Na So E Be

For Chamber Orchestra

Desmond Ikegwuonu

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Instrumentation

2 Flute

2 Oboe

2 Clarinet in Bb

2 Bassoon

2 Horns in F

2 Trumpets in Bb

Timpani

Percussion*

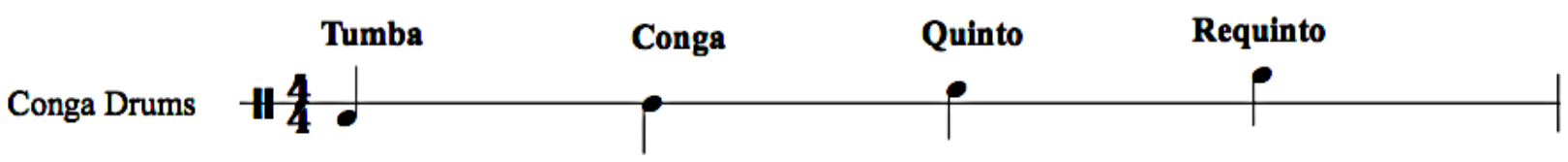
Celesta

Conga

Strings

**Bass Drum, Snare Drum, Tam-Tam*

Conga Key:



About the Music

Earning a level of street credibility is important to survival in Lagos, Nigeria. By street worthiness, I mean the ability to communicate and not be exploited at least to an extent. There are really no alternatives to navigating the rugged life, employing the language of the street is not a vice. Pidgin English is the lingua franca across Nigeria and *Na So E Be* epitomizes that life. If one has to do any kind of business, you must have a way of extending your loyalty to this language. It's the natural course one must take to navigate the usual flow of commercial activities in the bustling city at the heart of the Motherland, Nigeria. To speak in Nigeria or naija pidgin, we will say "Na So E Be" meaning "That's how it is." Naija is a patriotic name for Nigerians showing their strength and smartness. Naija people have gained a rigorous and immutable desire to thrive. This work *Na So E Be* describes patterns that have evolved, taking center stage as normative within a culture.

In reference to the rising global awareness of African music, the impact of the great Fela Anikulapo Kuti, the pioneer of the Afrobeat music genre is indisputable. This sound fusing intricate rhythmic and percussive ideas with recurring thematic, melodic, jazzy harmony and arising through cycled layers of textures has remained a dominant musical force. In *Na So E Be*, all of these characteristics are in play as the main thematic unit is exertive. *Na So E Be* is the tale of a will to survive. It is as through norms exist to punctuate every hidden layer of change suppressing any resistance to prove superiority. Every other activity realizes that it must remain subservient to the supreme order that has risen above in the hierarchical structure. In truth, we all become players in supporting the language, sound, style and that's just the way it is: *Na So E Be.*

In *Na So E Be*, every other textual or harmonic activity are foreshadows telling of what is to come, the dogged nature of the cadential unit breaking through every silence and delivering its voice distinctively assertive, and ironically, we are willing to embrace it as the way it is—*Na So E Be*. Afrobeat takes you on a journey through the heart of the indigenous naija life with all the multicolored facets and many textured layers of the vernacular. It is rich, robust, insistent, unrelenting, pure and *Na So E Be* (That's how it is).

Desmond Ikegwuonu

Score

Na So E Be (Afrobeat Fanfare)

Commissioned and World Premiered by ROCO

Desmond Ikegwuonu

Afrobeat Groove ♩ = 92

Flute 1
Flute 2
Oboe 1
Oboe 2
Clarinet in B♭ 1
Clarinet in B♭ 2
Bassoon 1
Bassoon 2
Horn in F 1
Horn in F 2
Trumpet in B♭ 1
Trumpet in B♭ 2
Timpani
Percussion
Bass Drum
Celesta
Conga Drums
Afrobeat Groove ♩ = 92
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Cello
Contrabass
Div.
Divisi

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Na So E Be (Afrobeat Fanfare)

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
B♭ Tpt. 1
B♭ Tpt. 2
Timp.
Perc.
Cel.
C. Dr.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

ff *mp* *f*

Bass Drum

Div.

A

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2

7

Hn. 1
Hn. 2
B♭ Tpt. 1
B♭ Tpt. 2

7

Timp.

7

Perc.

Snare Drum

7

Cel.

7

C. Dr.

A

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

Unis.

Na So E Be (Afrobeat Fanfare)

10

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

B♭ Cl. 1 — *f* — *f*

B♭ Cl. 2 — *f* — *f*

Bsn. 1 — *f* — *f* — *mp*

Bsn. 2 — *f* — *f* — *mp*

10

Hn. 1 — *mf*

Hn. 2 — *mf*

B♭ Tpt. 1 — *mf*

B♭ Tpt. 2 — *mf*

10

Timp. — *sf sf sf sf* — *mp*

10

Perc. — *f* — *p*

10

Cel. — *mf*

10

C. Dr. — 3 — *f* — *mf*

10

Vln. I — *sf sf sf sf*

Vln. II — *sf sf sf sf*

Vla. — *sf sf sf sf* — *mp*

Unison

Vc. — *sf sf sf sf* — *mp*

Cb. — *sf sf sf sf* — *mp*

13

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Ob. 1 — *mf*

Ob. 2 — *mf*

B♭ Cl. 1 — *f*

B♭ Cl. 2 — *f*

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

13

Hn. 1 — *mf* *f*

Hn. 2 — *mf* *f*

B♭ Tpt. 1 — *mf* *f*

B♭ Tpt. 2 — *mf* *f*

13

Timp.

