

at
the foot
of the mountain

for orchestra

at the foot of the mountain (2016)
for orchestra

Premiered April 22, 2016 by Sandra Horne and the
Birmingham Conservatoire Repertoire Orchestra
in Adrian Bolt Hall in Birmingham, England

Instrumentation:

2 flutes
2 oboes
2 clarinets in Bb
2 bassoons

4 french horns
2 trumpets in Bb
2 trombones
bass trombone
tuba

timpani
bass drum

strings

Program Note:

at the foot of the mountain is about the pursuit of a singular idea. It is inspired in part by Albert Camus's essay *The Myth of Sisyphus*:

The gods had condemned Sisyphus to ceaselessly rolling a rock to the top of a mountain, whence the stone would fall back of its own weight. They had thought with some reason that there is no more dreadful punishment than futile and hopeless labor.

I leave Sisyphus at the foot of the mountain! One always finds one's burden again. But Sisyphus teaches the higher fidelity that negates the gods and raises rocks... The struggle itself toward the heights is enough to fill a man's heart. One must imagine Sisyphus happy.

at the foot of the mountain

With Forward Momentum ♩ = 108

This musical score is for the piece "at the foot of the mountain" and is marked "With Forward Momentum" with a tempo of ♩ = 108. The score is arranged for a full orchestra and includes the following parts:

- Flute 1
- Flute 2
- Oboe 1
- Oboe 2
- Clarinet in B♭ 1
- Clarinet in B♭ 2
- Bassoon 1
- Bassoon 2
- Horn in F 1 & 3
- Horn in F 2 & 4
- Trumpet in B♭ 1
- Trumpet in B♭ 2
- Trombone 1
- Trombone 2
- Bass Trombone
- Tuba
- Timpani
- Percussion
- Violin I
- Violin II
- Viola
- Cello
- Double Bass

The score is divided into measures, with dynamic markings such as *ppp*, *mp*, *p*, and *p* used throughout. The time signature changes frequently, including 4/4, 3/4, 7/8, 3/4, 5/8, and 4/4. The score is written in a key signature of one sharp (F#).

28 *mf* *mf* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *ppp*

Fl. 1 *mf* *mf* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *ppp*

Fl. 2 *mf* *mf* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *ppp*

Ob. 1 *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *ppp*

Ob. 2 *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *ppp*

B♭ Cl. 1 *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *ppp*

B♭ Cl. 2 *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *ppp*

Bsn. 1 *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *ppp*

Bsn. 2 *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *ppp*

Hn. 1 & 3 *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *ppp*

Hn. 2 & 4 *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *ppp*

B♭ Tpt. 1 *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *ppp*

B♭ Tpt. 2 *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *ppp*

Tbn. 1 *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *ppp*

Tbn. 2 *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *ppp*

B. Tbn. *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *ppp*

Tuba *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *ppp*

28 *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *ppp*

28 *f*

28 *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *ppp*

Vln. I *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *ppp*

Vln. II *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *ppp*

Vla. *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *ppp*

Vc. *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *ppp*

D.B. *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *p* *p* *mp mf* *p* *ppp*

This page of a musical score, numbered 6, is marked with a 'C' time signature and a tempo of ♩ = 124, labeled 'Gaining Speed'. The score is arranged in a standard orchestral layout with the following parts:

- Flutes (Fl. 1 & 2):** Fl. 1 has a *8va* marking. Both flutes play a melodic line with dynamics ranging from *mf* to *ff*.
- Oboes (Ob. 1 & 2):** Both oboes play a melodic line with dynamics from *mp* to *ff*.
- Clarinets (B♭ Cl. 1 & 2):** Both clarinets play a rhythmic pattern with dynamics from *p* to *ff*.
- Bassoons (Bsn. 1 & 2):** Both bassoons play a rhythmic pattern with dynamics from *p* to *f*.
- Horns (Hn. 1 & 3, Hn. 2 & 4):** Horns play a rhythmic pattern with dynamics from *p* to *ff*.
- Trumpets (B♭ Tpt. 1 & 2):** Both trumpets play a melodic line with dynamics from *p* to *f*.
- Trombones (Tbn. 1 & 2):** Both trombones play a rhythmic pattern with dynamics from *p* to *f*.
- Tuba (B. Tbn.):** The tuba plays a rhythmic pattern with dynamics from *p* to *f*.
- Timpani (Timp.):** The timpani play a rhythmic pattern with dynamics from *fp* to *f*.
- Percussion (Perc.):** The percussion part is indicated by a double bar line.
- Violins (Vln. I & II):** Violins play a melodic line with dynamics from *p* to *f*.
- Viola (Vla.):** The viola part is indicated by a double bar line.
- Cello (Vc.):** The cello plays a rhythmic pattern with dynamics from *p* to *f*.
- Double Bass (D.B.):** The double bass plays a rhythmic pattern with dynamics from *p* to *f*.

The score features a complex rhythmic structure with time signature changes: 7/8, 3/8, 2/4, 3/4, and 4/4. Dynamic markings include *mp*, *mf*, *f*, *ff*, *fp*, *f*, *ppp*, and *p*. Articulation includes accents and slurs. The page number 45 is visible at the start of several staves.

Broader, Grand

104

Fl. 1 *fp* *ff*

Fl. 2 *fp* *ff*

Ob. 1 *fp* *ff*

Ob. 2 *fp* *ff*

B♭ Cl. 1 *fp* *ff*

B♭ Cl. 2 *fp* *ff*

Bsn. 1 *fp* *ff*

Bsn. 2 *fp* *ff*

Hn. 1 & 3 *fp* *ff*

Hn. 2 & 4 *fp* *ff*

B♭ Tpt. 1 *fp* *ff*

B♭ Tpt. 2 *fp* *ff*

Tbn. 1 *fp* *ff*

Tbn. 2 *fp* *ff*

B. Tbn. *fp* *ff*

Tuba *fp* *ff*

104

Timp. *fp* *ff*

104

Perc. *fff* *fff*

104

Vln. I *fp* *ff*

Vln. II *fp* *ff*

Vla. *fp* *ff*

Vc. *fp* *ff*

D.B. *fp* *ff*

8va -----

rit.

113

Fl. 1 *ff* *8va*

Fl. 2 *ff* *8va*

Ob. 1 *ff*

Ob. 2 *ff*

B♭ Cl. 1 *ff*

B♭ Cl. 2 *ff*

Bsn. 1 *ff*

Bsn. 2 *ff*

Hn. 1 & 3

Hn. 2 & 4

B♭ Tpt. 1 *ff*

B♭ Tpt. 2 *ff*

Tbn. 1 *ff*

Tbn. 2 *ff*

B. Tbn. *ff*

Tuba *ff*

113

Timp. *mf* *ff* *mf* *ff*

Perc. *mf* *fff* *mf* *fff*

113

Vln. I *ff*

Vln. II *ff*

Vla. *ff*

Vc. *ff*

D.B. *ff*

This page of an orchestral score covers measures 121 to 127. The tempo is marked 'Grand' with a quarter note equal to 100 beats per minute. The score is divided into two systems. The first system includes Flutes 1 and 2, Oboes 1 and 2, Bass Clarinets 1 and 2, Bassoons 1 and 2, Horns 1 & 3 and 2 & 4, Trumpets 1 and 2, Trombones 1 and 2, Baritone Trombone, and Tuba. The second system includes Timpani, Percussion, Violins I and II, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass. The score features complex rhythmic patterns with frequent changes in time signature: 3/4, 5/4, and 4/4. Dynamics range from *mf* to *fff*. The woodwinds and strings play sustained notes with various articulations, while the percussion features rhythmic patterns, including triplets and sixteenth-note runs. The page number '17' is located in the top right corner.

