

Illusions

A collaboration with David Hoyle, for nine players with video projection (2015)

Philip Venables



Illusions

Philip Venables / David Hoyle

*Illusions was co-commissioned by the London Sinfonietta
and the Royal Philharmonic Society*

with huge thanks to:
Lee Baxter and Brett Denning, Mark Nickels and Alistair Duncan

This piece must be performed with click track alongside the accompanying video, projected.

The video has 2-channel sound: L = mono sound from video to be sent to stereo PA, R = click.

The ensemble must be amplified and blended with the spoken word on the video.

Full score in C.

Illusions

Text/Performance: David HOYLE

Music/Video: Philip VENABLES

$\text{♩} = 120$

Triangle
Large Bass Drum

Tape

Click

ff

(Elevator muzak)
O - kay Ladies and gentlemen...



c. 70 seconds $\text{♩} = 90$

Click

A ♩ = 90 (to conductor's click)
Rough, punk

1

Picc. *f marcato, punchy*

B. Sax. *f marcato, punchy*

Tpt. *f marcato, punchy*
ossia low E_b and G 8va
if no F valve

Tbn. *f marcato, punchy*

Hit the drum with a large, physical over-the-arm action,
 as if you are trying to destroy it.
 Ideally the music stand will be out of sight,
 or the music will be played from memory.
 Preferably the bass drum will be very visible and near the front of the stage.

Tri B.D. *fff*

Tape
 you you you you you you you you know you you you know you know
 etc.

Click

Pno. *f sempre*
marcato, punchy

Vln. *f sempre*
 gritty, into the string

Vla. *f sempre*
 gritty, punchy, into the string

Cb. *f sempre*

6

Picc.

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tri
B.D.

Tape

know know know it's all you you you you you know yes yes yes

Pno.

Vln.

Vla.

Cb.

(8)

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for a large ensemble. It features ten staves. The top four staves are for Piccolo (Picc.), Bass Saxophone (B. Sax.), Trumpet (Tpt.), and Trombone (Tbn.), each with a melodic line. The fifth staff is for Triangle and Bells (Tri B.D.), showing a simple rhythmic pattern. The sixth staff is for Tape, containing the lyrics: "know know know it's all you you you you you know yes yes yes". The seventh staff is for Piano (Pno.), with a complex accompaniment. The eighth staff is for Violin (Vln.), the ninth for Viola (Vla.), and the tenth for Cello (Cb.), all with accompaniment parts. A circled number (8) is located at the bottom of the piano staff.

B

11

Picc.

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tri
B.D.

Tape

yes you do do do you do know it's all an illusion oh oh oh

Pno.

Vln.

Vla.

Cb.

(8).....1 8th.....1

16

Picc.

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tri
B.D.

Tape

oh I voted I'm pleased ya voted democracy you you you know it's garbage

Pno.

Vln.

Vla.

Cb.

sim. (always accented)

sim. (always accented)

21 C

Picc.

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tri B.D.

Tape

Pno.

Vln.

Vla.

Cb.

26

Picc. *sfp* *sfp* *ff*

B. Sax.

Tpt. *sfp* *sfp* *ff*

Tbn. *sfp* *sfp* *ff*

Tri B.D.

Tape
power her majesty's government power her power power Queen Elizabeth it's just a pantomime

Pno. (8) 8th

Vln. *sfp* *ff*

Vla. *sfp* *ff*

Cb. pizz.

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for page 26 and features ten staves. The Piccolo staff has a melodic line with dynamics *sfp*, *sfp*, and *ff*. The Bass Saxophone staff has a simple rhythmic accompaniment. The Trumpet and Trombone staves have similar melodic lines with dynamics *sfp*, *sfp*, and *ff*. The Triangle/Bell staff has a few notes. The Tape staff contains the lyrics: "power her majesty's government power her power power Queen Elizabeth it's just a pantomime". The Piano staff has a bass line with dynamics (8) and 8th. The Violin and Viola staves have a melodic line with dynamics *sfp* and *ff*. The Cello staff has a bass line with the instruction "pizz.".

32

Picc.

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tri
B.D.

Tape

Pno.

Vln.

Vla.

