Ouroboros was composed in 2017 for the Bold City Contemporary Ensemble.

Score

# Ouroboros

for the Bold City Contemporary Ensemble

PAUL RICHARDS

$\text{♩} = 160$  will-o'-the-wisp

Flute

Clarinet in B<sub>b</sub>

Violin

Cello

Piano

Fl.

B<sub>b</sub> Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

Fl.

B<sub>b</sub> Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

*pppp* (as quiet as possible)  
con sord.  
sul pont.

*pppp* (as quiet as possible)  
con sord.  
sul pont.

*pppp* (as quiet as possible)

*pppp* (as quiet as possible)

change to  
ord.

change to  
ord.

*ppp*

*ppp*

*ppp*

*ppp*

Ouroboros

Fl. 27 *fff* > *mf* 15  
 B♭ Cl. *fff* ord.  
 Vln. *fff*  
 Vc. *fff*  
 Pno. *fff* 15

[32] stately

Fl. 31 *f* 15  
 B♭ Cl. *f* > *f* > *f* > *f* > *f* > *f* > *p* change to *p* sul pont.  
 Vln. *f* 15  
 Vc. *f* 15  
 Pno. *mp* > *f* 15

Fl. *mf* 12  
 B♭ Cl. *mp* ord. 12  
 Vln. *mp* > *mp* > *mp* > *mp* > *mp* > *mp* > *pp* change to *pp* sul pont.  
 Vc. *mp* 12  
 Pno. *mp* 12

## Euroboros

Fl. *ppp* (sneak in) *mf*

B♭ Cl. *mp* *pp* *ord.*

Vln. *p* *mf* *v* *pizz.* *f* *gliss.*

Vc. *mp* *pp* *mp* *f* *mp*

Pno. *-* *-* *-* *-* *-*

**45** bend pitch up (quasi gliss.) *f* spit tongue *f*

smear (quasi gliss.)

Fl. *p* *f*

B♭ Cl. *p* *f*

Vln. *arco* *f*

Vc. *f* *p* *f*

Pno. *f* *p* *f*

**50** *p*

**54** fleet

Fl. *p*

B♭ Cl. *p* *ppp* (sneak in)

Vln. *p* *mp* change to *sul pont.* change to

Vc. *p* *mp*

Pno. *p* *mp*

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

ord.  
f *mp*

*p*

*f* ord. change to  
*p* sul pont. change to  
*mf* *p* ord. change to  
*mf* *p* sul pont. change to  
*mf* *p*

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

wild!  
*ff* wild!

*mf* *ff* *mf* *ff* *wild!*  
*mf* *ff* *wild!*  
*ff* *wild!*

ord.  
*f*

(quasi pizzicato)  
*mf* *ff* *mf* *ff*

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

*mf* *ff* *fff*

*mf* *ff* *fff*

*mf* *ff* *fff*

*fff*

66

Fl. ff bend pitch down  
B♭ Cl. ff smear (quasi gliss.) f ff  
Vln. ff gliss. ff f  
Vc. ff ff gliss. ff  
Pno. ff ff ff ff

70

Fl. mf ff fff  
B♭ Cl. ff ff fff  
Vln. ff ff fff  
Vc. ff ff fff  
Pno. ff ff ff ff

74

Fl. ff fff ff  
B♭ Cl. ff fff ff  
Vln. ff fff ff  
Vc. ff fff ff  
Pno. ff ff ff ff

77

Fl. *fff*

B♭ Cl. *fff*

Vln. *fff*

Vc. *fff*

Pno. *ff* *mf* *f* *p*

rit.

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc. *mf* *p* *mp* *pp* *p* *ppp* *pppp* (sneak in)

Pno. *mp* *mf* *p* *mp* *pp* *p* *pp*

86  $\text{♩} = 54$  mournful, *molto rubato* rall.

