

Sarah Bassingthwaighte

Open
for chamber ensemble

Full Score

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*Premiered on ???
Where??
by the Charleston Eclipse Ensemble
Charleston, SC*

INSTRUMENTATION
Mezzo Soprano / Percussion
Flute
Piano
Violin
Cello

APPROXIMATE DURATION
17 Minutes

Program Notes

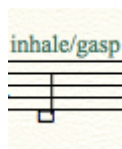
Extended Techniques Key

Mezzo Soprano Extended Techniques

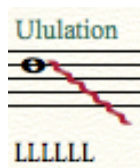
Mezzo Soprano also plays glockenspiel (hard & soft mallets), egg slicer



stomp on floor, preferably on hard floor



unpitched, generally ascending



ululation – sounds like the letter L, birdlike



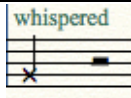
egg slicer – pluck wires randomly, irregular rhythm



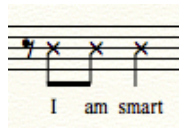
groaning, can vary, breathe as needed



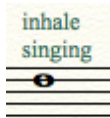
resigned/frustrated/joyful sighs – express as desired (including facial and body language)



unpitched, whispered (not spoken)



voiced/spoken, can vary, natural rhythm
(not strict)



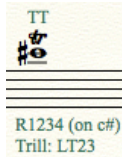
Ohhhh

sing specified pitch while inhaling

Flute Extended Techniques



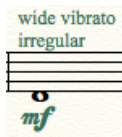
change pitch using embouchure and/or
rolling flute (no finger changes)



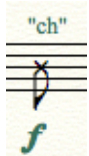
TT – Timbral Trill, use specified fingering



cover embouchure hole completely with mouth
close keys rapidly and randomly



very wide/slow vibrato w/ pitch change



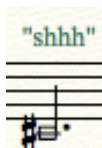
unpitched, say "ch" explosively across hole



sing square note while playing normal note



sigh, unpitched, across hole, breathy



say "shhh" across hole, gentle, unpitched

Piano Extended Techniques

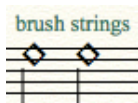
Pianist will need a quarter, guitar pick, 4-6 ping pong balls

Box Notation

free rhythm, varied, continue for specified measures

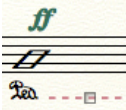


inside piano use a guitar pick (or paper clip) to pluck randomly, irregularly, sustain pedal



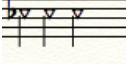
use fingers to brush strings inside piano (gentler than plucking), irregular rhythm unless otherwise specified, sustain pedal

slam low strings



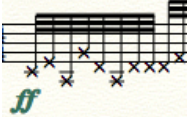
use side of hand to loudly and abruptly slam strings (one motion), as loudly as possible, sustain pedal

inside piano
precise pitches



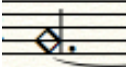
inside piano, precise pitches, use guitar pick (4 total, they will need to be labeled), sustain pedal

drop ping pong balls



using both hands, drop 4-6 ping pong balls on specified set of strings. Continually pick up and drop again, arhythmically, for specified duration. Height and force can vary for dynamics/expression. Sustain pedal.

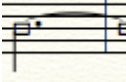
quarter gliss



scrape edge of a quarter along one low string, sustain pedal

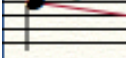
Violin and Cello Extended Techniques

scratch tone



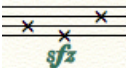
scratch tone

pizz.
gliss

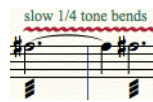


normal pizz followed by glissando

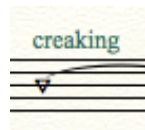
random pitches
vary rhythm



choose pitches randomly, vary the rhythm, place sforzandi randomly, 1-2 per measure



slow quarter tone bends, like a very slow wide vibrato



creaking – heavy bow pressure, little and/or halting bow movement, possibly twisting bow motion



sobs – bend pitch, slowly unevenly to imitate sobbing



seagull effect – sul pont, harmonics, gliss down



knock on wood – location your choice (on violin, I had good results with knocking on the back)

Mezzo Soprano Lyrics

I. Beauty

Moon
Sun
Love
Beauty
Caring
Moon

II. I Have Sickle Cell, But Sickle Cell Doesn't Have Me

No!

