

# Percussion at Dusk

Vanessa Tomlinson 2020

Commissioned by Brisbane Festival, 2020, and premiered at Highgate Hill Park, Brisbane, curated by Lawrence English from Room40.

Select a site for performance with two key attributes –

- 1) The ability to clearly see the sky and the changing colours at dusk (ie an elevated position may be advantageous, or a view across a river, or a park)
- 2) An interesting horizon – which could be a cityscape, a treeline, a combination of natural and manmade lines.

The horizon line is the primary score, reading from left to right or right to left.

The movement across trees, buildings, foreground, background are events that you sonically encounter and navigate slowly.

Set a start point and a finish point on the horizon.

Set an amount of time (minimum 20 minutes).

Set a score in your mind so you can track your progress, set “events”, (eg extra tall buildings, smokestacks) and develop a sense of motion and momentum in your performance (ie how fast you are tracking across the horizon).

The sky is literally the colour of your performance – the shading of your playing which could be referred to in terms of dynamics, timbre, presence. Where possible choose a site/time of year with a vivid dusk. Do not ignore clouds. Do not ignore birds, flies, mosquitoes, butterflies and moths. Think carefully about what colour could mean to you. Be attentive and remain flexible.

You may perform this work on any percussion instrument, or any combination of percussion instruments.