

Timpani

Charlie Barber



for chamber orchestra

Instrumentation:

2 Flutes
 2 Oboes
 2 Clarinets in B flat
 2 Bassoons

2 Horns in F
 2 Trumpets in B flat

Timpani

Percussion (one player): Large Tam-tam, Orchestral Bass Drum

Violin 1
 Violin 2
 Viola
 Violoncello
 Contrabass

Score in C

Duration:

c. 6 minutes

Programme note:

Curtain Tune on a Ground is a reworking of the opening music from *BreakBeats*, a multimedia event written in 2006. Originally titled *12-Bar Ground*, the piece was written for piano, percussion, DJ and breakdancers. This new version is scored for chamber orchestra.

A ‘curtain tune’ is theatrical music played to accompany the raising or lowering of a stage curtain, and historically the term was also used for an overture. A ground, or ground bass, is a short, repeating melodic phrase in the bass that provides the foundation for an entire composition.

The title also pays homage to the Curtain Tunes of the British Baroque composers Matthew Locke and Henry Purcell.

Charlie Barber, September 2026

Curtain Tune on a Ground

Charlie Barber

A *Lento* ♩ = 60 **11** *tr* **B** *Piu mosso* ♩ = 96 **10** *tr*

25 **C** **10** *tr*

37 **D** **10** *tr*

49 **E** **3** **3** **3** **3**

54 **3** **3**

57 **3** *tr* **F**

pp *p* *p* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *p* *f*

Charlie Barber - Curtain Tune on a Ground

62

10

tr

G

10

tr

p

ff

p

85

H

3

3

3

3

ff

mf

mf

f

f

90

3

3

3

mf

f

f

95

tr

I

3

3

3

p

f

p

mf

3

101

3

3

f

f

104

3

3

ff

ff

Charlie Barber - Curtain Tune on a Ground

108 *tr* **J**

Measures 108-112: Bass clef, key of D major. Measure 108: half note D4, half note G4, half note B4, half note A4, half note F#4, half note E4, half note D4. Measure 109: quarter rest, quarter note D4, quarter note E4, quarter note F#4, quarter note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4, quarter note A4, quarter note G4, quarter note F#4, quarter note E4, quarter note D4. Measure 110: quarter rest, quarter note D4, quarter note E4, quarter note F#4, quarter note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4, quarter note A4, quarter note G4, quarter note F#4, quarter note E4, quarter note D4. Measure 111: quarter rest, quarter note D4, quarter note E4, quarter note F#4, quarter note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4, quarter note A4, quarter note G4, quarter note F#4, quarter note E4, quarter note D4. Measure 112: quarter rest, quarter note D4, quarter note E4, quarter note F#4, quarter note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4, quarter note A4, quarter note G4, quarter note F#4, quarter note E4, quarter note D4. Dynamics: *p* (measure 108), *ff* (measure 109), *f* (measure 110), *ff* (measure 111), *f* (measure 112). Trills: *tr* (measure 108), *tr* (measure 111).

113

Measures 113-117: Bass clef, key of D major. Measure 113: quarter rest, quarter note D4, quarter note E4, quarter note F#4, quarter note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4, quarter note A4, quarter note G4, quarter note F#4, quarter note E4, quarter note D4. Measure 114: quarter rest, quarter note D4, quarter note E4, quarter note F#4, quarter note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4, quarter note A4, quarter note G4, quarter note F#4, quarter note E4, quarter note D4. Measure 115: quarter rest, quarter note D4, quarter note E4, quarter note F#4, quarter note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4, quarter note A4, quarter note G4, quarter note F#4, quarter note E4, quarter note D4. Measure 116: quarter rest, quarter note D4, quarter note E4, quarter note F#4, quarter note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4, quarter note A4, quarter note G4, quarter note F#4, quarter note E4, quarter note D4. Measure 117: quarter rest, quarter note D4, quarter note E4, quarter note F#4, quarter note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4, quarter note A4, quarter note G4, quarter note F#4, quarter note E4, quarter note D4. Dynamics: *f* (measure 113), *ff* (measure 114), *f* (measure 115), *ff* (measure 116), *f* (measure 117). Trills: *tr* (measure 113), *tr* (measure 116).

118 *tr* **K**

Measures 118-121: Bass clef, key of D major. Measure 118: quarter rest, quarter note D4, quarter note E4, quarter note F#4, quarter note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4, quarter note A4, quarter note G4, quarter note F#4, quarter note E4, quarter note D4. Measure 119: quarter rest, quarter note D4, quarter note E4, quarter note F#4, quarter note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4, quarter note A4, quarter note G4, quarter note F#4, quarter note E4, quarter note D4. Measure 120: quarter rest, quarter note D4, quarter note E4, quarter note F#4, quarter note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4, quarter note A4, quarter note G4, quarter note F#4, quarter note E4, quarter note D4. Measure 121: quarter rest, quarter note D4, quarter note E4, quarter note F#4, quarter note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4, quarter note A4, quarter note G4, quarter note F#4, quarter note E4, quarter note D4. Dynamics: *p* (measure 118), *ff* (measure 119), *p* (measure 120), *sf* (measure 121). Trills: *tr* (measure 118), *tr* (measure 121).