The far green country.

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University of Louisville

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The Far Green Country

For orchestra

By
Lincoln Sandham
B.M., Baldwin Wallace University, 2016

A Thesis
Submitted to the Faculty of the
School of Music of the University of Louisville
In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
For the Degree of

Master of Music in Music Composition

School of Music
University of Louisville
Louisville, Kentucky

May 2018
The Far Green Country

For Orchestra

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Lincoln Sandham
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A Thesis Approved on

May 2, 2018

By the following Thesis Committee:

__________________________
Steve Rouse
Thesis Director

__________________________
Marc Satterwhite

__________________________
Kimcherie Lloyd
DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to my wife and family who have supported and encouraged me every step of the way.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Dr. Steve Rouse for his invaluable advice and experience, his kind, supportive, and thoughtful guidance, and for countless hours dedicated to making both this Thesis and my time at UofL a successful and rewarding experience. His professionalism and dedication to being the best composer and teacher he can be are priceless models, and have caused me to grow as a composer, musician, and person throughout my time as his student.

Thanks to my committee members, Dr. Marc Satterwhite and Kimcherie Lloyd for their critique, support, and enthusiasm to help.

Thanks to Dr. Kent Hatteburg for his inspiring leadership, and for countless unforgettable experiences performing in his ensembles.

Thanks to Drs. Mark Yeary and Kryzstof Wolek for widening my musical horizons in their classes.

Thanks to Dr. Rebecca Jemian for her leadership, friendship, and encouragement. She has made my first teaching experience extremely rewarding.

Thanks to Chris Fitzgerald for embracing me as a colleague, and for the trust he placed in me as a teaching assistant.

Thanks to Jack Ashworth for sharing his extraordinarily vast body of knowledge with me, and for enthusiastically supporting my interest in early music.

Thanks to Drs. Caroline Ehman and Devin Burke for their model of thoughtful scholarship.

Finally, thanks to my wife and family, for their unending love, support, and encouragement.
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INSTRUMENTATION

Transposed Score

3 Flutes (3rd double Piccolo)
3 Oboes
3 Clarinets in Bb
2 Bassoons

4 Horns in F
3 Trumpets in C
3 Trombones
Tuba

Timpani

Percussion 1
Marimba (range A2-Bb5*), Suspended Cymbal, Vibraphone (may be shared, also bowed), Glockenspiel

Percussion 2
Vibraphone (may be shared, also bowed), Tam-tam, Suspended Cymbal

Percussion 3
Bass Drum, Crotales (range C4-C6*, sounding 15ma, bowed), Suspended Cymbal

Harp

Piano

Violin 1
Violin 2
Viola
Cello
Double Bass

Duration: ca. 17 minutes
Movement 1 – 5 minutes 30 seconds
Movement 2 – 4 minutes 40 seconds
Movement 3 – 7 minutes 15 seconds

*if middle C=C4
PROGRAM NOTE

This work was inspired by a beautiful image from J.R.R. Tolkien’s *The Lord of the Rings*:

“And then it seemed to him that as in his dream in the house of Bombadil, the grey rain-curtain turned all to silver glass and was rolled back, and he beheld white shores and beyond them a far green country under a swift sunrise.”

*The Return of The King, Book VI chapter 9*

This imagery inspired the three movements of this work. The first, *The Gray Raincurtain*, depicts a violent end, the world crashing down around you. The musical material of this movement gradually unravels – the piece is built in several waves, each becoming more and more tumultuous and disturbed, until the final crest shatters and leaves a deafening silence in its wake.

The second movement, *Silver Glass*, is an in-between place – a transformation from one state of being to another. The sound of silver glass is created with bowed percussion instruments, the rest of the orchestra gradually adding their voices to create a glistening halo of sound.

The final movement, *The Far Green Country*, emerges from this halo and embodies the excitement and joy of arriving home after a long absence. This movement rotates through key centers, slowly adding accidentals to the orchestral texture, creating the feeling of running ever upward and upward, each step of the way more euphoric than the last.
Poco piu mosso ca. \( \dot{=} \) 120, anxious
CURRICULUM VITAE

Lincoln Sandham

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Education
University of Louisville (UofL), Louisville, KY
Master of Music, Music Composition, 2016-present (degree expected in May 2018)

Baldwin Wallace University (BW), Berea, OH
Bachelor of Music, Music Composition, 2013-2016 – Cum Laude

Primary Instructors
Composition:
  Dr. Steve Rouse – Coordinator, Composition and Creative Studies, UofL
  Dr. Clint Needham – Composer-in-residence, BW
  Dr. Jonathan Sokol – Assistant Professor, Composition, BW
Conducting:
  Miss Kimcherie Lloyd – Director, Orchestral Studies, UofL
  Dr. Dirk Garner – Artistic Director, Bach Festival; Chair, Conducting and Ensembles
Dept. BW
  Dr. Brendan Caldwell – Associate Professor, Conducting; Director, Wind Ensembles, BW
  Dr. Katherine Kilburn – Composition Performance Coordinator, BW
Piano:
  Dr. Robert Mayerovitch – Chair, Keyboard Dept., BW
  Miss Olga Radosavljevich – Preparatory Piano Dept., Cleveland Institute of Music
Voice:
  Dr. Joanne Uniatowski – Associate Professor, Voice, BW
  Miss Marla Berg – Director, Opera Program, Kent State University

Teaching Experience
2016-present: Theory Lab Coordinator and Teaching Assistant, University of Louisville. Duties include substitute teaching for all sections of Music Theory, administering skills audits, grading, group and one-on-one tutoring, and coordinating and promoting the theory-tutoring lab at UofL. Involves all levels of theory from remedial to advanced post-tonal.