Cb.

pantomime it means nothing Queen it means_ we were enslaved

8^{va}

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for measures 32 through 37. The Piccolo part has a melodic line in the first three measures. The Bass Saxophone part has a melodic line in the last three measures. The Trumpet part has a melodic line in the last three measures. The Trombone part has a melodic line in the last three measures. The Triangle/Bell part has a single note in the last measure. The Tape part has the lyrics: 'pantomime it means nothing Queen it means_ we were enslaved'. The Piano part has a melodic line in the last three measures, with an 8va marking. The Violin and Viola parts are silent. The Cello part has a melodic line in the first three measures.

38

Picc.

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tri
B.D.

Tape

citizens citizens not subjects enslaved now ever

Pno.

(8).....

Vln.

Vla.

arco

Cb.

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for measures 38-41. It features a variety of instruments: Piccolo (Picc.), Bass Saxophone (B. Sax.), Trumpet (Tpt.), Trombone (Tbn.), Triangle/Bell (Tri B.D.), Tape, Piano (Pno.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), and Cello (Cb.). The Piccolo and Bass Saxophone parts are in the upper register, while the Trombone and Cello parts are in the lower register. The Piano part is in the middle register. The Tape part has lyrics: 'citizens citizens not subjects enslaved now ever'. The Violin and Viola parts are in the middle register. The Cello part is in the lower register. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamics.

42 **D**

Picc.

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tri
B.D.

Tape

Pno.

Vln.

Vla.

Cb.

increasing atmosphere of fear you you you you know

8^{vb}

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for measures 42-46. It features a key signature of one flat (B-flat major or D minor) and a common time signature. The Piccolo part has rests in measures 42-44 and enters in measure 45 with a melodic line. The Bass Saxophone, Trumpet, and Trombone parts have rests in measures 42-44 and enter in measure 45 with a similar melodic line. The Triangle/Bell part has rests in measures 42-44 and a single note in measure 45. The Tape part has lyrics: 'increasing atmosphere of fear you you you you know'. The Piano part has rests in measures 42-44 and enters in measure 45 with a complex chordal accompaniment. The Violin part has a melodic line starting in measure 42. The Viola part has a melodic line starting in measure 42. The Cello part has rests in measures 42-44 and enters in measure 45 with a melodic line. A dynamic marking of 8^{vb} is present in the piano part.

47

Picc. *sfp* *f*

B. Sax.

Tpt. *sfp* *f*

Tbn.

Tri
B.D.

Tape
the authorities cannot be trusted power power manipulating us government

Pno. (8)..... 8^{2b}

Vln.

Vla.

Cb.

53

Picc.

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tri
B.D.

Tape

squeezing us Queen Queen Queen taking over our minds Queen another five years of

Pno.

Vln.

Vla.

Cb.

59 E

Picc.

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tri
B.D.

Tape

people who've got horrific connections with pure evil nationalism it's dog eat dog

Pno.

8^{va}

Vln.

Vla.

Cb.

65

Picc.

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tri
B.D.

Tape

Pno.

Vln.

Vla.

Cb.

because you you you you you you you know and I know fascism and

70

Picc.

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tri
B.D.

Tape

nazism is alive and well

Pno.

Vln.

Vla.

Cb.

73

Picc. *sfzpp*

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tri
B.D.

Tape
you you you you know the

Pno.
8^{vb}

Vln.

Vla.

Cb.

F

75

Picc.

Musical notation for Piccolo, starting with a *fff* dynamic marking and a slur over the first three measures.

B. Sax.

Musical notation for Bass Saxophone.

Tpt.

Musical notation for Trumpet.

Tbn.

Musical notation for Tuba.

Tri
B.D.

Musical notation for Triangle and Bells.

Tape

Lyrics for the Tape part: media shits into your brain yes you do_ do do you do oh I voted

Pno.

Musical notation for Piano, including an *8va* marking with a dashed line.

Vln.

Musical notation for Violin.

Vla.

Musical notation for Viola.

Cb.

Musical notation for Cello.

81

Picc.

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tri B.D.

Tape

Pno.

Vln.

Vla.

Cb.

86 **G** **G.P.**
12

Picc.

B. Sax.

12

Tpt.

Tbn.

sf <

12

Tri
B.D.

Tape

in the whole charade but it's an illusion

(Elevator muzak)
12

Pno.

12

Vln.

Vla.

12

Cb.

12

H

102

Picc.

B. Sax. *ff* breathe ad lib.

Tpt. *ff* breathe ad lib. ossia low D 8va only

Tbn. *ff*

Tri B.D. *fff*

Tape fleshy fleshy fleshy fleshy fleshy fleshy fleshy fleshy fleshy fleshy etc.