III. Stay Positive

Yes!

IV. Open

Open
Open
Open

V. I Am Destiny

I am destiny!
I am
I am what I make up
I am smart
I am real
I am illuminated!
I am destiny!

VI. Untitled

You will not cry
I have cried enough
I am fine
You are fine
You're okay
I have cried enough

VII. Eyes to the Hills

I lift my eyes
I lift my eyes
To the hills
From where comes my help
I lift my eyes
I lift my eyes
To the hills

VIII. Final

I am
I am
I am



I. Beauty

Quote from patient: "This sun on the left and the moon on the right represent the two closest supports I have in my life- I know I can always call on them. These words are for them- beauty, love, caring. On the bottom right, I drew me chilling in my neighborhood when it's quiet at night. There are usually a lot of people around BBQing at the picnic table, but I like it when it's quiet." (Sickle Cell Clinic)

My thoughts: This person is keeping a positive attitude in response to difficult disease. The focus is on nature, rather than humans: flowers, sun, moon, stars, being alone in a quiet place. The picture has a big blank space in the middle. Why? Is it to show expansiveness, the vastness of the universe, separateness? There is only high and low, no middle. The picture is simple, quiet, and natural.

Text: "sun, moon, love, caring, beauty, quiet"

Sonorities: drone, harmonics, slow, quiet, plucking and strumming in piano, double stops in cello and violin, flute timbral trills, piano "sparkles". The music reflects relaxing quietly, sounds of nature, spaciousness, and finding a place of joy and contentment.

This artist/patient is keeping a positive attitude in response to a difficult disease. The focus is on nature, rather than humans: flowers, sun, moon, stars, and being alone in a quiet place. The picture has a big blank space in the middle. Why? Is it to show expansiveness, the vastness of the universe, separateness? There is only high and low, no middle. The picture is simple, quiet, and natural. The sonorities in the music include a drone and harmonics in the strings, plucking, "sparkles," and strumming in the piano, and flute timbral trills. The music reflects relaxing quietly, sounds of nature and growth, spaciousness, and finding a place of joy and contentment.



II. I have sickle cell, but sickle cell does not have me

Quote from patient: "Having sickle cell means you get poked a lot. I have a port because you can no longer find my veins. On the right is when I have a crisis- my eyes turn yellow and I cry. In the middle are my blood cells and the green represents growth."
(Sickle Cell Clinic)

Text: "Nonononononono", various vocal sounds (gasps, ululation, scream)

Sonorities: sudden loud, shouts, quarter tones/bending, flute sing/play, voice inhaling/gasping/groaning/, strings scratch tone, ends positive w/ tendrils growing, entire group shouts "no." To transition to next piece, group says "yes", stomping

