

**UCLA**  
**Contemporary Music Score Collection**

**Title**

The Last Hive Mind

**Permalink**

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/8qm2d1t9>

**Author**

Li, Shuying

**Publication Date**

2020

SHUYING LI

---

THE LAST HIVE MIND

---

For Orchestra  
(2020)



S H U Y I N G   L I   M U S I C

**FULL SCORE**

**SHUYING LI**

**THE LAST HIVE MIND**

**FOR ORCHESTRA**

**SHUYING LI MUSIC**



## COMPOSER'S NOTE

*The Last Hive Mind* was written for conductor Glen Adsit and the Foot in the Door Ensemble at the Hartt School. Inspired by the British TV series, *Black Mirror*, and the general idea of recent increasing debate around artificial intelligence and how it will affect our daily lives as human beings. I put some of my thoughts, perspectives, and imagination into this work. Thanks to Glen for coming up with the dynamic and matching title — it also helped in the shaping of how musical narrative navigates its way throughout.

Mainly, I was struck by the idea in one episode of "Black Mirror," the "Metalhead." After the unexplained collapse of human society, a group of people tried to flee from the robotic "dogs," a vast hive mind with metal built bodies and powerful computerized "brains." The failure was almost predictable. However, a detail that struck me the most was the reason that these human beings got trapped in the crazy chase was because of their effort of searching a comforting gift for a very sick child — a fluffy teddy bear. In *The Last Hive Mind*, two forces fight with each other — the robotic, rhythmic, seemingly unbreakable "hive mind" music, versus the dreamy, melodic, and warm "lullaby" tune. Lastly, presented by the piano, the "lullaby" music is also a quote from my mini piano concerto, *Canton Snowstorm*. As the title indicates, this work depicts the struggle between the artificial intelligence, or the hive mind, and the dimming humanity; furthermore, the work implies the final collapse and breakdown of the last hive mind followed by its triumph.

Shuying Li  
January 2020

## **PERFORMANCE NOTES**

- All trills are half step unless specifically noted;
- Unless marked “solo,” or specifically noted, all single notes in oboes, clarinets in Bb, and bassoons, horns, trumpets, and trombones (in score) are indicated for both parts (in unison).

## INSTRUMENTATION

2 Flutes (1st doubles Piccolo)

2 Oboes

2 Clarinets in Bb

Bass Clarinet in Bb

2 Bassoons

4 Horns in F

2 Trumpets in Bb

2 Tenor Trombone

Tuba

Timpani (1 player)

Percussion 1: Drum set (with a concert bass drum on the side if possible), Vibraphone (shared with Perc. 2), 2-4 triangles in different sizes.

Percussion 2: Anvil, Xylophone, Wind Chimes, Vibraphone (shared with Perc. 1), Suspended Cymbal, Clash Cymbals, 5 Tom-toms, 2-3 triangles in different sizes

Piano

Strings

The chart consists of six staves of musical notation, each representing a different percussion instrument. The instruments are labeled below each staff:

- Staff 1: Bass drum, Low floor tom-tom, High floor tom-tom, Low tom-tom, Tambourine, Acoustic snare
- Staff 2: Low wood block, Side stick, Low-mid tom-tom, High wood block, High-mid tom-tom, Cowbell
- Staff 3: High tom-tom, Ride cymbal 1, Closed hi-hat, Closed hi-hat, Open hi-hat, Crash cymbal 1
- Staff 4: Open triangle, Splash cymbal, Chinese cymbal, Ride cymbal, Crash cymbal

Each staff uses a unique combination of note heads and stems to indicate specific playing techniques or notes for each instrument.

