

Niki Zohdi

kambaramayanam - 34

கம்பராமாயணம் - ௩௪

2024

for solo organ

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(2024)

*for
solo organ*

Duration: 5'30"


Kambaramayanam - 34 is based on the thirty-fourth poem from the old Tamil epic of the 12th century, *Kamba Ramaynam*, by the poet, Kambar:


Rushing water's sound; cane crushers' noise;
cane juice's gurgle; fresh water snails' squeak;
bull fighting bustle; crash of buffaloes jumping in water;
All these mingle to create a heady buzz in the farm lands.

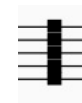
In the piece, I mingle these sounds in the low buzz of the organ pedals which continues for the entirety of the piece. Interjections of different sounds are references to the other sounds listed in the poem. I do not attempt to evoke the sounds in the poem; but, rather, assign a specific timbre to each of the plethora of noises exhibited in the poem

This piece is inspired by my recent travels to the Tamil Nadu region of India and is dedicated to my good friend, Anthony Gray. It was first performed in May 2024 on the organ of Bradford Cathedral.

Performance notes

 - cluster in lowest pitch register. Hand cluster on manuals; foot cluster on pedals

 - hand cluster in highest pitch register.

 - arm cluster covering as many keys as possible

LF/RF - both left foot and right foot cluster

RF - right foot cluster

LF - left foot cluster

It is recommended that the organist uses a stopwatch to keep a check on the time

The material in the box lasts the amount of time shown by the black line

All other relevant performance directions are noted on the score

To Anthony Gray

kambaramayanam - 34

கம்பராமாயணம் - ௩௪

Niki Zohdi

00:00 00:30" 00:45" 00:50" 01:00" 01:07"

RH [man.]

LH [man.]

Pedals

ped. solo 32'; trembling LF/RF

SW.

alternations between any pitch in indicated range; always fast but varying in tempo

ppp

p > *ppp*

ppp throughout

LF/RF

01:10" 01:15" 01:20" 01:28" 01:40" 02:00"

The diagram shows a musical score with three staves. A horizontal dashed line at the top contains time markers: 01:10", 01:15", 01:20", 01:28", 01:40", and 02:00". Vertical dashed lines connect these markers to specific musical notations on the staves.

- Staff 1 (Treble Clef):**
 - At 01:10", a box contains a treble clef with notes G4, A4, and Bb4. Below it is the dynamic marking $p > ppp$.
 - At 01:28", a box contains a treble clef with a whole rest. Below it is the dynamic marking $pp < mp > pp \text{ sim. etc}$.
 - At 02:00", a box contains a treble clef with a whole rest. Below it is the dynamic marking pp on the left and mp on the right.
- Staff 2 (Bass Clef):**
 - At 01:15", a box contains a bass clef with notes G3, A3, and Bb3. Below it is the dynamic marking $p > ppp$.
 - At 01:40", a box contains a bass clef with notes G3, A3, and Bb3. Above it is the text "fast pitch alternations as before". Below it is the dynamic marking pp on the left and mp on the right.
 - At 02:00", a box contains a bass clef with a whole rest. Below it is the dynamic marking mp .
- Staff 3 (Bass Clef):**
 - At 01:10", a box contains a bass clef with a whole rest. Above it is the text "LF".
 - At 02:00", a box contains a bass clef with a whole rest.

02:10" 02:17" 02:20" 02:30" 02:35"

gt.

mf

mf

LF/RF

LF/RF

LF/RF

The diagram shows a musical score with a horizontal timeline at the top marked with time points: 02:10", 02:17", 02:20", 02:30", and 02:35". Vertical dashed lines extend from these markers down to the score. The score consists of three parts: 1. A guitar part (gt.) starting at 02:20" and ending at 02:35", with a dynamic marking of *mf* in both the treble and bass staves. 2. A bass part (LF/RF) starting at 02:10" and ending at 02:35", with notes at 02:10", 02:17", and 02:30". 3. A second bass part (LF/RF) starting at 02:10" and ending at 02:35", with notes at 02:10" and 02:30".