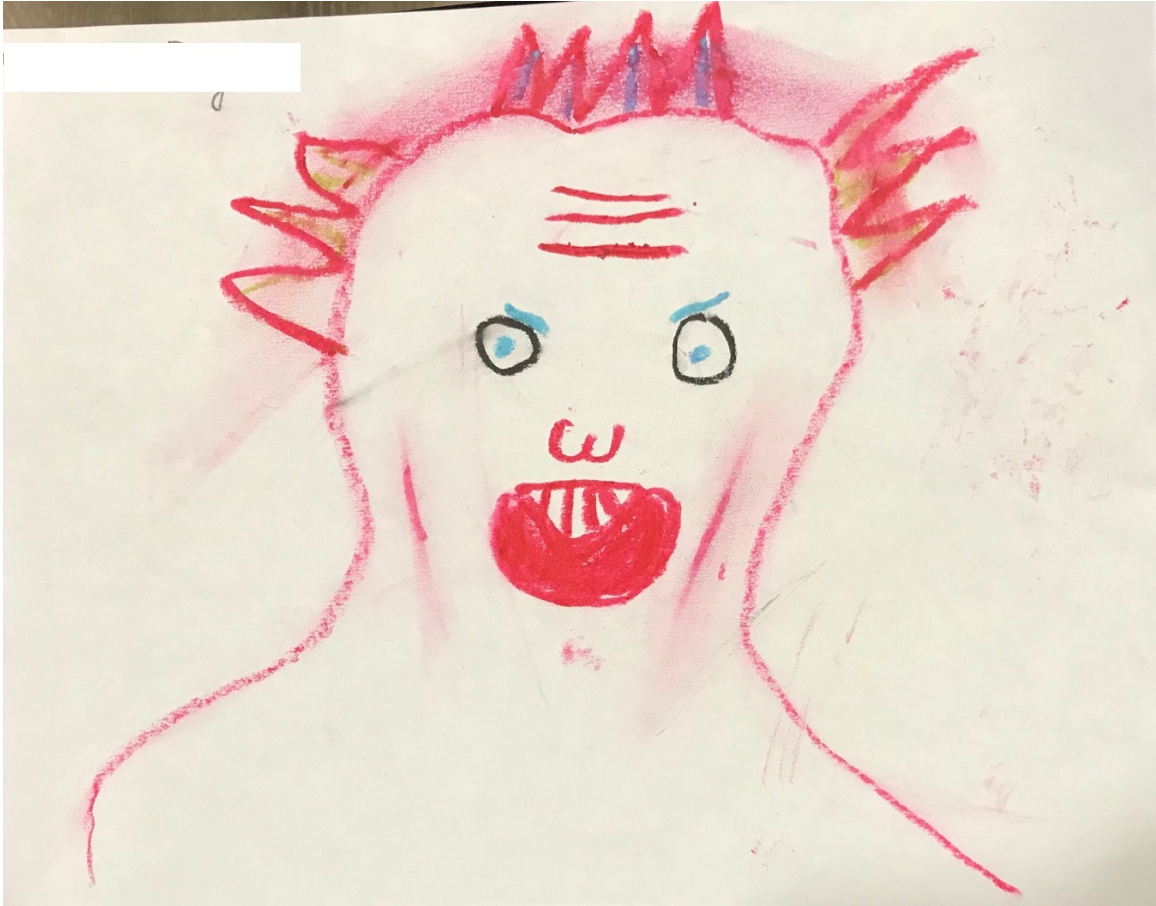


III. Stay Positive

Quote from patient about artwork: "Having sickle cell makes me feel so agrivated! That is my fist in red holding bad blood cells and good blood cells. Pink is my happy color so I drew me in pink, staying positive."
(Sickle Cell Clinic)

Text: "Agagagagagagagag"

Sonorities: driving fast rhythm, 16ths, strings quarter tone bends during 16ths, some pretty / open chords



IV. Open

“Open” was created by a 15yo boy with cancer. He drew the monster and talked about how “we shouldn’t judge others for looking different, how can we define what “scary” is when it has just been taught to us through certain images in society? We should remain open to everyone because we never know what they have gone through.”

Scary, teeth, brows narrowed, wrinkled forehead like it’s angry, spiky hair, red pencil. Picture is scary, but his statement calls for openness and acceptance. Can the music be scary/unusual, because the definition of scary is taught to us?

Sonorities: piano ping pong balls on low strings, quarter scratching
Strings sul pont, flute sing n play gliss, voice/flute diverging quarter tones



