

NICKY SOHN

CAN YOU STOP THE TIME? (NO)

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FOR SINFONIETTA

(2022)

## **Instrumentation**

Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in Bb

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in C

Trombone

Harp

Percussion (Bass drum, triangle, low/high woodblock, cymbals, vibraphone)

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Double Bass

Duration - ca. 7 minutes

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Time is the question, the answer, and the method of life. Despite knowing the units of time and what they roughly mean, this comes second to how we feel it. One could trudge through what feels like hours of a boring lecture, fending off sleep, to have only spent ten minutes. The opposite is true as well. For instance, a whole day with someone you love can pass by like a blur and you may forget what time does to you—sleep, hunger, and life is entirely disregarded.

“Can you stop the time?” is about this second meaning of time and is a question we’ve all thought about in some form, at some point in our lives. Concurrently, this piece explores textures that resemble time slipping away too quickly, incorporating elements of tremolo, trills, ascending and descending runs, and sudden changes in dynamics.

The moment that we ask “Can you stop the time?” is a moment too precious to forfeit. But time cannot be stopped, so we accept the answer that gives us another option, the future—one with hope and promise of good fortune. The piece was commissioned by the National Orchestral Institute + Festival in 2022.

# Can you stop the time? (no)

for NOI+F

Nicky Sohn

$\text{♩} = 72$

Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in B $\flat$

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in C

Trombone

Harp

Percussion

Bass drum

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Double Bass

2 3 4 5

Can you stop the time? (no)

**A**

The musical score is for a 4/4 piece in D major. It features a variety of instruments including Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon, Horn, Trumpet, Trombone, Harp, Percussion, Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, and Double Bass. The score is divided into measures 6 through 10. A section labeled 'A' begins at measure 6. The Flute part has a long melodic line with dynamics *fp*, *pp*, and *p*. The Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon, and Horn parts have accents (*sfz*) and dynamic markings. The Harp part has a tremolo effect and dynamics *ff* and *sfz*. The Percussion part has a rhythmic pattern with dynamics *fp*, *ff*, and *pp*. The Violin I part has dynamics *sfz*, *mp*, *f*, and *p*, with a *sul pont.* marking. The Violin II, Viola, and Cello parts have accents (*sfz*) and dynamic markings. The Double Bass part has a dynamic marking *pp*.

Fl.

Ob.

B♭ Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

C Tpt.

Tbn.

Hp.

Perc.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

*fp* *pp* *p*

*sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *p*

*sfz* *sfz* *p* *pp*

*sfz* *sfz* *sfz*

*sfz* *f*

*ff* *sfz*

*fp* *fp* *fp* *ff* *pp* *pp*

*sfz* *mp* *f* *p* *pizz.* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz*

*sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz*

*sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz*

*sfz* *sfz* *sfz*

*pp*

*sul pont.* *tr*