Drum set notation

Transposed Score

Duration: ca. 7 minutes

# The Last Hive Mind

Shuying Li  
(2020)

3

Picc. 1 *ff*

Fl. 2 *ff*

2 Ob. *ff*

2 Cl. *ff*

B. Cl. *ff*

2 Bsn. *ff* *simile* 5 5 6 6 *pp* 5 5 6 *ff*

Hn. 1.3 *ff*

Hn. 2.4 *ff*

2 Tpt. *ff*

2 Tbn. *ff* *pp* gliss. gliss. gliss. gliss.

Tba. *ff*

Tim. *ff*

Dr. *ff* *pp* *f* *ff* To Vib.

Anv. *ff*

Pno. *ff* *ff* *ff*

Vln. I *ff* *p* *mf* *f* *ff*

Vln. II *ff* *pp* *mp* *f* *ff*

Vla. *ff* *pp* *mp* *f* *ff*

Vc. pizz. *ff* arco *mf* *f* *ff*

Db. pizz. *ff* arco *mf* *f* *ff*

Picc. 1

Fl. 2

2 Ob.

2 Cl.

B. Cl.

2 Bsn.

Hn. 1.3

Hn. 2.4

2 Tpt.

2 Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

Vibraphone

Xylophone  
with soft mallets

(8)

Vln. I

Vln. II  
div.

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

14      15      16      17      18      19      20

Picc. 1 *p* *cresc. poco a poco*  
 Fl. 2 *cresc. poco a poco*  
 2 Ob.  
 2 Cl. *p* *cresc. poco a poco*  
 B. Cl.  
 2 Bsn. *p* *3 tr*  
 Hn. 1.3 *p* *mp* *mf* *f*  
 Hn. 2.4 *p* *mp* *mf* *f*  
 2 Tpt. *p* *mp* *mf* *f*  
 2 Tbn. *p* *mp* *mf* *f*  
 Tba. *f*  
 Timp. *f*  
 Vib. *p* *pp*  
 Xyl. *p*  
 Pno. *p* *pp*  
 Vln. I *p* *mp* *mf* *f*  
 Vln. II *p* *tutti tr* *tr* *tr* *tr*  
 Vla. *p* *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr*  
 Vc. *p* *pizz.* *mp* *mf* *f*  
 Db. *p* *mf* *f*

To Fl. Flute

To Dr.

*(8) tr*

*p*

21 22 23 24 25

Fl. 1 *f*

Fl. 2 *f*

2 Ob. *(tr)* *f*

2 Cl. *f* solo

B. Cl. *f*

2 Bsn. *(tr) f*

Hn. 1.3 *ff*

Hn. 2.4 *ff*

2 Tpt. *ff*

2 Tbn. *ff* gliss. *ff* gliss. *p*

Tba. *p*

Timp.

Vib. *p*

Xyl. *mp*

Pno.

Vln. I *f*

Vln. II *f*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *ff* arco

D. B. *ff* *p*

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

2 Ob.

2 Cl.

B. Cl.

2 Bsn.

Hn. 1.3

Hn. 2.4

2 Tpt.

2 Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

Dr.

To Cym.

Xyl.

Pno.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

1.

*p*

*gliss.*

*mf*

*f*

*gliss.*

*f*

*p*

*f*

*cresc.*

*mp*

*mf*

*f*

*pp*

*cresc.*

*mp*

*mf*

*f*

*p*

*f*

*tr.*

*cresc.*

*mp*

*fp*

31 32 33 34 35 36 37

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

2 Ob.

2 Cl.

B. Cl.

2 Bsn.

Hn. 1.3

Hn. 2.4

2 Tpt.

2 Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

Dr.

Cym.

Pno.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D. b.

**Lullaby,  $\text{♩}=96$**

Fl. 1 rit.  $\text{♩}=96$  flz. f  
Fl. 2 mp p flz. f  
2 Ob. mp 3 3 p f  
2 Cl. mp gliding up solo f  
B. Cl.  
2 Bsn.

Hn. 1.3 a 2  
Hn. 2.4 a 2  
2 Tpt. f harmon mute  
2 Tbn. pp  
Tba.

Tim. p mf ff

Dr. mf ff Wind Chimes To Vib. p mp Vibraphone  
B. D. p mf ff f mf

Pno.

