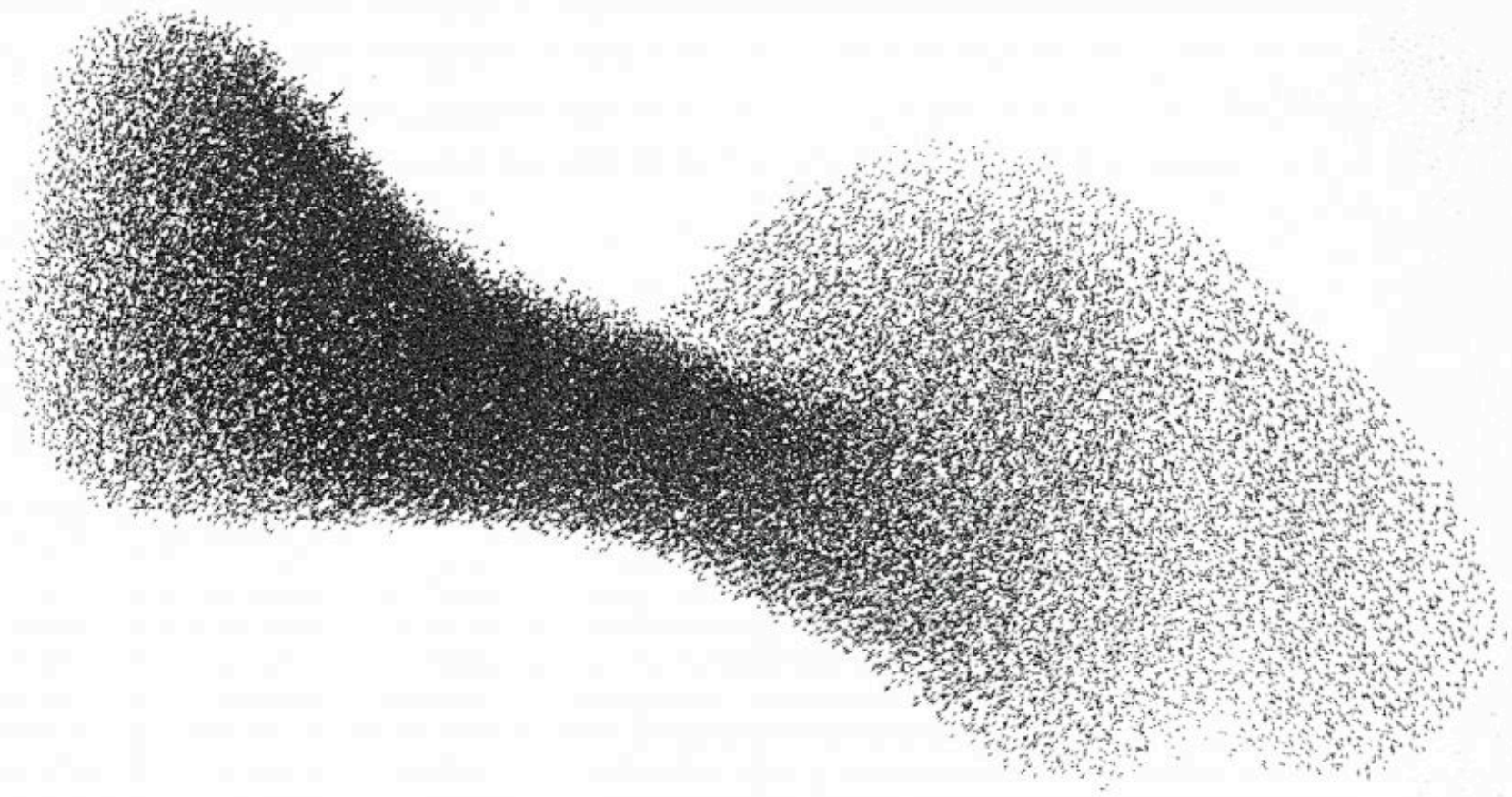
Matt Browne

SWARM



for String Orchestra

2015

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Program Note

This piece explores some of the various, contrasting qualities of swarm behavior – viciousness, unpredictability, ambiguity, agitation, etc. – exhibited through the medium of a large swarm of string instruments.