Click (4)

Pno. *8vb*

Vln.

Vla. arco

Cb.

110

Picc.

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tri
B.D.

Tape

fleshy fleshy fleshy tube so what fleshy tube fleshy tube or

Pno.

Vln.

Vla.

Cb.

115

Picc.

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tri
B.D.

Tape

Pno.

Vln.

Vla.

Cb.

no no fleshy tube some of us wee-wee out of a fleshy tube y y

(8)----- 8th-----

119

Picc.

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tri
B.D.

Tape

y y yes some of us sit down so what y y yes the idea that the humanoids that

Pno.

(s).....

&bb.....

Vln.

Vla.

Cb.

125

Picc.

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tri
B.D.

Tape

wee-wee out of a fleshy tube should have more power than those that don't it's vile

Pno.

Vln.

Vla.

Cb.

131

Picc.

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tri
B.D.

Tape

vile vile vile vile gender it's vile let's get real gender

Pno.

Vln.

Vla.

Cb.

136

Picc.

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tri B.D.

Tape

masculine is an illusion we're all gonna die feminine so what take acid

Pno.

Vln.

Vla.

Cb.

(8)

Detailed description: This page of a musical score covers measures 136 to 140. The score is arranged in a vertical stack of staves. At the top is the Piccolo (Picc.) staff, which is mostly silent. Below it is the Bass Saxophone (B. Sax.) staff, followed by Trumpet (Tpt.) and Trombone (Tbn.) staves. The Triangle and Bongos (Tri B.D.) are also present. The Tape part contains the lyrics: "masculine is an illusion we're all gonna die feminine so what take acid". The Piano (Pno.) part features a complex harmonic texture with chords and moving lines in both hands. The Violin (Vln.) and Viola (Vla.) parts provide melodic support. The Cello (Cb.) part is at the bottom. A rehearsal mark (8) is indicated at the start of the piano part.

141

Picc.

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tri
B.D.

Tape

I don't believe vile vile yes there may be

Pno.

8^{va}

Vln.

Vla.

Cb.

146

Picc.

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tri
B.D.

Tape

biological differences so what you're gonna die fleshy fleshy fleshy fleshy

Pno.

Vln.

Vla.

Cb.

151 J

Picc.

B. Sax.

Tpt. *cup mute*
p warm, legato, melodic

Tbn.

Tri B.D. *p a warm heartbeat*

Tape
fleshy fleshy tube it will be the trans saves this geopolitical zone because
community that

Pno. *f*

Vln. *p warm, vib.*

Vla. *p warm, vib.*

Cb. *p warm, vib.*

157

Picc.

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tri
B.D.

Tape

intellectually and from the heart it's inclusionary

Pno.

Vln.

Vla.

Cb.

163

Picc. *f*

B. Sax. *f*

Tpt.

Tbn. *f*

Tri B.D.

Tape

yes___ it's about love and it's about being allowed to manifest

Pno. *loco* *viva* *8^{va}*

Vln. *ff sub.* *p warm, vib.*

Vla. *ff sub.* *p warm, vib.*

Cb. *ff sub.* *p warm, vib.*

K

169

Picc. Musical staff for Piccolo, showing rests for the first four measures and a melodic phrase in the fifth measure.

B. Sax. Musical staff for Bass Saxophone, showing rests for the first four measures and a melodic phrase in the fifth measure.

Tpt. Musical staff for Trumpet, showing a melodic line with a slur across the first four measures.

Tbn. Musical staff for Trombone, showing rests for the first four measures and a melodic phrase in the fifth measure.

Tri B.D. Musical staff for Triangle and Bells, showing rests for the first four measures and a melodic phrase in the fifth measure. *fff as before*

Tape Musical staff for Tape, showing a melodic line with a slur across the first four measures. Lyrics: yourself the way you wish to be seen gender_ and

Pno. Musical staff for Piano, showing a complex chordal texture in the first four measures and a melodic phrase in the fifth measure. *loco*, *ff sub.*, *8^{va}*

Vln. Musical staff for Violin, showing a melodic line with a slur across the first four measures and a melodic phrase in the fifth measure. *ff sub.*

Vla. Musical staff for Viola, showing a melodic line with a slur across the first four measures and a melodic phrase in the fifth measure. *ff sub.*

Cb. Musical staff for Cello, showing a melodic line with a slur across the first four measures and a melodic phrase in the fifth measure. *ff sub.*

175

Picc.

