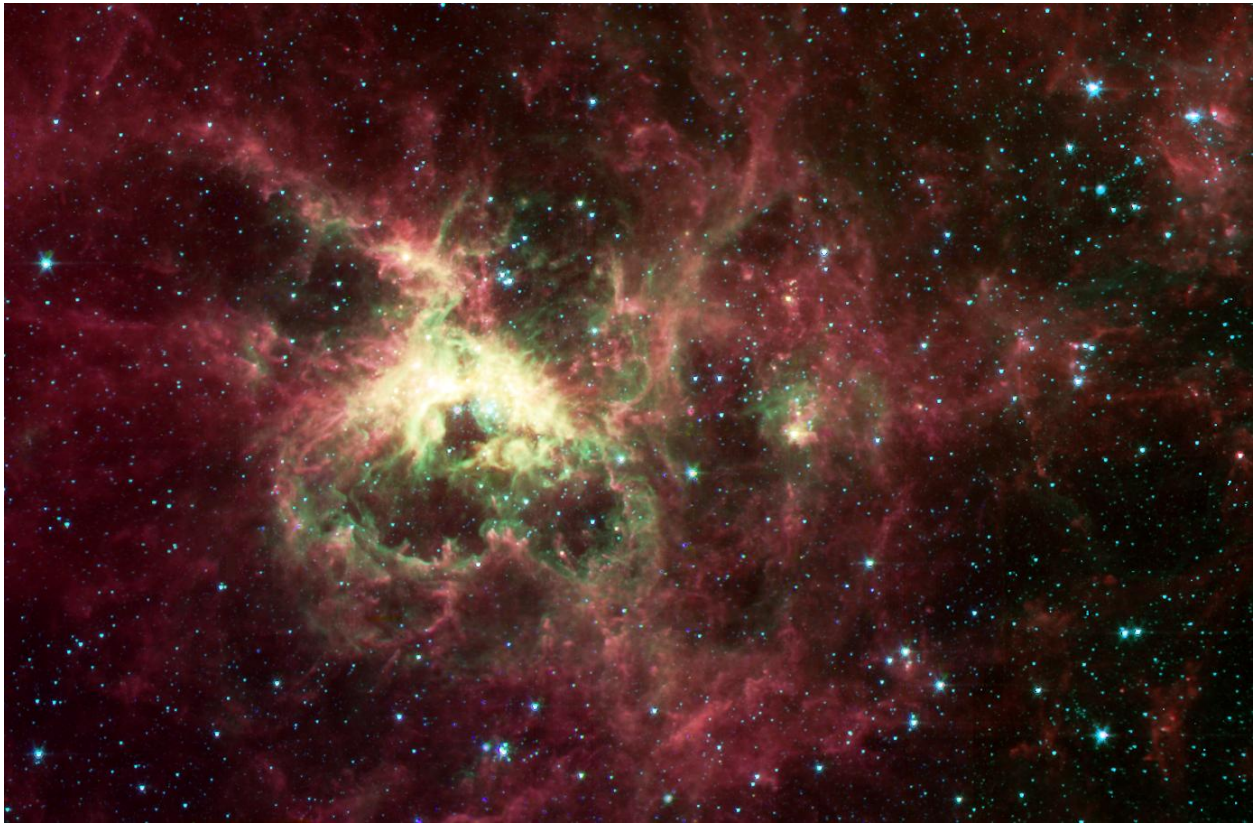


ROGER ZARE

INTERSTELLAR TARANTELLA

for string orchestra



Commissioned for the Center Grove Middle School Central Instrumental Music Program, Ashley Carney and Samuel Fritz, Directors

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Grade 1

Instrumentation:

Violin 1

Violin 2

Viola

Cello

Bass

Optional Percussion:

- Snare Drum
- Bass Drum
- Crash Cymbals

Program note:

A tarantella is a fast and furious traditional dance that supposedly will help drain the venom after someone is bitten by a tarantula. While this emergency therapy is not very effective, the dance is a whirlwind of energy. While earthly tarantellas are usually in duple or quadruple time, this interstellar dance is in compound triple time (9/8), so each measure has three beats and each beat is divided into three.

