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the voice of grass

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the voice of grass

a symphonic prelude for orchestra

John Polglase

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a symphonic prelude orchestra

John Polglase

duration c.12 minutes

Performance Notes

The full score is notated ‘in C’, all transposing instruments are written at sounding pitch save those which normally have octave transpositions.

Accidentals carry for the bar in which they occur unless otherwise altered, over the bar line they are automatically naturalised. They maybe respedled within the bar or naturalised over the bar line for reasons of clarity.

While the music is fundamentally tonal the score does not employ a key signature. Accidentals will at times utilise enharmonic spelling. For example one part may have notes spelled C to A flat while another is concurrently spelled E to G sharp. These enharmonic notes presume equivalence in pitch.

Dynamics are used in a conventional way, allowing ample room for interpretation on behalf of the performers. Dynamic levels are generally kept between *pp* and *ff*, marks outside of this range occur rarely and should be considered as extreme.

Accents notated as > should be strong, at least one step up from the current dynamic. Notes marked *sfp* or *sff* should be considered as having a very or extremely strong accent regardless of the prevailing dynamic. The tenuto mark does not inherently imply an accent but rather that the whole value of the note is to be held and is used mostly to counteract general indications (such as *leggiero*) or in passages where shorter or lighter articulations predominate.

Trills, unless otherwise indicated, should be to the next naturally occurring step or half step above the primary note.

String harmonics, unless available on an open string, are notated with the notes to be stopped written normally and the note to be touched lightly as a diamond shape.

The Orchestra

3 Flutes, (3 doubles Piccolo)
2 Oboes, English Horn
3 Clarinets in B flat, (3 doubles Bass Clarinet)
2 Bassoons, Contra Bassoon

4 Horns in F
3 Trumpets in C
2 Tenor trombones, Bass trombone
Tuba

timpani
2 percussionists playing;
 2 gongs, tam tam, bass drum,
 2 suspended cymbals; large and medium size

Harp

Strings

in the majesty of small things the wonders of the world are written

Full Score in C

the voice of grass

John Polglase

a symphonic prelude for orchestra

Adagio, maestoso $\text{♩} = \text{c.66}$

3 Flutes 5 10 1 15

2 Oboes

English Horn

2 Clarinets in B \flat

Bass Clarinet

2 Bassoons

Contrabassoon

Horn in F 1,2 5 10 15

Horn in F 3,4

3 Trumpets in C

2 Tenor Trombones

Bass Trombone

Tuba

Timpani

Suspended Cymbals

Tam Tam

Harp

Adagio, maestoso $\text{♩} = \text{c.66}$

sul G al ord.

Violin I 5 10 1 15

f non troppo

Violin II <> <>

f non troppo

Viola <> <>

f non troppo

Cello <> <>

f non troppo

Double Bass <> <>

f non troppo

[16] [20] [25] **2**

Bs. Cl.
Bsn. 1,2
C. Bsn.

Hn. 1,2
Hn. 3,4

Vn. I
Vn. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.



3

Bs. Cl.
Bsn. 1,2
C. Bsn.

Hn. 1,2
Hn. 3,4
Tbn. 1,2
B. Tbn.
Tuba

Vn. I
Vn. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

ord.
3
40

41

Fl. 1
Ob. 1
E. Hn.
Cl. 1,2
Bs. Cl.
Bsn. 1,2
C. Bsn.

Hn. 1,2
Hn. 3,4
Tbn. 1,2
B. Tbn.
Tuba
Sus. cymb.
Tam tam

Hp.

45

4

take clarinet 3

41

45

4

Vn. I
Vn. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

50

Fl. 1
Ob. 1
E. Hn.
Cl. 1,2
Bsn. 1,2

Tpt. 1,2
Tpt. 3
Tbn. 1,2
B. Tbn.
Tuba

Sus. cymb.

Hp.

55

Vn. I
Vn. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

Detailed description: The musical score consists of two systems of music. The top system (measures 50-55) features woodwind instruments (Flute 1, Oboe 1, English Horn, Clarinet 1 & 2, Bassoon 1 & 2) and brass instruments (Trombones 1 & 2, Bass Trombone, Tuba). The woodwinds play eighth-note patterns with grace notes, while the brass provide harmonic support. The bottom system (measures 50-55) features strings (Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello) and the Double Bass. The strings play sixteenth-note patterns, and the Double Bass provides a steady bass line. Measure 55 is marked by a prominent sustained note from the brass section.