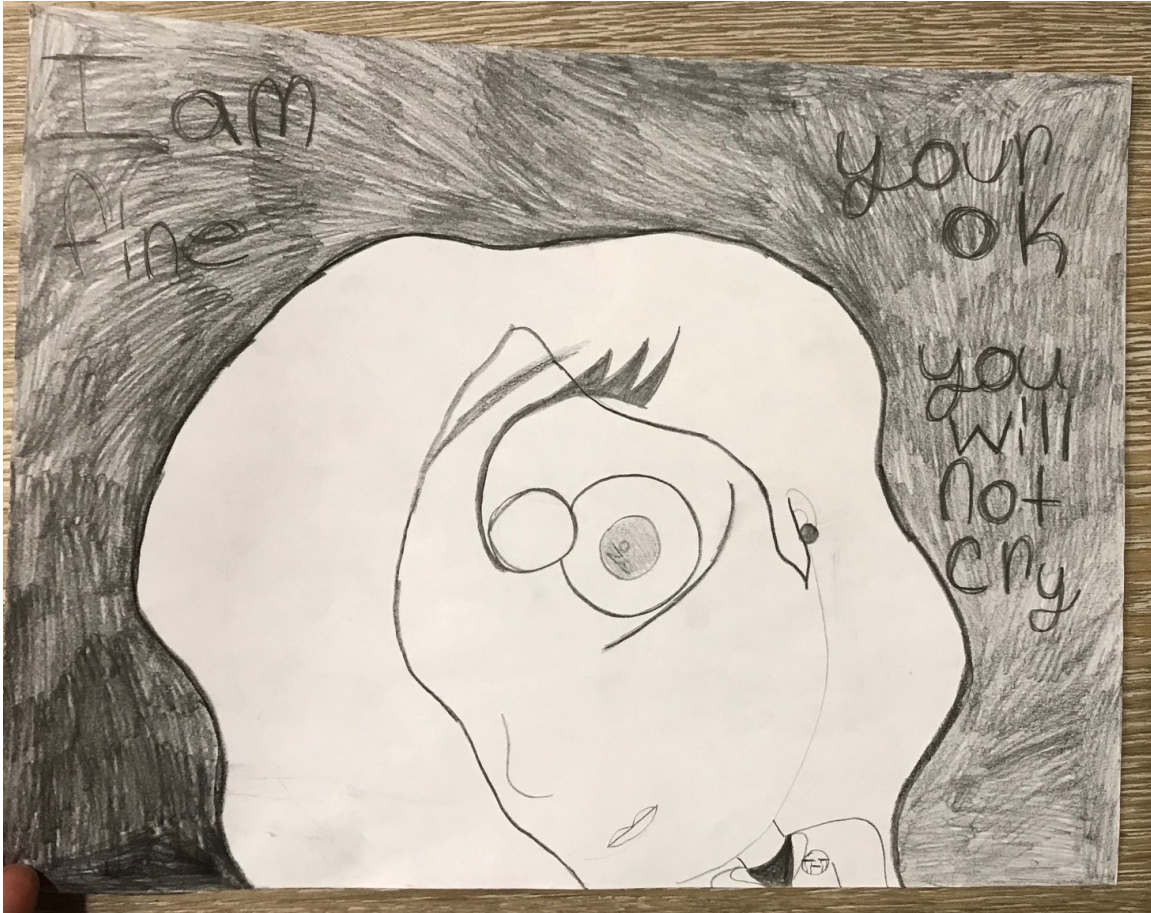
V. I am Destiny

“I Am Destiny” was created by an adult woman recovering from major surgery. This represents her “journey from dark to light and she feels she is finally on a healthy path towards recovery.”

My thoughts: the center of the piece is a highway, showing that she sees herself on a path somewhere, not stuck. Right under that is the phrase “I am what I make up.” She uses the words beginning, destiny, illuminates, love, something new, think, and another picture of a pathway (bottom right) to show a positive attitude toward where she will go next. The pictures of the dove and the heart show peace and positivity, and the picture of the woman in the hardhat shows her strength and resilience. She acknowledged the difficult times with the words just another day at the office, cloudy day? and weeps. She uses bright yellow paper that is offset from the white background paper – thinking outside of the box.

Positive, realistic, energetic, bracing for a long path ahead.

Sonorities: moderate tempo, upbeat, a little fun, repeated notes w dotted rhythms or 6/8



VI. Untitled

“Untitled” was created by a 14yo girl with severe anorexia. This image was created at the “beginning of her treatment when she felt the most depressed. She used black to express her feelings and told herself she has already cried enough.”

Dark, black, crying. Trying to be positive: “I’m fine, your okay, you will not cry.” Surrounded by blackness, but she is totally white. Big head, big eyes. In the pupil of the eye, says “No heart.” Button on her lapel is a face crying.

Sonorities: sobbing (flute big vib, strings pizz/bend, voice sobbing), heavy, maybe drone of darkness, voice speaks words “I’m fine, your okay, you will not cry.”



VII. Eyes to the Hills

“Eyes to the Hills” was created by an adult woman with cancer. She used watercolors to “represent the flow of life, which can be unpredictable at times, and we have to learn to trust the flow. Eyes to the hills is a comforting image/reference to her as it comes from one of her favorite bible passages and reminds her that she is never alone.”

Sonorities: flowing, sparkly, pretty, melody with bible passage, uplifting, beautiful, full, increasing energy throughout the movement. End forte, full ensemble.

