WHEN A VAST IMAGE

for flute, three suspended cymbals, violin and cello

Robert Blatt
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Based on The Second Coming by William Butler Yeats

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Whisper into the flute, while holding the marked note, in order to get a combination of both flute & whisper
Somewhere in the sands of the desert A shape with lim body and the head of a man

mf

Recite the written words.
A gazè blank and pitìless as the sun, Is moving its slow thighs, while all about it

Somewhere in the sands of the desert

A shape with lion body and the head of a man,

Reel shadows of the indignant desert birds, The darkness drops again; but now I know

A gazè blank and pitìless as the sun, Is moving its slow thighs,

Sand's of the desert: A shape with lion body and the head of a man

That twenty centuries of stony sleep Were vexed to nightmare by a rocking cradle,

Shadows of the indignant desert birds. The darkness drops again; but now I know
Reel shadows of the indignant desert birds. The darkness drops away but now I know

A gaze blank and pitiless as the sun, Is moving its slow thighs, while it

And what rough beast, its hour come round at last, Slouches towards Bethlehem to be born?

That twenty centuries of stony sleep were vexed to nightmare by a rocking cradle.

And what rough beast, its hour come round at last, Slouches towards Bethlehem to be born?

in dignant desert birds, Is its slow thighs, somewhere in the sands of the

The darkness drops again. A shape like body and the head of a man, but
A gaze blank and pitiless as the sun, the darkness drops again; a shape with lion body

And what rough beast, its hour come round at last, slouches towards Bethlehem to be born?

A gaze blank and pitiless, hoar sun come round; slouches towards Bethlehem, Reel

Indignant desert birds, the darkness drops, vexed to nightmare, as the sun, round

the sands of the desert, and what rough beast, of stony sleep, with lion body, be

The darkness drops; pitiless as the sun, stony sleep, rocking cradle, round at last FF

(with dim echo)

Shadows of FF slow thighs, of a man, a gaze blank and sun, Twenty centuries, some where in

at last, Indignant desert birds, what rough beast, sun, to nightmare, and what; Reel

Born, Twenty centuries of, to nightmare, sun, a shape with, slouches towards, but now
And whatroughbeast,its hour come round at last, slooches towards Bethlehem to be boro?

And whatroughbeast,its hour come round at last, slooches towards Bethlehem to be boro?

And whatroughbeast, its hour come round at last, slooches towards Bethlehem to be boro?
46. Repeat until cue from percussionist. After cue, repeat one more time with a descendo to silence.

47. Fl.

Turning and turning in the widening gyre The falcon cannot hear the falconer

whisper: After 1x drop a bb on inverted symbol every 3"; \(3x=\frac{1}{2}-1.3\); \(5x=6-8\); \(7x=15-20\)

(whisper) Things fall apart; the centre cannot hold; More unanswerable is loosed upon the world

Cym. Pp

Vln. Pp

Vc. Pp

(whisper) The blood-dimmed tide is loosed, and everywhere The ceremony of innocence is drowned

47. Pp

(whisper) The best lack all convivions; while the worst are full of passionate intensity

5. Fl.

Continue dropping bb's at a rate of every 2"

Cym.

Stop

Vln.

Vc.

* Alternate between two different fingerings for the indicated note with thenotated rhythm.
* Cover mouthpiece with lips while fingering notated pattern & singing