5 *piu mosso* $\text{♩} = \text{c.}96$

[58]

[60]

Fl. 1

Ob. 1

E. Hn.

Cl. 1,2

Bsn. 1,2

Tpt. 1,2

poco

Tpt. 3

poco

Tbn. 1,2

poco

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Sus. cymb.

poco

Hp.

5 *piu mosso* $\text{♩} = \text{c.}96$

[58]

[60]

Vn. I

f2

Vn. II

f2

Vla.

f2

Vc.

Db.

6 liscio e scorrevole $\text{♩} = \text{c.} 116$

Fl.

Bsn. 1,2

C. Bsn.

Hn. 1,2

Hn. 3,4

Tpt. 1,2

Tpt. 3

Tbn. 1,2

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Tim.

This section shows woodwind and brass instruments playing eighth-note patterns. The woodwinds include Flute (Fl.), Bassoon 1,2 (Bsn. 1,2), Bassoon C. (C. Bsn.), Horn 1,2 (Hn. 1,2), Horn 3,4 (Hn. 3,4), Trombones 1,2 (Tbn. 1,2), Bass Trombone (B. Tbn.), and Tuba. The brass instruments include Trumpet 1,2 (Tpt. 1,2), Trumpet 3 (Tpt. 3), and Trombone 3 (Tbn. 3). The strings play sustained notes. Dynamics include p , pp , and ppp .

6 liscio e scorrevole $\text{♩} = \text{c.} 116$

Vn. I

Vn. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

This section shows string instruments playing sixteenth-note patterns. The strings include Violin 1 (Vn. I), Violin 2 (Vn. II), Viola (Vla.), Cello (Vc.), and Double Bass (Db.). The dynamics are p , pp , and ppp .



Fl.

Ob.

Bsn. 1,2

C. Bsn.

Hn. 1,2

Hn. 3,4

Tim.

Hp.

This section shows woodwind and brass instruments playing eighth-note patterns. The woodwinds include Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Bassoon 1,2 (Bsn. 1,2), Bassoon C. (C. Bsn.), Horn 1,2 (Hn. 1,2), Horn 3,4 (Hn. 3,4), Timpani (Tim.), and Harp (Hp.). The brass instruments include Trombone 1,2 (Tbn. 1,2) and Trombone 3 (Tbn. 3). The dynamics are p , pp , ppp , and mf .

75

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
Bsn. 1,2
C. Bsn.

75

Hn. 1,2
Hn. 3,4
B. Tbn.
Tuba
Timp.
Hpf.
Vc.
Db.

80

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
Bsn. 1,2
C. Bsn.

80

Hn. 1,2
Hn. 3,4
B. Tbn.
Tuba
Timp.
Hpf.
Vc.
Db.

75

Vc.
Db.

80

Vc.
Db.

81

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
Cl. 1

81

Hn. 1,2
Hn. 3
Tpt. 3
Tbn. 1,2
B. Tbn.

85

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
Cl. 1

85

Hn. 1,2
Hn. 3
Tpt. 3
Tbn. 1,2
B. Tbn.

7

Vla.
Vc.
Db.

7

Vla.
Vc.
Db.

[87] [90]

This page contains three systems of musical notation for a large orchestra.

Top System: Includes parts for Flute 1, Flute 2, Clarinet 1, Clarinet 2, Bassoon 1, Bassoon 2, Oboe 1, Oboe 2, Clarinet 3, Bassoon 3, Trombone 1, Trombone 2, Bass Trombone, Tuba, Timpani, Horn 1,2, Horn 3, Trombone 1,2, Trombone 3, Trombone Bass, and Bass Trombone.

Middle System: Includes parts for Trombone 1,2, Trombone 3, Trombone Bass, Bass Trombone, Horn 1,2, Horn 3, Trombone 1,2, Trombone 3, Trombone Bass, Bass Trombone, Timpani, and Bass Trombone.

Bottom System: Includes parts for Violin 1, Violin 2, Cello, Double Bass, Viola, and Bass Trombone.