Open

for the Charleston Eclipse Ensemble

Sarah Bassingthwaighe
2019

I. Beauty

Adagio ♩ = 60

Mezzo-Sopran

glock (soft mallet)
L R

pp

mp

Mmmm oooo - oooo nnn -

Violin

non-vib gliss

pp

p

pp

p

pp

knock

pp

Cello

gliss

pp

non-vib

p

pp

p

pp

knock

pp

Mezzo

9

mp

nnnn

ssss -

Pno.

mp pluck high strings randomly, unevenly w/ pick

Vln.

9

pp

Vc.

p

12 *> let ring*

Mezzo *sfz p*

Fl. *fp* - nnn - nnnn
lip bend

Pno. *pp* *8va*

Vln.

Vc.

14 *(8va)*

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

15 *loco*

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

niente

sul pont

p

17 *mp*

Mezzo

Fl.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

Mmmm

0000

0000

0000

0000

TT
LT23
Trill R123

TT
R1234 (on c#)
Trill: LT23

ppp

mp pluck high strings randomly, unevenly w/ pick

glock (hard mallet) L.R. L.R.

Mezzo

Fl.

p pp 12 12 12

TT *tr* LT23 Trill R123 TT *tr* LT1234 trill: tr 1&2

Pno.

mf

Vln.

Vc.

TT *tr* LT23 Trill R123

Fl.

(*8va*)

Pno.

niente

Vln.

non-vib *pp* gliss

Vc.

pp non-vib gliss

23

glock (soft mallet)

Mezzo

23

p

mf Ululation

LLLLLL

Fl.

23

mp

Pno.

23

mp

mp pluck high strings slowly, randomly

Vln.

23

p

pp

p

pp

Vc.

pp

p

p

pp

28

Mezzo

whisper

beau - ty

Fl.

28

flap keys

Pno.

28

mf

pp

brush strings

Vln.

28

pp

knock

pp

Vc.

p

pp

knock

pp

Open

Mezzo *pp* *p*
 Pno. *pp*
 Vln. *pp*
 Vc. *pp*

Mezzo: k k k ca - ring

Piano: *pp* (triplets)

Violins: *pp*

Viola: *pp*

Mezzo: glock (hard mallet) > let ring *f* *mp* (ng) mmmm - 00000 - 00000 - nnnn

Fl.: glock (soft mallet) *fp* *pp* bend

Pno.: *mp* brush upper strings with fingers flexible rhythm (triplets)

Vln.: *pp* *pp* knock

Vc.: *p* *pp* *pp* knock

II. I Have Sickle Cell, but...
with tension ♩=66

40 Stomp

Mezzo *ff* inhale/gasp *f* inhale singing

Fl. *fp* *mf* *f* *pp*

Pno. *ff* strum low strings strict rhythm *f* slam low strings *ff* inside piano precise pitches irregular rhythm

Vln. *sfz* arco *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *p*

Vc. *sfz* arco *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

46 *f* inhaling exhaling gasp norm

Mezzo Nonononononononono Nononononono Ahhhh Ahhhh

Fl. wide vibrato irregular *mf*

Pno.

Vln. *sfz* flautando *p* Sul E seagull effect

Vc. flautando *pp* niente *p* Sul A seagull effect

Mezzo 50 groan *mf* resigned sigh
 Ahhh hhh

Fl. 50 *mf*

Pno. 50 strum low strings strict rhythm

Vln. 50 Sul G *mf* scratch tone *f* molto sul pont *mp* *f* *mp* *f* sul pont *mp* *f*

Vc. 50 Sul C *mf* scratch tone *f* molto sul pont *mp* *f* sul pont *mp* *f*

Mezzo 55 norm frustrated sigh *f*
 Ahhh hhh No sing/play oo

Fl. 55 *fp*

Pno. 55

Vln. 55 norm *mp* *mf* arco *mp* *f*

Vc. 55 norm *mp* *mf* arco *mp* *f*

59 Mezzo *mp* inhale singing

59 Fl. *mf* *f* *pp* Ohhhh

59 Pno. slam low strings *ff* *pp* precise pitch & regular rhythm *mp*

59 Vln. *mp* *f* *sfz* flautando

59 Vc. *mp* *f* *pp* flautando niente

63 Mezzo *mf* inhaling exhaling gasp *ff* inhale/gasp *ff* joyfully

63 Fl. *mf* wide vibrato irregular "ch"

63 Pno. *mf* *f* *f*

63 Vln. *sfz* *f* pizz. gliss

63 Vc. *sfz* *f* pizz. gliss

Stomp III. Stay Positive ♩=144

Nononononononono Nononononono Ahhhh No! Yes!