The size of the ensemble may range from one player per part to a full-sized orchestral string section with relative proportional number of players per part.

Instrumentation

Violin I (a)
Violin I (b)
Violin II (a)
Violin II (b)
Viola (a)
Viola (b)
Violoncello (a)
Violoncello (b)
Contrabass

Duration: c. 9 minutes

www.mattbrownecomposer.com

Full Score

SWARM

for String Orchestra

Matt Browne

♩ = 88, ***With a quiet intensity***

Violin I (a)

Violin I (b)

Violin II (a)

Violin II (b)

Viola (a)

Viola (b)

Violoncello (a)

Violoncello (b)

Contrabass

sul C sempre til m. 17

sul C sempre til m. 16

non div.

non div.

sffpp *festering*

sffpp

2 3 4 5

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (b)

Vln. II (a)

Vln. II (b)

Vla. (a)

Vla. (b)

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

6 7 8

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2

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (b)

Vln. II (a)

Vln. II (b)

Vla. (a)

Vla. (b)

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

sffpp

9 **10**

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (b)

non div.

sffp festering

Vln. II (a)

cresc. poco a poco

Vln. II (b)

cresc. poco a poco

Vla. (a)

cresc. poco a poco

Vla. (b)

cresc. poco a poco

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

11 **12**

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (b)

Vln. II (a)

Vln. II (b)

Vla. (a)

Vla. (b)

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

sffp festering

non div.

13

14

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (b)

Vln. II (a)

Vln. II (b)

Vla. (a)

Vla. (b)

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

cresc. poco a poco

cresc. poco a poco

4

Vln. I (a)
Vln. I (b)
Vln. II (a)
Vln. II (b)
Vla. (a)
Vla. (b)
Vc. (a)
Vc. (b)
Cb.

16

Vln. I (a)
Vln. I (b)
Vln. II (a)
Vln. II (b)
Vla. (a)
Vla. (b)
Vc. (a)
Vc. (b)
Cb.

17

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (b)

Vln. II (a)

Vln. II (b)

Vla. (a)

Vla. (b)

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

18

A ♩ = 66

Vln. I (a) *fff*

Vln. I (b) *fff*

Vln. II (a) *fff*

Vln. II (b) *fff*

Vla. (a) at the frog *fff coarse*

Vla. (b) at the frog *fff coarse*

Vc. (a) at the frog *fff coarse*

Vc. (b) non div. at the frog *fff coarse*

Cb. non div. at the frog *fff coarse*

19 20 21

accel.

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (b)

sul pont.

pp

Vln. II (a)

sul pont.

pp

Vln. II (b)

sul pont.

pp

Vla. (a)

Vla. (b)

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

22

23

sul pont.

Vln. I (a)

pp

Vln. I (b)

Vln. II (a)

Vln. II (b)

Vla. (a)

Vla. (b)

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

24

25

B ♩ = 132, *Aggressive*

Vln. I (a)
Vln. I (b)
Vln. II (a)
Vln. II (b)
Vla. (a)
Vla. (b)
Vc. (a)
Vc. (b)
Cb.

fff (snap pizz.) *sffz*

ord.
spicc.
non div.
mf driving
sf
arco, non div.
spicc.
arco
p
mf
sub. p
non div.

26 **27** **28** **29**

Vln. I (a)
Vln. I (b)
Vln. II (a)
Vln. II (b)
Vla. (a)
Vla. (b)
Vc. (a)
Vc. (b)
Cb.

f
mf
sf
arco
spicc.
ord. pizz.