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln. *mf* *ppp* *gliss.* *mp* (sneak in) increase vibrato change to *~~~~~*

Vc. *mp* *molto esp.* *5* *3* *ppp*

Pno. *mp* *p*

*a tempo steady, dirge*

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

90

94

98

(\*hold note, discontinue trill)

ord. vibrato poco sul tasto quick gliss. 3

poco sul tasto quick gliss.

8va - - -

ff 3 3 ord. 3 ff p ff ff

ff ord. ff 3 3 f p ff f

ff ff 3 3 - - -

ff

fff

fff

fff p (sneak in) ff

fff

101

104 slightly slower  $\text{♩} = 48$  halcyon

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

rit.

a tempo

rit.

106

p esp.

mp — p

(fade out)

pppp — pp  
(sneak in)

pppp — pp

112 a tempo

p esp.

3

3

3

mf — p

rit.

a tempo

con sord.

p esp.

con sord.

3

pp esp.

pppp — pp

pppp — pp

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

118 *rit.*

120 *a tempo*

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

*ppp*

*ppp* *senza sord.*

*mp* *p*

*p* *pp*

*ppp* *pp* *senza sord.*

124 *rit.*

128

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

*pp*

*mp* *p* *pp*

*pp*

*mp* *p* *pp*

*open*

*pp*

*depress silently*

*mp* *p* *pp*

*mf* *mp* *p*

129  $\text{♩} = 160$  *mercurial*

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

*ff*

*sub. f* *ff*

*f* *ff*

*(snap pizz.)*

*ff*

*mf*

*mf*

*arcō*

*mf*



Ouroboros

150

Fl. B♭ Cl. Vln. Vc. Pno.

152

Fl. B♭ Cl. Vln. Vc. Pno.

155

Fl. B♭ Cl. Vln. Vc. Pno.

160

Fl. B♭ Cl. Vln. Vc. Pno.

166 *a tempo fleet*

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

*p* (sneak in) *mf* *pp* *mp*

*mf* *ord.* *v* *mp* *ppp*

*mf* *pp* *mp*

172

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

*pp* (sneak in) *mp* *p*

*mp* *p* *ppp*

*p* *ppp*

177

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

*pp* *pppp* *pp* *ppp*

*pp* *>* *ppp*

*pp* *(8va)* *ppp*

184 *halcyon*

Fl. *pppp*

B♭ Cl.

Vln. *pppp*

Vc. *pppp*

Pno. *p*

188 *rit.*

Fl. *f*

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

bend pitch down (quasi gliss.) [191] *a tempo* *ethereal*

193

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln. *pp*

Vc.

Pno. *pp*

(8va)

199

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

rit.

205

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

slightly faster  
209  $\text{♩} = 54$  steady

increase vibrato

molto vib.

con sord.

increase vibrato

f  
molto vib.

pp

ppp

211

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

$\text{f}$

$\text{mf}$

$\text{f}$  ord.  
senza sord.

$\text{f}$  ord.  
senza sord.  
pizz.

$\text{f}$

$\text{mf}$

$\text{f}$

$\text{mf}$

$\text{f}$

$\text{mf}$

(quasi pizzicato)

Ouroboros

217

218 dirge

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

(\*hold note, discontinue trill)

222

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

226 ♩ = 160 mercurial

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

Fl. *fff* *ff* *f* *mf* *mp* > *p* >

B♭ Cl. *fff* *ff* < *fp* > *fp* < *f* > *fp* < *f* > *mf* < *mf* > *mf* < *mf* > *mp* > *p* >

Vln. *fff* *ff* *f* *mf* *mp* > *p* >

Vc. *fff* *ff* *f* *mf* *mp* > *p* >

Pno. *fff*

Fl. *f* <sup>3</sup> *mp* *f* <sup>3</sup> *mp* *f* <sup>3</sup> *ff* *f* <sup>3</sup> *mp* *f* <sup>3</sup> *ff* *f* <sup>3</sup> *mp* *f* <sup>3</sup> *ff*

