

STEVEN SNOWDEN

STEAM MAN OF THE PRAIRIES

*FOR CLARINET IN B $\flat$ , VIBRAPHONE  
AND ELECTRONICS*

# STEAM MAN OF THE PRAIRIES

***This version arranged for Erik Forst and Elisabeth Stimpert***

## PROGRAM NOTES:

*Steam Man of the Prairies* was a dime store science fiction novel written by Edward S. Ellis in 1868 and is widely considered to be the earliest depiction of a humanoid robot in popular culture. Despite Ellis's rather clumsy writing style and overtly racist depictions of Irish immigrants and Native Americans, this novel provides an interesting perspective on the excitement surrounding innovations in steam technology and exploration of the Western United States in the late 1800's.

Just as the *Steam Man* represented the attainment of superhuman capabilities through the use of technology, this piece utilizes electronics to expand the sonic palate of the vibraphone and clarinet. By limiting electronically produced sounds to only recordings of extended piano techniques (bowed, plucked, muted, and scraped) my goal was to create a sonic bridge between the timbres of the clarinet and vibraphone in an attempt to create the illusion of a single super-instrument.

-Steven Snowden



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STEVEN SNOWDEN

$\text{♩} = 96$  Like a prolonged scream  
(empty bar)

Clarinet in B $\flat$

Piano

*p* *ff* *mf* *f*

*tr*

*ff* *f*

Ped.

4

Cl.

Vibes

Gradually dissolving

*mp* *f* *p* *f* *p*

*ff* *mf* *f* *mf* *mp*

6

Cl.

Vibes

*mf* *mp*

*f* *mp*

*tr*

*p* *mp*

8 (tr) *p* *pp* *mp* *p*

Cl. *mf* *p* *mp* *pp* *mf*

Vibes

12 *ppp* *ppp* *pp* *mp*

Cl. *ppp* *ppp* *pp* *mp*

Vibes

**19** Serene,  
but with a strong sense of anticipation

Cl. *mp* *ppp* *pp* *ppp* *mp*

Vibes *mp* *pp*

*Ped.*

25 *mp* *pp*

Cl. *pp*

Vibes *mp* *pp*

29 *p* *pp*

Cl. *p* *pp*

Vibes

STEAM MAN OF THE PRAIRIES

32

Cl. *p*

Vibes *mp*  
Ped.

37

Cl. *pp* *mp* *ppp* *ppp* < *p* >

Vibes *pp* *mp* *mp*  
Ped.

40

42

Cl. *pp* < *mp* > *p* *ppp* *pp* *ppp*  
*tr*

Vibes *pp*

48

Cl. *mf* *pp* *mf* *p* < *mf* *mp* >

Vibes *mp*

51

Cl. *p* *mf* *p* *ppp*

Vibes *pp*

55

Cl. *ppp*

Vibes *mp*

Match articulation and dynamics to short bowed piano sound in the electronics

58

Cl. *p* *ppp*

Vibes *mf*

60

Cl. *ppp*

Vibes *3*

63

Cl. *p* *ppp* *ppp*

Vibes *mp* *Red.*

66

Cl.

Vibes

68

Cl. *mp* *ppp*

Vibes *mp* *p*

71

Cl. *ppp*

Vibes

73

Cl. *mp* *pp* *ppp*

Vibes *mf* *mp*

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for Clarinet (Cl.) and Vibraphone (Vibes). It consists of seven systems of music, each with two staves. Measures 63-65: Cl. plays a continuous eighth-note pattern starting on G4, with dynamics *p*, *ppp*, and *ppp*. Vibes plays sustained chords in the right hand and left hand, with dynamics *mp* and a *Red.* marking in measure 65. Measure 66: Cl. continues the eighth-note pattern. Vibes is silent. Measure 67: Cl. continues the eighth-note pattern. Vibes is silent. Measure 68: Cl. continues the eighth-note pattern, with dynamics *mp* and *ppp*. Vibes plays sustained chords, with dynamics *mp* and *p*. Measure 69: Cl. continues the eighth-note pattern. Vibes is silent. Measure 70: Cl. continues the eighth-note pattern. Vibes is silent. Measure 71: Cl. continues the eighth-note pattern, with dynamics *ppp*. Vibes is silent. Measure 72: Cl. continues the eighth-note pattern. Vibes is silent. Measure 73: Cl. continues the eighth-note pattern, with dynamics *mp*, *pp*, and *ppp*. Vibes plays sustained chords, with dynamics *mf* and *mp*.