30 **31** **32**

C

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (b)

Vln. II (a)

Vln. II (b)

Vla. (a)

Vla. (b)

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

33 34 35

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (b)

Vln. II (a)

Vln. II (b)

Vla. (a)

Vla. (b)

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

36 37 38 39

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (b)

Vln. II (a)

Vln. II (b)

Vla. (a)

Vla. (b)

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

ff

f

40 41 42 43

D

non div.

sub. ***mf***

sf

pizz.

mf

spicc.

f *gritty*

sff

44 45 46

10

Vln. I (a)
Vln. I (b)
Vln. II (a)
Vln. II (b)
Vla. (a)
Vla. (b)
Vc. (a)
Vc. (b)
Cb.

spicc.
arco
pizz.
non div.

47 48 49

Vln. I (a)
Vln. I (b)
Vln. II (a)
Vln. II (b)
Vla. (a)
Vla. (b)
Vc. (a)
Vc. (b)
Cb.

50 51

E

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (b)

Vln. II (a)

Vln. II (b)

Vla. (a)

Vla. (b)

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

non div.

piercing

ff

ferocious

52 53 54 55

rit.

fff

pizz.

56 57 58

12

F ♩ = 132, ***A tempo***

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (b)

Vln. II (a) — arco — ***ppp*** *silky*

Vln. II (b) — arco — ***ppp*** *silky*

Vla. (a) — arco — ***ppp*** *silky*

Vla. (b) — arco — ***ppp*** *silky*

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

59 60

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (b) — ***mf*** ***fp*** ***sf***

Vln. II (a) — ad lib. free bowing

Vln. II (b) — ad lib. free bowing

Vla. (a) — ad lib. free bowing

Vla. (b) — ad lib. free bowing

Vc. (a) — non div. — ***f*** ***ff*** — ***mf***

Vc. (b) — ***f*** ***ff*** — ***f***

Cb. — ***f*** ***ff*** — ***f***

61 62 63

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (b)

Vln. II (a)

Vln. II (b)

Vla. (a)

Vla. (b)

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

64 65 66 67

68 69 70

ad lib.
free bowing

mp silky

14

Vln. I (a)
Vln. I (b)
Vln. II (a)
Vln. II (b)
Vla. (a)
Vla. (b)
Vc. (a)
Vc. (b)
Cb.

cresc. poco a poco

ad lib.
free bowing

silky

71 **72** **73**

74 **75**

G

molto rit. - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - **15**

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (b)

Vln. II (a)

Vln. II (b)

Vla. (a)

Vla. (b)

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

ff

dim. poco a poco

arco

ffp

76 **77** **78**

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (b)

Vln. II (a)

Vln. II (b)

Vla. (a)

Vla. (b)

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

3

pp

79 **80** **81** **82**

H ♩ = 56, ***Nebulous***

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (b)

Vln. II (a)

Vln. II (b)

Vla. (a)

Vla. (b)

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

83 **84** **85** **86** **87**

non vib.
sul tasto

static

88 **89** **90** **91** **92**

I

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (b)

Vln. II (a)

Vln. II (b)

Vla. (a)

Vla. (b)

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

mf

tr

3

Continue long, festering trills (with dynamic swells) on given notes with short rests in between. Do not synchronize with other players.

non vib.
sul tasto

mf static

93 94 95 96 97

p

98 99 100 101 102

Vln. I (a)

Continuously repeat the given pitches, at first slow and melodic. Immediately begin to accel. poco a poco (disregarding the conductor's tempo, as well as your neighbors) until you are playing as fast as possible.

(sul tasto)

mf molto legato

Vln. I (b)

Continuously repeat the given pitches, at first slow and melodic. Immediately begin to accel. poco a poco (disregarding the conductor's tempo, as well as your neighbors) until you are playing as fast as possible.

non vib.
sul tasto

mf molto legato

Vln. II (a)

3

Continuously repeat the given pitches, at first slow and melodic. Immediately begin to accel. poco a poco (disregarding the conductor's tempo, as well as your neighbors) until you are playing as fast as possible.