B♭ Cl. *f* <sup>3</sup> *mp* *f* <sup>3</sup> *ff* *f* <sup>3</sup> *ff* *f* <sup>3</sup> *ff* *f* <sup>3</sup> *mp* *f* <sup>3</sup> *ff* *f* <sup>3</sup> *ff*

Vln. *f* *ff* *f* <sup>3</sup> *ff*

Vc. *f* *ff* *f* <sup>3</sup> *ff*

Pno. *f* <sup>3</sup> *mp* *f* <sup>3</sup> *ff* *f* <sup>3</sup> *ff* *f* <sup>3</sup> *mp* *f* <sup>3</sup> *ff* *f* <sup>3</sup> *ff*

Fl. *f* <sup>3</sup> *mp* *f* <sup>3</sup> *ff* *f* <sup>3</sup> *ff*

B♭ Cl. *f* <sup>3</sup> *ff* *f* <sup>3</sup> *ff*

Vln. *f* <sup>3</sup> *mp* *f* <sup>3</sup> *ff* *f* <sup>3</sup> *ff*

Vc. *f* <sup>3</sup> *ff* *f* <sup>3</sup> *ff*

Pno. *mp* <sup>3</sup> *f* <sup>3</sup> *ff* *f* <sup>3</sup> *ff* *f* <sup>3</sup> *ff* *f* <sup>3</sup> *ff* *f* <sup>3</sup> *ff*

Ouroboros

**244**

Fl. B♭ Cl. Vln. Vc.

Pno.

**249**

Fl. B♭ Cl. Vln. Vc.

Pno.

**253**

Fl. B♭ Cl. Vln. Vc.

Pno.

256

Fl. *mf* 3 *ff*  
B♭ Cl. *mf* 3 *ff*  
Vln. *mf* 3 *ff*  
Vc. *mf* 3 *ff*  
Pno. *ff* 3 *fff*

261 fiery

Fl. *ff* *p*  
B♭ Cl. *ff* *p* poco sul tasto  
Vln. *ff* *p* poco sul tasto arco  
Vc. *fff* *p* *mf* *p*  
Pno. *sub. p* *mf* *p*

8va-

267

Fl. *mf* *p* *f*  
B♭ Cl. *mf* *p* *f*  
Vln. *mf* *p* *f*  
Vc. *mf* *p* *f*  
Pno. *mf* *p* *f*

change to V  
ord.  
poco sul tasto  
change to V  
ord.  
poco sul tasto  
change to V  
ord.  
*(mf)*

8va-

Ouroboros

289

Fl. *p* *f*

B♭ Cl. *f*  
ord.

Vln. > 3 3 3 3

Vc. *f*

Pno. *f* *f*

8va

293

Fl. *f*

B♭ Cl. *f*

Vln. > 3 3 3 > 3 3 3 > 3 3 3 > 3 3 3

Vc. *f*

Pno. *f*

(8va)

297

Fl. —

B♭ Cl. —

Vln. 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

Vc. —

Pno. —

301

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

Fl.

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

(8<sup>va</sup>)

*mf fff*

*sfp* change to *sul pont. ord.*

*mf fff*

*mf fff*

*mf fff*

*mf fff*

Ouroboros

Musical score for orchestra and piano, page 12, measures 313-323.

**Measure 313:** Flute (Fl.) and Bassoon (B♭ Cl.) play eighth-note patterns. Trombones (Tbn.) play sustained notes. Violin (Vln.) and Cello (Vc.) play eighth-note patterns. Piano (Pno.) plays eighth-note chords. Dynamics: *mf*, *fff*, *mp*, *fff*.