76

Cl. **2** *ppp*

Vibes **2**

80

Cl. *p*

Vibes

82

Cl.

Vibes *ppp*

84

85 ♩ = 128 (←  $\frac{1}{2}$  ♩ =  $\frac{1}{3}$  ♩ →)

Cl. *pp*

Vibes *pp*

87 Gradually accumulating rhythmic density

Cl. *ppp* *ppp*

Vibes *p* *pp*

Cl. *p*

Vibes *p*

Cl. *pp*

Vibes *mp* *mp*

Cl. *p*

Vibes *ppp* *p* *pp*

106

Cl.

Vibes

*pp*

*p*

*ppp*

111

**112**

Cl.

Vibes

*pp*

*p*

*mp*

*pp*

115

Cl.

Vibes

*p*

118

Cl.

Vibes

*pp*

*mp*

122

Cl.

Vibes

*p*

126

Cl.

Vibes

*pp*

130

Cl.

Vibes

*mp*

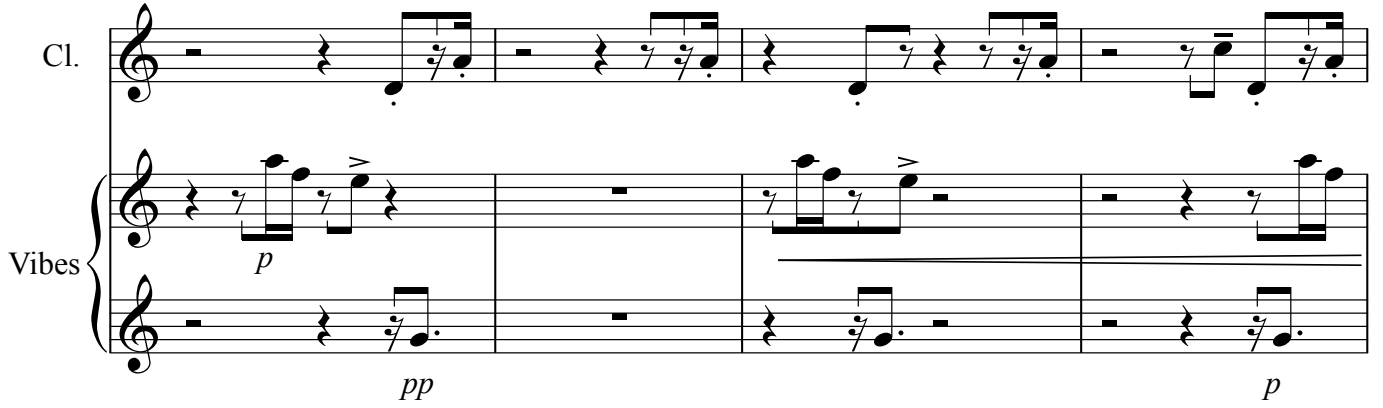
134

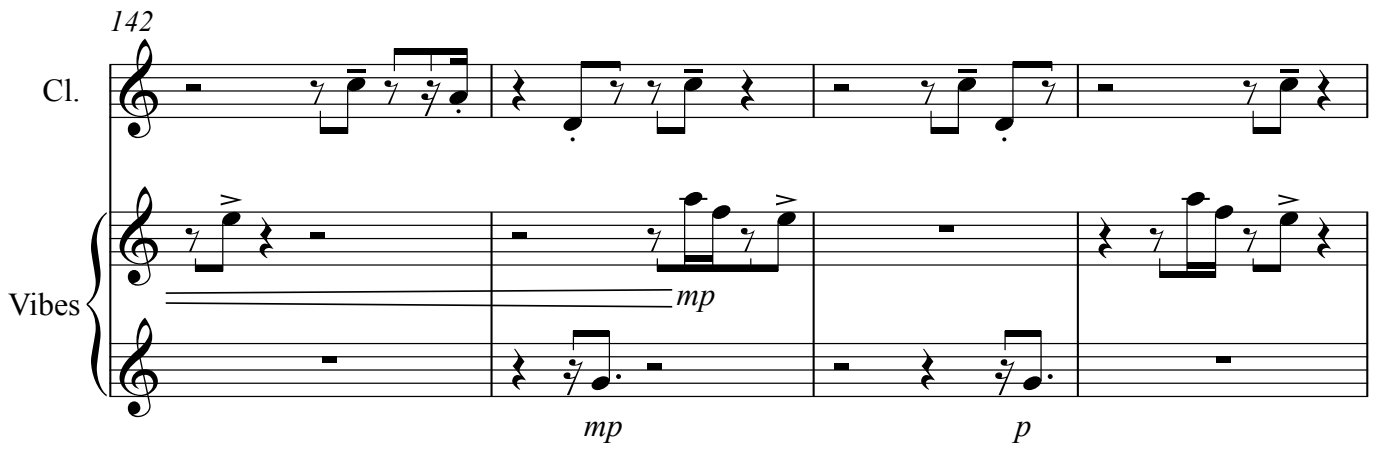
Cl.

Vibes

*p* *pp*

**138** A bit funky

Cl. 

142  
Cl. 

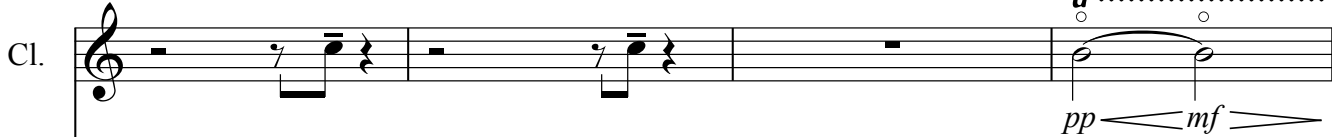
146  
Cl. 

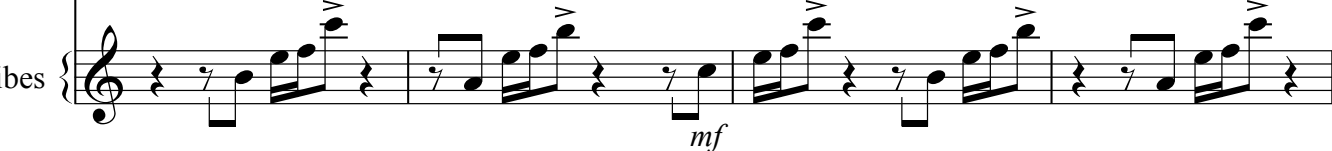
151  
Cl. 

Escalating intensity

timbre trill

155

Cl. 

Vibes 


**160** Bold, impassioned


159

Cl. 


Vibes 

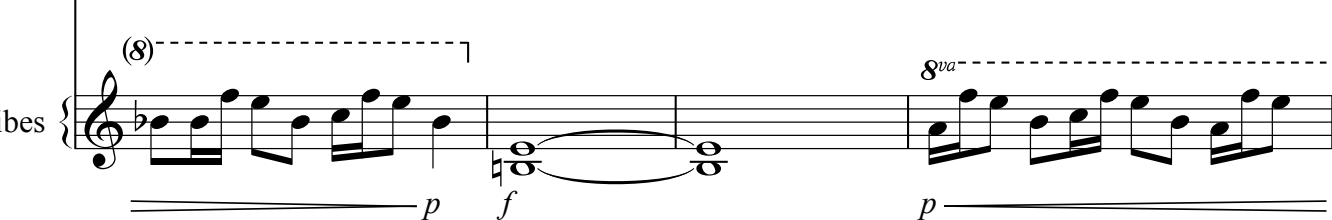
162

Cl. 