Vln. I rit. div. p f mp f mp f mp  
Vln. II p f mp f mp f mp  
Vla. pizz. arco  
Vc. Db. f







Fl. 1

Fl. 2

2 Ob.

2 Cl.

B. Cl.

2 Bsn.

Hn. 1.3

Hn. 2.4

2 Tpt.

2 Tbn.

Tba.

Tim.

Dr.

Cym.

Pno.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

The Transformation,  $\text{♩}=144$ 

To Picc.

Piccolo

13

**Fl. 1** **Fl. 2** **2 Ob.** **2 Cl.** **B. Cl.** **2 Bsn.**

**Hn. 1.3** **Hn. 2.4** **2 Tpt.** **2 Tbn.** **Tba.** **Tim.** **Dr.** **Tom-t.**

**Pno.** **Vln. I** **Vln. II** **Vla.** **Vc.** **Db.**

The score consists of six measures of sixteenth-note patterns, followed by a dynamic change indicated by **f**. The instrumentation includes Flutes 1 and 2, 2 Oboes, 2 Clarinets, Bassoon, Horns 1.3 and 2.4, 2 Trombones, Bass Trombone, Timpani, Drums/Tom-toms, and Piano. The strings (Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello) play eighth-note patterns, while the Double Bass provides harmonic support with sustained notes and glissandos.

3

Picc. 1

Fl. 2

2 Ob.

2 Cl.

B. Cl.

2 Bsn.

Hn. 1.3

Hn. 2.4

2 Tpt.

2 Tbn.

Tba.

Tim.

Dr.

Tom-t.

Anvil

Pno.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

76      77      78      79      80      81

This page from a musical score contains 15 staves of music. The instruments and their dynamics include:

- Picc. 1: ff
- Fl. 2: ff
- 2 Ob.: ff
- 2 Cl.: ff
- B. Cl.: ff
- 2 Bsn.: ff
- Hn. 1.3: f ff f ff f ff
- Hn. 2.4: f ff
- 2 Tpt.: f ff f ff
- 2 Tbn.: f ff f ff
- Tba.: ff
- Timpani: ff
- Drum: f ff f ff
- Anv.: ff To Xyl. Xylophone with hard mallets ff
- To Vib.
- Pno.: f ff f ff f ff
- Vln. I: ff f ff p f p f
- Vln. II: ff f ff p f p f
- Vla.: f ff p f p f
- Vc.: f ff p f p f
- D. b.: f f ff arco ff





Fl. 1

Fl. 2

2 Ob.

2 Cl.

B. Cl.

2 Bsn.

Hn. 1.3

Hn. 2.4

2 Tpt.

2 Tbn.

Tba.

Tim.

Dr.

Vib.

Pno.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

109      110      111      112      113      114

accel.

=178

To Picc. Piccolo

7 8

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

2 Ob.

2 Cl.

B. Cl.

2 Bsn.

Hn. 1.3

Hn. 2.4

2 Tpt.

2 Tbn.

Tba.

Tim.

Dr.

Vib.

Pno.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

cresc. poco a poco

115      116      117      118      119      120      121      122

20

**Frantically, Borg's Dance**  $\text{♩} = 178$

Picc. 1

Fl. 2

2 Ob.

2 Cl.

B. Cl.

2 Bsn.

Hn. 1.3

Hn. 2.4

2 Tpt.

2 Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

try using a concert bass drum in this section

Dr.

**Xylophone**

Xyl.

Pno.

**Frantically, Borg's Dance** ♩=178

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

Picc. 1  
 Fl. 2  
 2 Ob.  
 2 Cl.  
 B. Cl.  
 2 Bsn.  
 Hn. 1.3  
 Hn. 2.4  
 2 Tpt.  
 2 Tbn.  
 Tba.  
 Timp.  
 Dr.  
 Xyl.  
 Pno.  
 Vln. I  
 Vln. II  
 Vla.  
 Vc.  
 Db.