(sul tasto)

mf molto legato

Vln. II (b)

Continuously repeat the given pitches, at first slow and melodic. Immediately begin to accel. poco a poco (disregarding the conductor's tempo, as well as your neighbors) until you are playing as fast as possible.

non vib.
sul tasto

mf molto legato

Vla. (a)

Continuously repeat the given pitches, at first slow and melodic. Immediately begin to accel. poco a poco (disregarding the conductor's tempo, as well as your neighbors) until you are playing as fast as possible.

non vib.
sul tasto

mf molto legato

Vla. (b)

3

Continuously repeat the given pitches, at first slow and melodic. Immediately begin to accel. poco a poco (disregarding the conductor's tempo, as well as your neighbors) until you are playing as fast as possible.

(sul tasto)

mf molto legato

Vc. (a)

3

3

Vc. (b)

3

Continuously repeat the given pitches, at first slow and melodic. Immediately begin to accel. poco a poco (disregarding the conductor's tempo, as well as your neighbors) until you are playing as fast as possible.

(sul tasto)

mf molto legato

Cb.

103 **104**

10-15"

Vln. I (a)

gradually move from sul tasto to sul pont over the course of this bar.

molto

Vln. I (b)

gradually move from sul tasto to sul pont over the course of this bar.

molto

Vln. II (a)

gradually move from sul tasto to sul pont over the course of this bar.

molto ***fff***

Vln. II (b)

gradually move from sul tasto to sul pont over the course of this bar.

molto ***fff***

Vla. (a)

gradually move from sul tasto to sul pont over the course of this bar.

molto ***fff***

Vla. (b)

gradually move from sul tasto to sul pont over the course of this bar.

molto ***fff***

Vc. (a)

Continuously repeat the given pitches, at first slow and melodic. Immediately begin to accel. poco a poco until you are playing as fast as possible.

(sul tasto)

mf molto legato

gradually move from sul tasto to sul pont over the course of this bar.

molto

Vc. (b)

gradually move from sul tasto to sul pont over the course of this bar.

molto

Cb.

Continuously repeat the given pitches, at first slow and melodic. Immediately begin to accel. poco a poco until you are playing as fast as possible.

non vib.
sul tasto

mf molto legato

gradually move from sul tasto to sul pont over the course of this bar.

molto

♩ = 88, *Tempo I*

Vln. I (a)

fff

Vln. I (b)

sul pont.

fff

Vln. II (a)

non div.

5

sffpp *sffpp*

Vln. II (b)

non div.

6

sffpp *sffpp*

Vla. (a)

sul C sempre til 122

sffpp

Vla. (b)

sul C sempre til 121

sffpp *sffpp*

Vc. (a)

sul pont.

fff

Vc. (b)

sul pont.

fff

Cb.

sul pont.

fff

n

106 107 108 109

Vln. I (a)

n

Vln. I (b)

n

Vln. II (a)

5 5 5

Vln. II (b)

6 6

Vla. (a)

sffpp *sffpp* 5

Vla. (b)

sffpp

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

n

Cb.

110 111 112

20

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (a)

Vln. II (a)

Vln. II (b)

Vla. (a)

Vla. (b)

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

sffpp

sffpp

n

sffp

113 **114** **115**

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (a)

non div.

sffp festering

Vln. II (a)

cresc. poco a poco

Vln. II (b)

cresc. poco a poco

Vla. (a)

cresc. poco a poco

Vla. (b)

cresc. poco a poco

Vc. (a)

non div.

Vc. (b)

non vib.

sffmp

Cb.