Measure 87 consists of six measures of music. Measure 90 begins with a single measure of rest followed by six measures of music.

Instrumental Instructions:

- Flute 1:** Measures 87-90: eighth-note patterns with accidentals.
- Flute 2:** Measures 87-90: eighth-note patterns with accidentals.
- Clarinet 1:** Measures 87-90: eighth-note patterns with accidentals.
- Clarinet 2:** Measures 87-90: eighth-note patterns with accidentals. Includes dynamic instruction: *p sempre*.
- Bassoon 1:** Measures 87-90: eighth-note patterns with accidentals.
- Bassoon 2:** Measures 87-90: eighth-note patterns with accidentals.
- Oboe 1:** Measures 87-90: eighth-note patterns with accidentals.
- Oboe 2:** Measures 87-90: eighth-note patterns with accidentals.
- Clarinet 3:** Measures 87-90: eighth-note patterns with accidentals.
- Bassoon 3:** Measures 87-90: eighth-note patterns with accidentals.
- Trombone 1,2:** Measures 87-90: eighth-note patterns with accidentals.
- Trombone 3:** Measures 87-90: eighth-note patterns with accidentals.
- Bass Trombone:** Measures 87-90: eighth-note patterns with accidentals.
- Horn 1,2:** Measures 87-90: sustained notes with grace notes.
- Horn 3:** Measures 87-90: sustained notes with grace notes. Includes dynamic instruction: *con sord.*
- Tpt.:** Measures 87-90: eighth-note patterns with accidentals. Includes dynamic instruction: *pp sempre*.
- Tbn. 1,2:** Measures 87-90: eighth-note patterns with accidentals.
- B. Tbn.:** Measures 87-90: eighth-note patterns with accidentals.
- Tuba:** Measures 87-90: sustained notes with grace notes.
- Timpani:** Measures 87-90: sustained notes with grace notes.
- Hp.:** Measures 87-90: sustained notes with grace notes.
- Vn. I:** Measures 87-90: sustained notes.
- Vn. II:** Measures 87-90: sustained notes.
- Vla.:** Measures 87-90: eighth-note patterns with accidentals.
- Vc.:** Measures 87-90: eighth-note patterns with accidentals.
- Db.:** Measures 87-90: eighth-note patterns with accidentals.

8

93

95

93

95

93

95

8

9

99

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Fl. 3
Ob.
E. Hn.
Cl. 1
Cl. 2
Cl. 3
Bsn.
Bsn. 2

This section of the score features woodwind and brass instruments. The woodwinds play eighth-note patterns, while the brass provide harmonic support. Measure 99 concludes with a dynamic marking of *p express.*

99

Hn. 1,2
Hn. 3,4
Tpt.
Tbn. 1,2
B. Tbn.
Tuba
Timpani
Gongs
Hp.

The brass section, including horns, trumpet, and tuba, play sustained notes. The timpani and gongs provide rhythmic patterns. The harp has a unique triangular pattern of notes. A dynamic marking of *p* is present in measure 100.

99

Vn. I
Vn. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

9

The strings (violin, viola, cello) play eighth-note patterns with slurs. The double bass provides harmonic support. A dynamic marking of *p sempre e legatiss.* is indicated in measure 100.

105

110

105

110

105

110

[11] 10 120

Fl. 1, 2, 3
Ob.
Bsn.
Cl. 1, 2, 3
C. Bsn.
Hn. 1, 2, 3
Tpt. 1, 2
Tbn. 1, 2
B. Tbn.
Tuba
Tim.
Gongs
Hp.

[11] 115 120

Hn. 1, 2, 3
Tpt. 1, 2
Tbn. 1, 2
B. Tbn.
Tuba
Tim.
Gongs
Hp.

[11] 10 120

Vn. I
Vn. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

Detailed description: This page contains three systems of musical notation. System 1 (measures 11-12) includes parts for Flutes 1-3, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinet 1-3, Bassoon 1-2, Trombones 1-2, Tuba, Timpani, Gong, and Double Bass. Measure 11 shows six measures of eighth-note patterns with dynamics pp, pp, and mp. Measure 12 begins with 'take piccolo' for Flute 3 and 'take bass clarinet' for Bassoon 2. System 2 (measures 11-12) includes parts for Horns 1-3, Trombones 1-2, Tuba, Timpani, Gong, and Double Bass. Measures 11 and 12 show sustained notes and rhythmic patterns with dynamics mp and pp. System 3 (measures 10-12) includes parts for Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, and Double Bass. Measures 10 and 11 show sustained notes and rhythmic patterns with dynamics pp, mp, and pp. Measure 12 concludes with a dynamic of pp.