This dance consists of two themes. The first is full of rhythmic vitality and is based on the characteristic rhythm of the tarantella – a bouncy and repetitive long short long short idea. After this aggressive theme is passed around the ensemble, a second, more lyrical theme is stated at measure 29. Finally, the dance culminates when these two ideas are combined in measure 49, bringing the tarantella to a raucous close.

About the composer:

Roger Zare has been praised for his “enviable grasp of orchestration” and for writing music with “formal clarity and an alluringly mercurial surface.” He was born in Sarasota, FL, and has written for a wide variety of ensembles, from solo instruments to full orchestra. Often inspired by science, mathematics, literature, and mythology, his colorfully descriptive and energetic works have been performed on five continents.



Zare’s works for concert band and string orchestra are published by FJH Music, Manhattan Beach Music, Theodore Presser Inc., and Roger Zare Music. He is a member of the Blue Dot Collective and ASCAP and teaches composition and theory at Illinois State University.

For more information, please visit www.rogerzare.com

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Cover image: Tarantula Nebula, credit NASA



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Roger Zare

Fast ♩. = 126

3

Musical score for measures 1-4. The score includes staves for Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, Double Bass, Snare Drum (optional), and Crash Cymbals/Bass Drum (optional). The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#) and the time signature is 9/8. The tempo is marked 'Fast' with a quarter note equal to 126 beats per minute. The score begins with a dynamic marking of *f* (forte) and includes a *p subito* (piano subito) instruction at the start of measure 3. The Snare Drum and Crash Cymbals/Bass Drum parts are optional and play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.

5

Musical score for measures 5-8. The score includes staves for Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, Double Bass, Snare Drum (optional), and Crash Cymbals/Bass Drum (optional). The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#) and the time signature is 9/8. The score begins with a dynamic marking of *f* (forte). The Snare Drum and Crash Cymbals/Bass Drum parts are optional and play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.

2

11

9

Musical score for measures 9-11. The score includes parts for Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, Double Bass, Snare Drum, and Cymbals/Double Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. Measure 9 starts with a box containing the number 9. Measure 11 has a box containing the number 11. Dynamics include *p* (piano), *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *pizz.* (pizzicato). A 'V' symbol is present above the strings in measures 10 and 11.

13

Musical score for measures 13-16. The score includes parts for Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, Double Bass, Snare Drum, and Cymbals/Double Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. Measure 13 starts with a box containing the number 13.

17

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

S. D.

Cym. B. D.

p *f* *f*

arco

p *f* *f*

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for measures 17, 18, and 19. The score is for a string quartet and includes parts for Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, Double Bass, Snare Drum, and Cymbal/Brushes. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#). Measure 17 starts with a box containing the number 17. In measure 18, there are dynamic markings *p* and *f* for the Double Bass and Snare Drum parts, and *f* for the Violoncello part. A box containing the number 19 is positioned above measure 19. The Snare Drum part has a dynamic marking *f* in measure 19. The Cymbal/Brushes part is marked with a minus sign in all three measures.

21

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

S. D.

Cym. B. D.

f *f* *f*

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for measures 21, 22, 23, and 24. The score is for a string quartet and includes parts for Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, Double Bass, Snare Drum, and Cymbal/Brushes. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#). Measure 21 starts with a box containing the number 21. In measure 22, there is a dynamic marking *f* for the Double Bass part. In measure 23, there is a dynamic marking *f* for the Snare Drum part. In measure 24, there is a dynamic marking *f* for the Snare Drum part. The Cymbal/Brushes part is marked with a minus sign in all four measures.

25

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

S. D.

Cym. B. D.

f

29

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

S. D.

Cym. B. D.

p cantabile

p subito!

p subito!