

4 FORCES

For wind band

Commissioned by the Lithuanian Symphonic Wind Orchestra

Part I. GRAVITY	4'20"
Part II. ELECTROMAGNETIC FORCE	4'16"
Part III. THE WEAK FORCE	4'12"
Part IV. NUCLEAR FORCE	3'45"

All 4 sections can be performed together as a cycle or separately as individual pieces. When performed together, the silences between sections should be as short as possible.

INSTRUMENTATION

Piccolo Flute
2 Flutes
2 Oboes
Clarinet in E-flat
3 Clarinets in B-flat
Bass Clarinet in B-flat
2 Bassoons

Soprano saxophone in B-flat
2 Alto saxophones in E-flat
Tenor saxophone in B-flat
Baritone saxophone

4 Horns in F
3 Trumpets in B-flat
2 Flugelhorns in B-flat
3 Tenor Trombones
Bass Trombone
2 Euphoniums
2 Tubas
Sousaphone

Percussion (4 players):

I. Timpani, Glockenspiel, 3 Tom-toms, Large Cymbal
II. 2 Cymbals (Large, medium), Vibraphone (+ bowed), Triangle, Snare Drum
III. Tam-tam, Marimba, Cymbal (medium)
IV. Bass Drum, Tubular Bells

Piano or keyboard

Performance notes

Performing long sustained tones, the wind and brass instruments can take a breath if needed or finish the sustained a bit earlier. Singing vowels while playing (for tubas and trombones) - use the Italian pronunciation of vowels.

Composer's note

The idea for this piece came from the 4 Fundamental Forces known for governing our universe. Everything that we experience every day is a result of this critical quartet of forces: the Gravitational Force, the Weak Force, the Electromagnetic Force and the Strong Nuclear Force. Gravity is the most familiar of the fundamental forces. It is the attraction between two objects that have mass or energy. The Electromagnetic Force acts between charged particles: opposite charges attract one another while like charges repel. The Weak Force is responsible for particle decays. It is also called the Weak Nuclear Interaction. The Strong Nuclear Force is the strongest of the four fundamental forces of nature. It binds the fundamental particles of matter together to form larger particles. Each of the 4 Forces is represented musically in separate sections. The piece also reveals how larger forces are governing individual voices within the masses and exposes different ways of relating through homogeneously heterophonic and contrasting textures.

Approximate Duration 16' - 17'

Premiered on November 17th, 2022 by the Lithuanian Symphonic Wind Orchestra, conductor Karolis Variakojis, at the festival "Baltic Music Days" in Kaunas, Lithuania.