[121] [125] **11** [130] [135]

Picc.

1 Fl.

2 Fl.

1 Ob.

2 Ob.

E. Hn.

1 Cl.

2 Cl.

Bs. Cl.

Bsn. 1,2

C. Bsn.

mf

Hn. 1,2

Hn. 3,4

1,2 Tpt.

3 Tpt.

Tbn. 1,2

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Tim.

mf

mp

mf

[121] [125] **11** [130] [135]

Vn. I

Vn. II

Vla.

Vc.

D. B.

mf

mf

mf

mf

[136] [140] [145] **allargando** **12** *maestosamente* $\text{♩} = \text{c.128}$

Picc. 1 Fl. 2 Ob. 1 E. Hn. 1 Cl. 2 Bs. Cl. Bsn. 1,2 C. Bsn.

This section of the score features sustained notes and chords from various woodwind and brass instruments. The woodwinds include Piccolo, Flute 1, Flute 2, Oboe 1, Oboe 2, English Horn 1, Clarinet 1, Clarinet 2, Bassoon 1,2, and Bassoon 3. The brass section includes Trombone 1,2, Trombone 3, Bass Trombone, Tuba, Timpani, and Bass Drum. The dynamics range from *f* to *ff*, with crescendos and decrescendos indicated throughout the measures.

[136] [140] [145]

Hn. 1,2 Hn. 3,4 1,2 Tpt. 3 Tbn. 1,2 B. Tbn. Tuba Timp. B.D.

This section continues the sustained note patterns established in the previous measures. Instruments include Horn 1,2, Horn 3,4, Trombones 1,2, Trombone 3, Bass Trombone, Tuba, Timpani, and Bass Drum. The dynamic markings *mf* (sempre) and *ff* are used to maintain the powerful sound.

allargando **12** *maestosamente* $\text{♩} = \text{c.128}$

Vn. I Vn. II Vla. Vc. Db.

This section concludes the sustained note pattern. It includes Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, and Double Bass. The dynamic markings *ff* and *cresc.* are used to build intensity towards the end of the section.

149

Picc.

Fl. 1,2

Ob. 1

E. Hn.

Cl. 1,2

Bs. Cl.

Bsn. 1,2

C. Bsn.

155

149

Hn. 1,2

Hn. 3,4

Tpt. 2
3

Tbn. 1,2

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Timp.

B.D.

155

149

Vn. I

Vn. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

155

[157] [160]

Picc.
Fl. 1,2
Ob. 1,2
E. Hn.
Cl. 1,2
Bs. Cl.
Bsn. 1,2
C. Bsn.

Hn. 1,2
Hn. 3,4
Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1,2
B. Tbn.
Tuba
Timp.
B.D.

Vn. I
Vn. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

Measures 157-160 of the musical score. The score is divided into two systems. The first system (measures 157-158) includes parts for Picc., Fl. 1,2, Ob. 1,2, E. Hn., Cl. 1,2, Bs. Cl., Bsn. 1,2, and C. Bsn. The second system (measures 159-160) includes parts for Hn. 1,2, Hn. 3,4, Tpt. 2, Tbn. 1,2, B. Tbn., Tuba, Timp., and B.D. Measures 157 show sustained notes with grace marks. Measure 160 begins with a dynamic ff and features rapid sixteenth-note patterns in the woodwind and brass sections.

164 **13**

Picc.
Fl. 1,2
Ob. 1,2
E. Hn.
Cl. 1,2
Bs. Cl.
Bsn. 1,2
C. Bsn.

170

164 **170**

Hn. 1,2
Hn. 3,4
1 Pft. 2/3
Tbn. 1,2
B. Tbn.
Tuba
Timp.
B.D.

164 **13**

Vn. I
Vn. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

170

[172] [175] [14] [180]

Picc.
Fl. 1,2
Ob. 1,2
E. Hn.
Cl. 1,2
Bs. Cl.
Bsn. 1,2
C. Bsn.