Vibes 

165

Cl. 

Vibes 

169

Cl. *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

Vibes *mf* *p* *f*

(8)

173

Cl. *f* *mf* *f*

Vibes

177

178

Cl. *mp* *f*

Vibes *8va*

180

182

Cl. *mp* *pp*

Vibes *mf*

(8)

184

Cl.

Vibes

*mp*

8

187

Cl.

Vibes

*p*

8

190

Cl.

Vibes

*ppp*

*pp*

8

193

Cl.

Vibes

*p*

*mf*


*ppp*

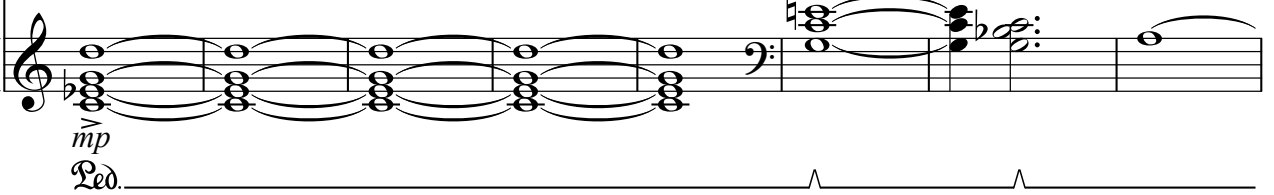
8

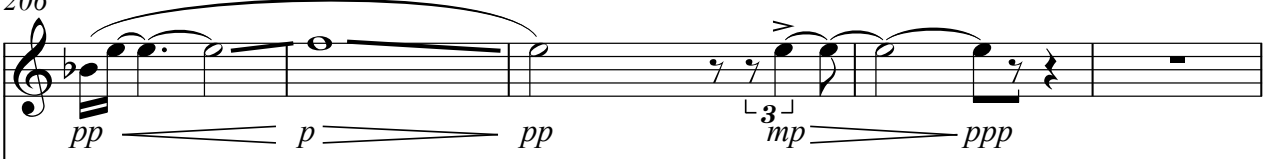



198

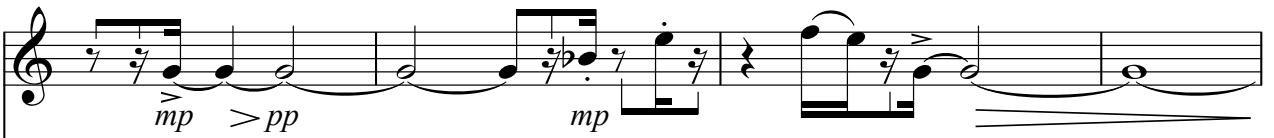
$\text{♩} = 96$  Serene again, but this time with a sense of prolonged resolution

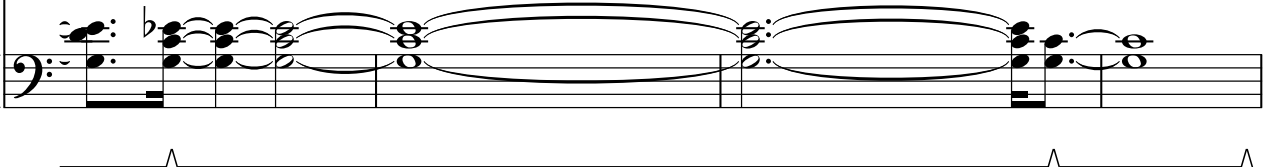
Cl. 

Vibes 

206 Cl. 

Vibes 

211 Cl. 

Vibes 

215

Cl. *tr*

*ppp pp < mp > p ppp < mp*

Vibes

220

Cl. *pp mp pp mp pp mp*

Vibes

223

Cl. *pp p ppp*

Vibes *mf Ped.*

timbre trill  
speed slows as dynamic level decreases

226

Cl. *fpp*

Vibes