

Alex Stephenson

calling, crying
(2016)

for mezzo-soprano and string quartet

Text by Carl Sandburg

First performed by Jennifer Beattie and the Argus Quartet
New Music on the Point Festival, Salisbury, Vermont
June 18, 2016

DURATION: 6 minutes

PERFORMANCE NOTES

Strings

s.t. = sul tasto

s.p. = sul ponticello

vib. = normal vibrato

s.v. = senza vibrato or quasi senza vibrato. Please feel free, at your discretion, to use a small amount of vibrato in some or all passages marked “s.v.” However, please ensure that a clear distinction remains between “s.v.” and “vib.”

vib.-s.v. = “vib.” very briefly, then change immediately to “s.v.” The “s.v.” instruction then remains in effect until cancelled. The idea is to mirror with vibrato the type of dynamic (e.g., *mfpp*) that usually accompanies this technique.

TO CONTACT THE COMPOSER

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[illegible]

⑦

M-S.

vib.-s.v.

Vln. 1

mfpp

vib.-s.v.

(s.v.) → vib.

ppp

Vln. 2

mfpp

mf

Vla.

vib.-s.v.

(s.v.) → vib.

mfpp

mf

Vc.

vib.-s.v.

mfpp

⑩

M-S.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

s.v. → vib.-s.v.

3

mfpp

3

Vc.

vib.

p sub.

mf

mfpp

Dolente

(♩ = sempre)

3

M-S. *ppp* *mf* *p* *mp* *ppp*
De - - - so late and lone

Vln. 1 s.p. → ord. (ord.) → s.p. → ord. vib.
pp *ppp* *ppp* *p* *pp*

Vln. 2 sul II s.v.
ppp sempre

Vla. *ppp* sempre
s.v. (non trem.)

Vc. *ppp* sempre

16

(Gently pulsing)

M-S.

Vln. 1 *mp* *p-pp* *p-pp* *p-pp*
vib.-s.v.

Vln. 2 *p-pp* *p-pp* *p-pp*
vib.-s.v.

Vla. *p-pp* *p-pp* *p-pp*
vib.-s.v.

Vc. *p-pp* *p-pp* *p-pp*
vib.-s.v.

M-S. *mp*
All

Vln. 1 *p-pp* vib.-s.v.

Vln. 2 *p-pp* vib.-s.v. sul II

Vla. *p-pp* vib.-s.v.

Vc. *p-pp* vib.-s.v. vib. 3 s.v. (non trem.) *mfpp*

(Dolente) *p*
23 *f nervoso* *pp* *p*

M-S. night long on the lake Where

Vln. 1 (ord.) → s.p. *pp* *p*

Vln. 2 (s.v.) *ppp*

Vla. (s.v.) *ppp*

Vc. *ppp*

26

M-S. *f* *p* *mf* *sf* *p*

fog trails and mist creeps,

ord.

Vln. 1 *ppp* *pp* *ppp* *s.p.* *ord.*

Vln. 2 *pp espr.* *mf* *p* *vib. ad lib.*

Vla. *pp espr.* *mf* *p* *vib. ad lib.*

Vc. *p-pp* *vib.-s.v.*

29

M-S. *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *f*

The whistle of a boat Calls

(ord.) → s.p. → ord. → s.p. → ord. vib. (ord.) → s.p. → ord.

Vln. 1 *ppp* *p* *ppp* *mp* *ppp* *p* *p* *p* *ppp*

Vln. 2 *f* *p* *mf* *pp* *mf sub.* *pp* *mf* *p* *mf*

Vla. *f* *p* *mf* *pp* *mf sub.* *pp* *mf* *p* *mf*

Vc. (s.v.) *vib.* *s.v.*

6 (32) *f* *p* *mf* *ben f*

M-S. *and cries* *un - end - ing -*

Vln. 1 (ord.) *s.p.* *ord.* *mfppp* *p* *ppp* *p* (ord.) *pp*

Vln. 2 *pp* *mf* *f* *ff*

Vla. *pp* *mf* *f* *ff*

Vc. (non trem.) *p-pp* *pp*

(35) *p*

M-S. *ly,*

Vln. 1 *s.p.* *ord.* (ord.) *s.p.* *ord.* *s.p.* *ord.* *mp* *ppp* *mp* *ppp* *p* *ppp*

Vln. 2 *p* *mf* *p* *f* *mf*

Vla. *p* *mf* *p* *f* *mf*

Vc. (non trem.) *p-pp*

38

M-S. *meno f* *mp* *poco sf* *poco sf* *p*

un - end - ing ly, Like some lost

(ord.) → s.p. → ord.

Vln. 1 *mp* *ppp*

Vln. 2 *ff* *p* *f* *p* *mf* *pp* *mfpp* *vib.-s.v.*

Vla. *ff* *p* *f* *p* *mf* *pp* *mfpp* *vib.-s.v.*

Vc. *mfpp* *vib.-s.v.*

41

M-S. *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mp* *ppp*

chi-ld In tears and trou - ble

(ord.) → s.p. → ord. (ord.) → s.p. → ord. (ord.) → s.p. → ord.

Vln. 1 *ppp* *mp* *ppp* *ppp* *p* *ppp* *ppp* *pp* *ppp* *jété*

Vln. 2 *ppp* *mf*

Vla. *ppp* *ppp* *s.t.* *ppp* *sempre*

Vc. *ppp*

Meno mosso (♩=c.63)

8

(44)

M-S. *p semplice* *pp* *p*
Hunt - ing the

Vln. 1

Vln. 2 (non jété) *pp*

Vla.

Vc. (s.v.) pizz. vib. *f* *sonore*

(47)

M-S. *ppp* *pp* *pp*
har - bor's breast And the

Vln. 1

Vln. 2 (s.v.) *ppp*

Vla. (s.v.) ord. *ppp*

Vc. arco s.v. *ppp*

50 *p* *ppp* *pp* *dim. poss.* **a tempo** (♩=c.86) 9

M-S. har - bor's eyes.

Vln. 1 (ord.) → s.p. → ord. *tr* *ppp* *p* *ppp* with viola vib. ad lib.

Vln. 2 *p espr.* with violin 2 vib. ad lib.

Vla. *p espr.*

Vc.

54

M-S.

Vln. 1 (ord.) → s.p. *tr* *ppp* *p*

Vln. 2 *mf* *p*

Vla. *mf* *p*

Vc. *p-pp* (non trem.)

M-S.

ord. s.p. → ord. (ord.) → s.p. → ord.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

M-S.

(ord.) → s.p. → ord.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

vib.-s.v. (s.v.) → vib.

63

M-S.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

mp

mf

ppp

p

s.v.

(s.v.)

vib.

s.v.

p

66

poco ritenuto

a tempo (gently pulsing)

M-S.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

mp

mf

mfpp

p

(vib. ad lib.)

mfpp

M-S.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

mfpp

mfpp

mfpp

mf

p

mfpp

mfpp

mf

p

mfpp

mfpp

M-S.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

mfpp

mfpp

mf

p

mfpp

mfpp

77

Meno mosso (♩=c.63)

13

M-S.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

mfpp

mfpp

mf

mf

mfpp

mf

pp

80

play at least 3x
additional repetitions ad lib.

M-S.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

mp-pp, gradually softer with each repeat

mp-pp, gradually softer with each repeat

mp
gradually softer
with each repeat

mp-pp
gradually softer with each repeat

mp
gradually softer
with each repeat

pp
(gradually softer with each repeat)