

Composed by Klip Lester

Responding to **Metropolis** by [Lubna Chowdhary](#) (1991 - 2018)

Performed by Layla Laubach (vibraphone), Klip Lester (piano)

**Composer's statement:** *When writing this piece, I wanted to capture a sense of creativity and emulate how the colourful clay sculptures fit together. Because all the sculptures are made of the same material, I decided to primarily use one instrument, the vibraphone, which I felt had a vibrant and bright sound to capture a bustling city's lively atmosphere. As I wrote the piece, I imagined myself strolling through the city on a sunny day, taking in the sights and sounds with amazement.*

*The composition is made up of 12 vibraphone parts, auxiliary percussion and piano. It starts simply, with repeating chords, but as different parts come in, the piece increases in complexity, with many of the patterns being off-beat. The piece starts in E Major, though halfway through, it shifts to C# minor before returning to E Major. Near the end, the piano joins the vibraphones and percussion, creating a final, bass layer to complete the aural package. The parts grow louder until a final triumphant chord involving all the instruments ends the piece.*

#### **Klip Lester, Composer, piano (Dubai)**

Klip is English/American Grade 12 student at the American School of Dubai. He is an aspiring pianist, composer and singer who began playing piano when he was nine years old and composing for his school choir and orchestra at twelve. He has performed at international choir festivals in Asia, Europe and the Middle East and worked as an Artist Intern teaching choir and composition to elementary students. His interests outside of music include baseball, tennis, dirt biking and go-karting.

#### **Layla Laubach, Vibraphone (Dubai)**

Layla Ilene Laubach is an undergraduate student studying psychology at Rice University in Houston, Texas. Although American-Lebanese, she was born and raised in the UAE. Layla graduated from the American School of Dubai in 2018, and is currently back home in Dubai to complete her academic year remotely. She has been playing piano for fifteen years and percussion for ten, and always makes room to participate in community and school bands. Layla also enjoys tap dancing.