129      130      131      132      133      134      135

Picc. 1  
 Fl. 2  
 2 Ob.  
 2 Cl.  
 B. Cl.  
 2 Bsn.  
 Hn. 1.3  
 Hn. 2.4  
 2 Tpt.  
 2 Tbn.  
 Tba.  
 Timp.  
 Dr.  
 Xyl.  
 Pno.  
 Vln. I  
 Vln. II  
 Vla.  
 Vc.  
 Db.

This image shows a page from a musical score, specifically page 6, containing measures 8 through 11. The score is written for a large orchestra with the following parts: Picc. 1, Fl. 2, 2 Ob., 2 Cl., B. Cl., 2 Bsn., Hn. 1.3, Hn. 2.4, 2 Tpt., 2 Tbn., Tba., Timp., Dr., Xyl., Pno., Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., and Db. The music is in common time and consists of four staves per measure. Dynamics such as *p*, *fff*, and *sff* are used throughout the score. Measure 8 starts with a dynamic of *p*. Measures 9 and 10 show a transition with dynamics *p*, *fff*, and *sff*. Measure 11 concludes with dynamics *p*, *fff*, and *p*.

Picc. 1

Fl. 2

2 Ob.

2 Cl.

B. Cl.

2 Bsn.

Hn. 1.3

Hn. 2.4

2 Tpt.

2 Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

Dr.

Xyl.

Pno.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

harmon mute  
flz.  
pp → f

flz.  
pp < f → pp

fp

ff

ff

tr

tr

gliss.

tutti

150 151 152 153 154 155 156 157



Picc. 1

Fl. 2

2 Ob.

2 Cl.

B. Cl.

2 Bsn.

Hn. 1.3

Hn. 2.4

2 Tpt.

2 Tbn.

Tba.

Tim.

Dr.

Xyl.

Pno.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

165      166      167      168      169      170

Picc. 1

Fl. 2

2 Ob.

2 Cl.

B. Cl.

2 Bsn.

Hn. 1.3

Hn. 2.4

2 Tpt.

2 Tbn.

Tba.

Tim.

Dr.

Xyl.

Pno.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

171      172      173      174      175      176      177

7

Picc. 1

Fl. 2

2 Ob.

2 Cl.

B. Cl.

2 Bsn.

Hn. 1.3

Hn. 2.4

2 Tpt.

2 Tbn.

Tba.

Tim.

Dr.

Xyl.

Pno.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

178

179

180

181

182

183

7

8

Picc. 1  
 Fl. 2  
 2 Ob.  
 2 Cl.  
 B. Cl.  
 2 Bsn.  
 Hn. 1.3  
 Hn. 2.4  
 2 Tpt.  
 2 Tbn.  
 Tba.  
 Timp.  
 Dr.  
 Xyl.  
 Pno.  
 Vln. I  
 Vln. II  
 Vla.  
 Vc.  
 Db.

29

184      185      186      187      188

30

In total chaotic, irregular rhythmic mess; do not coordinate with any other musicians  
Barlines only indicate the overall timing; not restrictions of what should be played within each bar.



This page of the musical score contains the following instrument parts:

- Fl. 1
- Fl. 2
- 2 Ob.
- 2 Cl.
- B. Cl.
- 2 Bsn.
- Hn. 1.3
- Hn. 2.4
- 2 Tpt.
- 2 Tbn.
- Tba.
- Tim.
- Tri.
- W.Ch.
- Pno.
- Vln. I
- Vln. II
- Vla.
- Vc.
- D. b.

Performance instructions and dynamics include:

- mp* (measures 1-2)
- p* (measure 3)
- f* (measure 3)
- f*<sup>3</sup> (measure 3)
- p* (measure 6)
- tr* (measure 7)
- mf* (measure 7)
- slow and lyrical gliss of black keys (can be played too) (measure 7)
- rit.* (measure 8)
- 56* (measure 8)