02:43" 02:45" 02:50" 02:56" 03:00"

gt. *mf*

play each chord once in given order but with varying amounts of time between each chord

SW. *p* \longleftarrow *mf*

fast pitch alternations as before

SW. *mf*

fast pitch alternations as before

gt.

play each chord once in given order but with varying amounts of time between each chord

LF

The image shows a musical score for guitar (gt.) and synth (SW.). At the top, a dashed line with time markers (02:43", 02:45", 02:50", 02:56", 03:00") spans the width of the page. Below this, there are four main musical sections. The first section (02:43"-02:45") shows a bass line in a box with a single note (Bb). The second section (02:45"-02:50") shows a bass line in a box with a single note (Bb) and the label 'LF'. The third section (02:50"-02:56") contains two staves: a guitar staff (gt.) with a treble clef and a synth staff (SW.) with a bass clef. The guitar staff has a dynamic marking of *mf* and the instruction 'play each chord once in given order but with varying amounts of time between each chord'. The synth staff has a dynamic marking of *p* and a crescendo hairpin leading to *mf*, with the instruction 'fast pitch alternations as before'. The fourth section (02:56"-03:00") contains two staves: a synth staff (SW.) with a treble clef and a guitar staff (gt.) with a bass clef. The synth staff has the instruction 'fast pitch alternations as before' and the guitar staff has the instruction 'play each chord once in given order but with varying amounts of time between each chord'. A solid horizontal line runs through the bottom of the page, passing through the two bass line boxes.

03:15" 03:30" 03:45"

(♩ = 60)

The musical score is divided into three sections by vertical dashed lines at 03:15", 03:30", and 03:45".

- 03:15" - 03:30":** The SW instrument (bass clef) plays a sequence of notes with the instruction "fast pitch alternations as before". The LF instrument (bass clef) plays a single note. Dynamics are *p* for both.
- 03:30" - 03:45":** The SW instrument continues with a sequence of notes, including triplets and a 9:8 ratio. Dynamics are *p* for the first part and *mf* for the second part. The LF instrument continues with a sequence of notes, including triplets and a 9:8 ratio. Dynamics are *mf* for the first part and *p* for the second part.
- 03:45" - End:** The SW instrument plays a sequence of notes with ratios 7:5, 5:3, 6:4, and 5:4. Dynamics are *mf*. The LF instrument continues with a sequence of notes. Dynamics are *mf*.

SW. LF

04:00" 04:15" 04:20"

The image shows a musical score for guitar, divided into three time segments: 04:00", 04:15", and 04:20".

04:00" Segment: This section contains two staves of music. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 7/4 time signature. It features a melodic line with a slur over the first two measures and a 7:4 ratio indicated below. The lower staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 7/4 time signature. It contains rhythmic patterns with slurs and ratios of 3, 5:3, and 7:4. A wavy line with a flat symbol (b) is present at the end of the segment.

04:15" Segment: This section is labeled "gt." and contains two staves. Both the upper and lower staves are in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 7/4 time signature. Both staves are marked with a fortissimo (*fff*) dynamic. The lower staff also includes the label "LF/RH" above the staff.

04:20" Segment: This section contains a single staff in bass clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 7/4 time signature. It is marked with a fortissimo (*fff*) dynamic and includes the label "LF/RH" above the staff.

Vertical dashed lines connect the time markers to the corresponding musical segments. A horizontal dashed line runs across the top of the page, and a solid horizontal line runs across the bottom.

04:25" 04:35" 04:40" 05:10" 05:30"

The diagram shows a musical score with time markers at 04:25", 04:35", 04:40", 05:10", and 05:30". A horizontal dashed line connects these markers. Vertical dashed lines extend from each marker to the musical staves. The first section (04:25" to 04:35") consists of two staves: the top staff has a treble clef, a key signature of one flat, and two notes (F4 and G4); the bottom staff has a bass clef and two notes (F3 and G3). Both staves are marked with *fff*. The second section (04:40" to 05:10") consists of two staves: the top staff has a treble clef and a bar line; the bottom staff has a bass clef and a bar line. Both staves are marked with *fff*. A solid horizontal line is at the bottom of the page, ending in a vertical bar at the 05:30" marker.