Awards and Honors
2015-2016 – Elinore Barber Music Scholarship Honoring the Memory of Dr. Albert Schweitzer
2013-2016 – BW Transfer Scholar’s Award for Academic Talent and Achievement in the Classroom
2016 – Selected as soloist, BW Honors Recital
2015 – Selected as soloist, BW Convocation Recital
2015 – BW Dean’s List Spring
2014 – C7 Prize for Choral Composition (awarded for Falling Slowly in Love for SATB Choir and Piano)
2014 – BW Dean’s List Fall
2014 – BW Dean’s List Spring
2013 – BW Dean’s List Fall
2013 – Outstanding Music Student, Lakeland Community College

Performance Experience
Keyboard:
  2017 – Serve as Harpsichordist for the UofL Early Music Ensemble
  2016 – BW Symphonic Wind Ensemble Season and regional tour, including performance at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C.
Performance Experience Continued

Short Ride in a Fast Machine by John Adams – Synthesizer 1
Advance Always by Clint Needham
Concerto No. 2 for Marimba and Wind Ensemble by David Gillingham

2016 – BW Symphony Orchestra Student Composer Concert (rehearsal and premieres of student works)
Prestidigitation by Kevin Thompson
Expectations by Bradley Vogel
Avalanche by Jacob Holmes

2016 – BW University Focus Festival, featuring the works of David Lang
Orpheus Over and Under by David Lang – Piano 1
Memory Pieces by David Lang – Soloist

2013-2016 – Served as solo and chamber pianist for the BW Composition Department, rehearsing and performing student compositions.

2015 – BW New Music Ensemble
Paraphrase on Themes of Brian Eno by Timothy Andres
Lullaby by Ned Rorem
Chaconne by John Harbison
Velvet Hammer by Sean Friar

2013 – BW University Focus Festival, featuring the works of Christopher Theofanidis
Etenraku by Christopher Theofanidis

Voice:
2017-Present – UofL Cardinal Singers – Tenor 1
2016-2017 – UofL Collegiate Chorale – Tenor 1 – Select performances:
Symphony No. 2 by Gustav Mahler with the Louisville Orchestra
Saint Chapelle by Éric Whitacre
La Petenera by Carlos Sanchez Gutierrez – Soloist

2013-2016 – BW University Choir – Tenor 1 – Select performances:
St. Matthew Passion by J.S. Bach
Mass in B Minor by J.S. Bach
St. John Passion by J.S. Bach
Magnificat in D by J. S. Bach
Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern by J.S. Bach
Requiem by Herbert Howells
Messages to Myself by Christopher Theofanidis (BW Focus Festival)

Masterclasses
Andrew Norman
Carlos Sanchez Gutierrez
Transient Canvas
Loris Ohannes Chobanian
David Lang
Christopher Theofanidis

Works List

2017:
The Gray Raincurtain – Orchestra – 17 minutes
For Bass Trombone and Piano – 7 minutes, Commissioned by Noal McLimore
Sonorous Compass – Small Wind Ensemble – 6 minutes, Commissioned by Paul Vickous
New Work (in progress) – String Quartet – n/a, Commissioned by the Grove City College String Quartet
When You Are Old and Grey – Medium Voice and Piano – 5 minutes 30 seconds
Look Back On Time – SATB Choir – 5 minutes
In Short – Orchestra – 1 minute (for the UofL Orchestra’s Fanfare Project)
Agnus Dei – SATB Choir – 4 minutes 30 seconds

2016:
Final – Voice and Electronics – 6 minutes
Alignment – Brass Quintet and Percussion – 5 minutes 30 seconds
The Chair – Electronics (for the Fyoo-zh-en dance festival, BWU) – 4 minutes
Resonant Attacks – Solo Piano – 2 minutes
Night Sketches – Bass Clarinet and Marimba (for Transient Canvas) – 2 minutes

2015:
29 July, 1856 – Chamber Orchestra and Soprano – 6 minutes
Breathe – Wind Ensemble – 6 minutes
Suddenly, Light – SATB or SSAA Choir – 3 minutes 30 seconds
Unorthodox Quintet – Clarinet, Saxophone, Piano, and 2 Double Basses – 4 minutes
Mourning – Piano Trio – 12 minutes
Transformations – Orchestra – 7 minutes (for the BW Symphony Orchestra)
Fusion – Electronics (for the Fyoo-zh-en dance festival, BWU) – 5 minutes

2014:
Moment for Clarinet, Violin, and Piano – Clarinet, Violin, and Piano – 3 minutes
Falling Slowly in Love – SATB Choir and Piano – 4 minutes
Phases – Flute, 2 Clarinets, Alto Saxophone, Bb Trumpet, Marimba, Harp, Piano, and Double Bass – 5 minutes
Lament – Piano Trio – 6 minutes

2013:
Mallets and Hammers – Piano, Marimba, and Vibraphone – 12 minutes
Forgotten Carousel – Solo Piano – 2 minutes
The Town Wakes Up – Clarinet, Horn, and Piano – 3 minutes
Conversation with a Brook – Solo Piano – 3 minutes

References
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