**Measure 314:** Flute (Fl.) and Bassoon (B♭ Cl.) play eighth-note patterns. Trombones (Tbn.) play eighth-note patterns. Violin (Vln.) and Cello (Vc.) play eighth-note patterns. Piano (Pno.) plays eighth-note chords. Dynamics: *sul pont.*, *ord.*, *change to*, *sul pont.*, *change to*, *ord.*

**Measure 315:** Flute (Fl.) and Bassoon (B♭ Cl.) play eighth-note patterns. Trombones (Tbn.) play eighth-note patterns. Violin (Vln.) and Cello (Vc.) play eighth-note patterns. Piano (Pno.) plays eighth-note chords. Dynamics: *mf*, *fff*, *mp*, *fff*.

**Measure 316:** Flute (Fl.) and Bassoon (B♭ Cl.) play eighth-note patterns. Trombones (Tbn.) play eighth-note patterns. Violin (Vln.) and Cello (Vc.) play eighth-note patterns. Piano (Pno.) plays eighth-note chords. Dynamics: *fff*, *fff*, *fff*, *fff*.

**Measure 317:** Flute (Fl.) and Bassoon (B♭ Cl.) play eighth-note patterns. Trombones (Tbn.) play eighth-note patterns. Violin (Vln.) and Cello (Vc.) play eighth-note patterns. Piano (Pno.) plays eighth-note chords. Dynamics: *fff*, *fff*, *fff*, *fff*.

**Measure 318:** Flute (Fl.) and Bassoon (B♭ Cl.) play eighth-note patterns. Trombones (Tbn.) play eighth-note patterns. Violin (Vln.) and Cello (Vc.) play eighth-note patterns. Piano (Pno.) plays eighth-note chords. Dynamics: *fff*, *fff*, *fff*, *fff*.

**Measure 319:** Flute (Fl.) and Bassoon (B♭ Cl.) play eighth-note patterns. Trombones (Tbn.) play eighth-note patterns. Violin (Vln.) and Cello (Vc.) play eighth-note patterns. Piano (Pno.) plays eighth-note chords. Dynamics: *fff*, *fff*, *fff*, *fff*.

**Measure 320:** Flute (Fl.) and Bassoon (B♭ Cl.) play eighth-note patterns. Trombones (Tbn.) play eighth-note patterns. Violin (Vln.) and Cello (Vc.) play eighth-note patterns. Piano (Pno.) plays eighth-note chords. Dynamics: *fff*, *fff*, *fff*, *fff*.

**Measure 321:** Flute (Fl.) and Bassoon (B♭ Cl.) play eighth-note patterns. Trombones (Tbn.) play eighth-note patterns. Violin (Vln.) and Cello (Vc.) play eighth-note patterns. Piano (Pno.) plays eighth-note chords. Dynamics: *fff*, *fff*, *fff*, *fff*.

**Measure 322:** Flute (Fl.) and Bassoon (B♭ Cl.) play eighth-note patterns. Trombones (Tbn.) play eighth-note patterns. Violin (Vln.) and Cello (Vc.) play eighth-note patterns. Piano (Pno.) plays eighth-note chords. Dynamics: *fff*, *fff*, *fff*, *fff*.

**Measure 323:** Flute (Fl.) and Bassoon (B♭ Cl.) play eighth-note patterns. Trombones (Tbn.) play eighth-note patterns. Violin (Vln.) and Cello (Vc.) play eighth-note patterns. Piano (Pno.) plays eighth-note chords. Dynamics: *fff*, *fff*, *fff*, *fff*.

328 *will-o'-the-wisp*

Fl. sub. *p*

B♭ Cl. sub. *p*

Vln. con sord.

Vc. sub. *p*

Pno.

332

Fl. *pp*

B♭ Cl. *pp*

Vln. *pp* change to  
con sord.

Vc. *pp* change to

Pno.

336

Fl. *ppp*

B♭ Cl. *ppp* sul pont. *pppp* (as quiet as possible)

Vln. *ppp* sul pont. *pppp* (as quiet as possible)

Vc. *ppp* *pppp* (as quiet as possible)

Pno.