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tri B.D.

Tape

Pno.

Vln.

Vla.

Cb.

181

Picc.

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tri
B.D.

Tape

yeah you row three

Pno.

Vln.

Vla. pizz.

Cb.

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for page 35, measures 181-184. It features a variety of instruments. The Piccolo, Bass Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Triangle/Bell, Piano, and Violin staves are mostly empty, indicating rests. The Tape staff contains the lyrics 'yeah you' and 'row three' with musical notation above it. The Viola part is marked 'pizz.' and has a rhythmic pattern. The Cello part has a steady eighth-note pattern.

185 L

Picc.

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tri B.D.

Tape

Pno.

Vln.

Vla.

Cb.

seat seventeen

ff
Elevator muzak

p

arco
p

7

7

7

7

7

7

7

7

7

7

196 M

Picc. *ff*

B. Sax. *ff*

Tpt. *ff*

Tbn. *ff*
ossia low Cs only 15va

Tri B.D. *fff*

Tape revo revo revo revo revolution_ revolution etc.

Click

Pno. *fff*
8^{va}
8^{vb}

Vln. arco *ff*

Vla. *ff*

Cb. arco *ff*

(gradually feeling like getting faster, ad. lib)
(do not dampen)

202

Picc.

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tri
B.D.

Tape

revo revolution starts from within each

Pno.

Vln.

Vla.

Cb.

207

Picc.

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tri
B.D.

Tape

unt unt unt unt every individual citizen citizen not subject because

Pno.

Vln.

Vla.

Cb.

212

Picc.

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tri
B.D.

Tape

you you you you know, and I know dog dog all forms of government are dog

Pno.

Vln.

Vla.

Cb.

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for measures 212-215. It features a variety of instruments: Piccolo (Picc.), Bass Saxophone (B. Sax.), Trumpet (Tpt.), Trombone (Tbn.), Triangle/Bell (Tri B.D.), Tape, Piano (Pno.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), and Cello (Cb.). The vocal line (Tape) has the lyrics: "you you you you know, and I know dog dog all forms of government are dog". The Piano part includes a section marked with a circled 8 and a dashed line, with an 8va marking above and an 8vb marking below. The Violin and Viola parts have many notes with accents (v) and dynamic markings like ppv. The Cello part has a similar rhythmic pattern to the Bass Saxophone. The Piccolo and Trumpet parts have melodic lines with slurs and accents. The Triangle/Bell part has a simple rhythmic pattern with accents.

218

Picc.

B. Sax.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tri
B.D.

Tape

parental dog paternal dog. dog patriachal eat dog you you you you you know

Pno.

Vln.

Vla.

Cb.

224

Picc. *sffp* *ff* *sffp*

B. Sax.

Tpt. *sffp*

Tbn. *sffp*

Tri B.D.

Tape
yes you do all in authority must be executed because because I, myself

Pno. *8^{va}* *8^{vb}*

Vln.

Vla.

Cb.

232

Picc. *sfp*

B. Sax.

Tpt. *sfp*

Tbn. *sfp*

Tri B.D.

Tape

David Hoyle I declare Year

Pno.

Vln.

Vla.

Cb.

237

Picc. *fff* **9** *sff*

B. Sax. **9** *sff*

Tpt. *fff* **9** *sff*

Tbn. *fff* **9** *sff*

Tri B.D. *f* **9** *sff*

Tape Zero! **9** [blackout]

Click Elevator muzak **9**

Pno. **9** *sff*

Vln. **9** *sff*

Vla. **9** *sff*

Cb. **9** *sff*



"one of the finest composers around"
The Guardian

"rawly powerful and laceratingly honest"
The Telegraph

"brutally effective" The Times

Philip Venables is a British composer born in Chester in 1979, who studied at Jesus College, Cambridge, and the Royal Academy of Music. His music often explores violence, sexuality and politics, incorporating spoken word with music. From 2013–2016 he was Doctoral Composer in Residence with the Royal Opera House and Guildhall School of Music & Drama.

Philip's music has been performed and broadcast internationally, by ensembles such as the London Symphony Orchestra, BBC Symphony Orchestra, BBC Philharmonic, BBC Singers, London Sinfonietta, The Royal Opera, Rambert Dance Company, Royal National Theatre and many others.

www.philipvenables.com