116 **117**

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (a)

Vln. II (a)

Vln. II (b)

Vla. (a)

Vla. (b)

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

non div.

sffp festering

cresc. poco a poco

non div.

cresc. poco a poco

118

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (a)

Vln. II (a)

Vln. II (b)

Vla. (a)

Vla. (b)

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

119

22

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (a)

Vln. II (a)

Vln. II (b)

Vla. (a)

Vla. (b)

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

cresc. poco a poco

cresc. poco a poco

ff

120

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (a)

Vln. II (a)

Vln. II (b)

Vla. (a)

Vla. (b)

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

121

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (a)

Vln. II (a)

Vln. II (b)

Vla. (a)

Vla. (b)

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

122

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (a)

Vln. II (a)

Vln. II (b)

Vla. (a)

Vla. (b)

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

123

24

K ♩ = 112, ***Mechanical***

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (a)

Vln. II (a)

Vln. II (b)

Vla. (a)

Vla. (b)

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

124 125 126 127 128 129

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (a)

Vln. II (a)

Vln. II (b)

Vla. (a)

Vla. (b)

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

130 131 132 133 134

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (a)

Vln. II (a)

Vln. II (b)

Vla. (a)

Vla. (b)

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

(snap pizz.)

mf

135 136 137 138 139

L

f

(snap pizz.)

cresc. poco a poco

140 141 142 143 144

26

accel.

Vln. I (a)
Vln. I (a)
Vln. II (a)
Vln. II (b)
Vla. (a)
Vla. (b)
Vc. (a)
Vc. (b)
Cb.

cresc. poco a poco
cresc. poco a poco
arco

145 **146** **147** **148** **149**

(♩ = 132)

Vln. I (a)
Vln. I (a)
Vln. II (a)
Vln. II (b)
Vla. (a)
Vla. (b)
Vc. (a)
Vc. (b)
Cb.

arco
cresc.
arco
non div.
non div.
cresc.
arco
cresc.
arco
cresc.
arco
ff
cresc.
cresc.

150 **151** **152** **153** **154**

M ♩ = 66

Vln. I (a)
Vln. I (a)
Vln. II (a)
Vln. II (b)
Vla. (a)
Vla. (b)
Vc. (a)
Vc. (b)
Cb.

non div.
arco
non div.
fff

155 156

Vln. I (a)
Vln. I (a)
Vln. II (a)
Vln. II (b)
Vla. (a)
Vla. (b)
Vc. (a)
Vc. (b)
Cb.

non div.

157 158

28

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (a)

Vln. II (a)

Vln. II (b)

Vla. (a)

Vla. (b)

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

159 **160**

accel.

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (a)

Vln. II (a)

Vln. II (b)

Vla. (a)

Vla. (b)

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

161 **162**

N ♩ = 144

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (a)

Vln. II (a)

Vln. II (b)

Vla. (a)

Vla. (b)

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

fff gritty

fff gritty

fff gritty

fff gritty

163 164 165

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (a)

non div.

Vln. II (a)

Vln. II (b)

Vla. (a)

Vla. (b)

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

166 167 168 169 170

30

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (a)

Vln. II (a)

Vln. II (b)

Vla. (a)

Vla. (b)

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

ff

171 **172** **173** **174**

Vln. I (a)

Vln. I (a)

Vln. II (a)

Vln. II (b)

Vla. (a)

Vla. (b)

Vc. (a)

Vc. (b)

Cb.

non div.

175 **176**

molto accel.

Vln. I (a)
Vln. I (a)
Vln. II (a)
Vln. II (b)
Vla. (a)
Vla. (b)
Vc. (a)
Vc. (b)
Cb.

177 178 179 180

O ♩ = 172, ***Hysterical***

Vln. I (a)
Vln. I (a)
Vln. II (a)
Vln. II (b)
Vla. (a)
Vla. (b)
Vc. (a)
Vc. (b)
Cb.

181 182 183 184

32

Vln. I (a)
Vln. I (a)
Vln. II (a)
Vln. II (b)
Vla. (a)
Vla. (b)
Vc. (a)
Vc. (b)
Cb.

sff

185 186 187

P

Vln. I (a)
Vln. I (a)
Vln. II (a)
Vln. II (b)
Vla. (a)
Vla. (b)
Vc. (a)
Vc. (b)
Cb.

fff sfffzp

sul G
sul D
free bowing
Raucous, snarling gliss. change strings as needed
Random very high double stop
sfffff secco
non div.

188 189 190 191 192