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

68

arco

simile

f

arco

f

simile

Vln.

Vc.

72

bend 1/2 step

ff

mp *f*

bend 1/2 step

mp *f*

Fl.

Vln.

Vc.

76

bend 1/2 step

ff

sul pont

bend 1 1/2 steps

bend whole step

mp *f*

f

ff

bend 1 1/2 steps

mp *f*

f

ff

Fl.

Vln.

Vc.

79

ff

81

Fl.

Pno.

Vln.

83

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

86

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

89

Fl. *mf*

Pno.

Vln. *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz*

Vc. *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz*

91

Fl. *f*

Pno. *f*

Vln. *sfz* *sfz* *f* *sfz* *sfz*

Vc. *sfz* *sfz* *f* *sfz*

Musical score for measures 93-96, featuring Flute (Fl.), Piano (Pno.), Violin (Vln.), and Viola (Vc.).

Measures 93-95:

- Fl.:** Melodic line with *ff* dynamics, marked with *sfz* and *sfz*. Includes a *5* fingering and a *sing/play* instruction.
- Pno.:** Bass line with a *sfz* dynamic.
- Vln.:** Muted string texture with *sfz* dynamics.
- Vc.:** Muted string texture with *sfz* dynamics.

Measures 96:

- Fl.:** Melodic line with *f* dynamics, marked with *subp*. Includes *"ch"* and *sing/play* instructions.
- Pno.:** Bass line with *pp* dynamics.
- Vln.:** Muted string texture with *pizz.* and *subp* dynamics.
- Vc.:** Muted string texture with *pizz.* and *subp* dynamics.

Tempo and meter changes: 2/4, 4/4, 3/4.

109

Fl.

Pno. *mf*

Vln. *mf*

Vc. *mf*

8va

112

Fl. *ff*

Pno. *ff*

Vln. *ff*

Vc. *ff*

5

5

5

5

IV. Open ♩=50 heavily

Pno. *ff* drop ping pong balls middle strings *p*

Vc. sul pont *mp*

Mezzo *mp* egg slicer

Fl. *mp*

Pno. quarter gliss *mp ff mf*

Vln. sul pont slow 1/4 tone bends pizz. bend

Vc.

123

egg slicer

Mezzo

123 *f* whisper

mf

mp *mf* whisper

pen

0 pen

Fl.

123

sigh

f

sing n play

sigh

mp *mf*

Pno.

123

quarter gliss

mp *ff* *mf*

quarter gliss

mp

Vln.

123

arco

scratch tone

mp

arco

sul pont

mp

Vc.

123

scratch tone

mp

sul pont

mp

mp

mp

132 L.R. glock (soft mallet)

Mezzo *f* *mp* *mf* whisper pen

Fl. lip bend "shhh" sing n play sigh

Pno. *ff* *mf* slam low strings *ff*

Vln. scratch tone *f* creaking *mf* creaking sul pont

Vc. scratch tone *f* *mf* *mp*

139 egg slicer

Pno. drop ping pong balls middle strings *ff*

Vc.

Musical score for measures 141-144. The score includes parts for Piano (Pno.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Violini (Vln.).

- Piano (Pno.):** Treble clef. Measures 141-144 show a melodic line with notes marked with 'x' above them. A *rall.* marking is present at the end of the section.
- Violoncello (Vc.):** Bass clef. Measures 141-144 show a bass line with notes marked with 'x' above them.
- Violini (Vln.):** Treble clef. Measures 141-144 show a melodic line with notes marked with 'x' above them.

Dynamic markings: *p* (piano) and *niente* (nothing).

V. I am Destiny
Lively ♩=126

Musical score for measures 144-147. The score includes parts for Piano (Pno.) and Violoncello (Vc.).

- Piano (Pno.):** Treble clef. Measures 144-147 show a melodic line with notes marked with 'x' above them. A *mf* marking is present.
- Violoncello (Vc.):** Bass clef. Measures 144-147 show a bass line with notes marked with 'x' above them.

