

The Long Now

Solo for bass trombone and subtone.

Cat Hope (2021)

Lower, more opening sounding movement of air (no tone)
Air only, with tongue interference, higher, lighter effect (no tone)

Multiphonic effect, at least 2 sounds.

Clean trombone tone – no vibrato, very clean, mask all articulations.

+ + + abrupt tongue stops that are pitched

- soft tongue stops that are unpitched

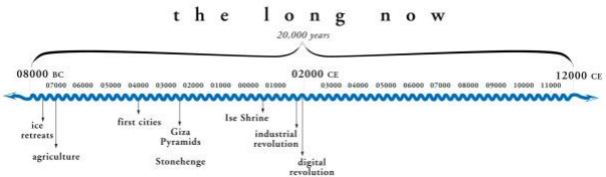
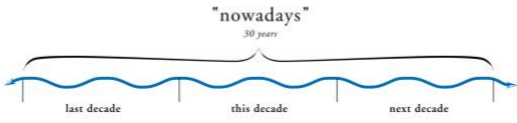
Timbre shift over clean tone – do not articulate start and end.

The score is proportional, with the highest point of the screen being the highest pitch reference, the bottom being the lowest pitch reference. Line thickness indicates dynamic (should be very soft as a starting point). The **electronic play back** is fixed and embedded in the score file. The score should be read in the Decibel ScorePlayer application on an iPad, or as a movie file, available on the composers' website. The electronic play back should run out of the iPad minijack and into a sub woofer speaker. Do not use full range PA speakers.

Program Note

The 'Long Now' is a Foundation that aims to provide a counterpoint to today's accelerating culture by encouraging long-term thinking, fostering responsibility in the framework of the next 10,000 years. A short piece of text that opens the work, spoken by the composer – is a typical 'Long Now' provocation: "How Long is Now?" Music provides complex answers to this question, and in this work, a slow descent into very low sound, where pitch is either uncontrollable or almost inaudible, reflects the limits of human action in and perception of sound as it passes through time, highlighting that there may be other ways to listen, and other ways to experience our passing through time.

Commissioned by the Australian National Academy of Music (ANAM) as part of The ANAM Set (2021). It was written for James Littlewood and the world premiere was on 21 September 2021 at the Abbotsford Convent, Melbourne. The ANAM Set was funded by the Restart Investment to Sustain and Expand (RISE) Fund – an Australian Government Initiative.



Cat Hope June 2021