[172] [175] [180]

Hn. 1,2
Hn. 3,4
Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1,2
B. Tbn.
Tuba
Timpani
B.D.

[172] [175] [14] [180]

Vn. I
Vn. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

181

Picc.

Fl. 1,2

Ob. 1,2

E. Hn.

Cl. 1,2

Bs. Cl.

Bsn. 1,2

C. Bsn.

185

190

Hn. 1,2

Hn. 3,4

Tpt. 2
3

Tbn. 1,2

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Timp.

B.D.

Tam tam

181

Vn. I

Vn. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

185

unis.

190

This image shows three pages of a musical score for orchestra and percussion. The top section (pages 181, 185, and 190) includes parts for Piccolo, Flutes 1 & 2, Oboes 1 & 2, English Horn, Clarinets 1 & 2, Bassoon, Bassoon 1 & 2, Double Bassoon, Horn 1 & 2, Horn 3 & 4, Trombones 1 & 2, Bass Trombone, Tuba, Timpani, Bass Drum, and Tam tam. The middle section (page 181) includes parts for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, and Double Bass. The bottom section (page 185) includes parts for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, and Double Bass. Measure numbers 181, 185, and 190 are indicated above the staves. Various dynamics and performance instructions like '3', 'ff', 'sfz', and 'non troppo' are present throughout the score.

[194]

15 ♩ = c.69

[205]

This section of the score includes parts for Clarinet 1 (Cl. 1), Bass Clarinet (Bs. Cl.), Horn 1,2 (Hn. 1,2), Horn 3,4 (Hn. 3,4), Trompete 2 (Tpt. 2) and Trompete 3 (Tpt. 3), Trombone 1,2 (Tbn. 1,2), Bass Trombone (B. Tbn.), and Tuba. Measure 194 consists of sustained notes. Measure 195 begins with a dynamic *p*. Measures 196-197 show sustained notes. Measure 198 features a dynamic *p* followed by a melodic line. Measures 199-200 show sustained notes. Measure 201 begins with a dynamic *p*. Measures 202-203 show sustained notes. Measure 204 begins with a dynamic *p*.

[194]

15 ♩ = c.69

[205]

This section of the score includes parts for Violin I (Vn. I), Violin II (Vn. II), Cello (Vcl.), Double Bass (Db.), and Double Bassoon (Dbb.). Measure 194 consists of sustained notes. Measure 195 begins with dynamics *pp*. Measures 196-197 show sustained notes. Measure 198 begins with a dynamic *mp*. Measures 199-200 show sustained notes. Measure 201 begins with a dynamic *p*. Measures 202-203 show sustained notes. Measure 204 begins with a dynamic *p*.

209

210

16

This section of the score includes parts for Flute 1 (Fl. 1), Clarinet 1 (Cl. 1), Bass Clarinet (Bs. Cl.), and Bassoon 1 (Bsn. 1). Measure 209 shows a dynamic *p* followed by a melodic line. Measure 210 shows sustained notes. Measure 211 begins with a dynamic *pp*.

209

210

16

This section of the score includes parts for Violin I (Vn. I), Violin II (Vn. II), Cello (Vcl.), Double Bass (Db.), and Double Bassoon (Dbb.). Measure 209 begins with a dynamic *p*. Measure 210 shows sustained notes. Measure 211 begins with a dynamic *pp*.

216

Picc.

Fl. 1 *p solo, express.*

Cl. 1 *p* *niente*

Gongs

Hp. *mp* *sonoro, l.v. sempre*

216

Vn. I div. a3 *pp*

Vn. II div. a3 *pp*

Vla. *pp* *unis. pizz.*

Vc. *p* *div.*

220

pp *><*

17

Picc.

Fl. 1 *pp*

Sus. cymb.

Gongs

Hp. *pp* *l.v. sempre*

225

17

Vn. I div. a3

Vn. II div. a3

Vla.

Vc.

225

18

226 230 235

Picc.
Sus. cymb.
Gongs
Hp.

18

226 230 235

Vn. I div. a3
Vn. II div. a3
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

morendo al niente
morendo al niente
morendo al niente
niente
p