13

Tam-Tam

Perc. — *f*

13

Cel. — *mf*

13

C. Dr. — *mf*

13

Vln. I — *mf* *f*

Vln. II — *mf* *f*

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

16

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Ob. 1 *mf*

Ob. 2 *mf*

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

Bsn. 1 *mf*

Bsn. 2 *mf*

16

Hn. 1 *mf* *f*

Hn. 2 *mf* *f*

B♭ Tpt. 1 *mf* *f*

B♭ Tpt. 2 *mf* *f*

16

Timp. *mf*

16

Tam-Tam

Perc. *f*

16

Cel. *mf* *f* *mf*

16

C. Dr. *mf*

16

Vln. I *mf* *f*

Vln. II *mf* *f*

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *mf*

Cb. *mf*

19

Fl. 1 — mp 5
Fl. 2 — mp 5
Ob. 1 — mf
Ob. 2 — mf
B♭ Cl. 1 — mf
B♭ Cl. 2 — mf
Bsn. 1 — mf
Bsn. 2 — mf

19

Hn. 1
Hn. 2
B♭ Tpt. 1
B♭ Tpt. 2

19

Timp. — mf

19

Perc. — Snare Drum — mf

19

Cel. — mf

19

C. Dr. — 3 — mf

19

Vln. I — pizz. — mf
Vln. II — pizz. — mf
Vla. — mf
Vc. — mf
Cb. — mf

Na So E Be (Afrobeat Fanfare)

22

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

B♭ Tpt. 1

B♭ Tpt. 2

Timp.

Perc.

Cel.

C. Dr.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

mp *mf*

25

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

25

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

B♭ Tpt. 1

B♭ Tpt. 2

25

Timp.

25

Perc.

25

Cel.

25

C. Dr.

25

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

B0

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

28

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

B♭ Tpt. 1

B♭ Tpt. 2

28

Timp.

28

Perc.

28

Cel.

28

C. Dr.

B

arco

Div.

Vln. I

arco

Div.

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

mf

31

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

31

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

B♭ Tpt. 1

B♭ Tpt. 2

31

Timp.

31

Perc.

31

Cel.

31

C. Dr.

Unis.

31

Vln. I

Unis.

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
B♭ Tpt. 1
B♭ Tpt. 2
Timp.
Perc.
Bass Drum
Cel.
C. Dr.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Div.
Vc.
Cb.

C

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

37

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

B♭ Tpt. 1

B♭ Tpt. 2

37

Timp.

37

Snare Drum

Perc.

37

Cel.

37

C. Dr.

C

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

40

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
B♭ Tpt. 1
B♭ Tpt. 2
Timp.
Perc.
Cel.
C. Dr.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

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

Bass Drum

Snare Drum

43

Fl. 1
mp
f

Fl. 2
mp
f

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

Bsn. 1
mf
f

Bsn. 2
mf
f

43

Hn. 1
mf

Hn. 2
mf

B♭ Tpt. 1
mf

B♭ Tpt. 2
mf

43

Timp.

43

Perc.
mp
f

43

Cel.
mf
mf

43

C. Dr.
mf
3
3
3

43

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

46

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
B♭ Tpt. 1
B♭ Tpt. 2
Timp.
Perc.
Cel.
C. Dr.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

p *mf* *fp*

49

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
B♭ Tpt. 1
B♭ Tpt. 2
Timp.
Perc.
Cel.
C. Dr.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

mf *f* *ff*

Bass Drum

Div.

D

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

52

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

B♭ Tpt. 1

B♭ Tpt. 2

52

Timp.

52

Perc.

Snare Drum

52

Cel.

52

C. Dr.

D

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

55

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Ob. 1

Ob. 2

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

55

Hn. 1

mf

Hn. 2

mf

B♭ Tpt. 1

mf

B♭ Tpt. 2

mf

55

Timp.

55

Snare Drum

Perc.

p

55

Cel.

p

3

55

C. Dr.

p

mf

55

Vln. I

p

Vln. II

p

Vla.

p

Vc.

p

Cb.

p

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
B♭ Tpt. 1
B♭ Tpt. 2
Timp.
Perc.
Cel.
C. Dr.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

61

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
B♭ Tpt. 1
B♭ Tpt. 2
Timp.
Perc.
Cel.
C. Dr.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

E

ff

p

Snare Drum

Div.

mf

Na So E Be (Afrobeat Fanfare)

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
B♭ Tpt. 1
B♭ Tpt. 2
Timp.
Perc.
Cel.
C. Dr.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

64

mf

Snare Drum

3

67

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
B♭ Tpt. 1
B♭ Tpt. 2
Timp.
Perc.
Cel.
C. Dr.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

mf

Snare Drum

mp

70

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
B♭ Tpt. 1
B♭ Tpt. 2
Timp.
Perc.
Cel.
C. Dr.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

mp mf

73

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
B♭ Tpt. 1
B♭ Tpt. 2
Timp.
Perc.
Cel.
C. Dr.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

mp *mf*

Na So E Be (Afrobeat Fanfare)

76

F

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
B♭ Tpt. 1
B♭ Tpt. 2
Timp.
Snare Drum
Perc.
Cel.
C. Dr.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

Div.

ff mp p f

79

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
B♭ Tpt. 1
B♭ Tpt. 2
Timp.
Perc.
Cel.
C. Dr.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

mp *pp* *p*

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
B♭ Tpt. 1
B♭ Tpt. 2
Timp.
Perc.
Cel.
C. Dr.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

82

mp *pp* *p*

85

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
B♭ Tpt. 1
B♭ Tpt. 2
Timp.
Perc.
Cel.
C. Dr.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

ff

p

Bass Drum

Div.

3