Dynamic markings: *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *niente* (nothing).

Musical score for measures 148-151. The score includes parts for Piano (Pno.), Violini (Vln.), and Violoncello (Vc.).

- Piano (Pno.):** Treble clef. Measures 148-151 show a melodic line with notes marked with 'x' above them. A *mf* marking is present.
- Violini (Vln.):** Treble clef. Measures 148-151 show a melodic line with notes marked with 'x' above them. A *mp* marking is present.
- Violoncello (Vc.):** Bass clef. Measures 148-151 show a bass line with notes marked with 'x' above them. A *mp* marking is present.

Dynamic markings: *mf* (mezzo-forte), *mp* (mezzo-piano), and *pizz.* (pizzicato).

152

Fl.

p

Pno.

mp

Vln.

pizz.

mp

Vc.

arco *espress.*

f

156

Fl.

mf

Pno.

mf

Vln.

arco

mf

Vc.

mf

160

Fl.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

mp

pizz.

mp

164

Fl.

Pno.

Vln.

mf

f

mf

mf

arco

167

Fl.

Pno.

mf

Mezzo *f*
I am Des - ti - ny!

Fl. *subp*

Pno. *subp*

Fl. *f* *flz*

Pno. *f*

Vln. *f*
Vc. *f*

Fl. *subp*

Pno. *subp*

Vln. *subp* *mf*

Vc. *subp* *mf*

177

Fl. *f*

Pno. *f*

Vln. *f*

Vc. *f*

179 *f* *espress.*

Mezzo

Pno. *subp* *8va*

182

Mezzo *spoken*
A - - - mmm *mf* I am what I make up

Fl. *mp*

Pno. *8va* *mp*

Vln. *mp*

Vc. *mp* *pizz.*

196

Fl.

Pno.

199

Mezzo

Fl.

Pno.

f

I am Des - ti-ny!

tr

subp

202

Fl.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

f

mf

f

mf

pizz.

f

mf

204

Fl. *mp* *p*

Pno. *mp* *p*

Vln. *mp* *p* arco

Vc. *mp* *p*

206

Fl. *pp*

Pno. *pp*

Vln. *pp* *pp*

Vc. *pp* *pp*

rall.

208 L.R. 6. "Untitled" **Sadly** ♩=50

Mezzo: *pp* *mf* extra wide vibrato (like sobs - pitch fluctuates) inhale sobbing sigh

Fl.: *pp* 3 *p* wide pitch bends (like sobs) *p* < > *mp* niente < *mp* Oh slow bend flap keys cover hole slow bend

Pno.: *p* *mp* pfuck high strings slowly, randomly

Vln.: *pp* 3 wide pitch bends (like sobs)

Vc.: *mp* arco pizz. *mp*

215 *mp* You - will not cry

Mezzo: *mp* You - will not cry

Fl.: flap keys cover hole *pp* *p* extra wide vibrato (like sobs - pitch fluctuates)

Pno.: *pp* 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

Vln.: *pp* 3 3 3 3

Vc.: arco *pp*

220 *slow bend*

Fl. *mp* *p* *rall.*

Vln. *p*

Vc. *p*

225 *a tempo*

Fl. *mf* *f*

Vln. *mf* *f*

Vc. *mf* *f*

231 *mf*

Mezzo I - have cried e -

Fl. *pp* *mp*

Vln. *p* *pp*

Vc. *p* *pp*

235 *mf* freely

Mezzo
I am fine — you are fine you're o - okay —

Fl.
nough
extra wide vibrato (like sobs - pitch fluctuates) slow bend
you're o - okay —

Pno.

Vln.
3 3 3 3 pizz.
pizz.
you're o - okay —

Vc.
you're o - okay —

242 *mp* *p*

Mezzo
I have cried e - nough

Fl.
sobs (vary waves)
mp

Pno.

Vln.
arco
sobs (vary waves)
mp *p*

Vc.
arco
sobs (vary waves)
mp *p* *pp*

VII. Eyes to the Hills

Flowing $\text{♩} = 92$

249

Pno. *mp cantabile* simile

Vc. *mp*

254

Fl. *mf*

Pno. *mf*

Vc. *mf*

259

Mezzo *rall.* *mp freely*

Fl. *p*

Pno. *p*

Vc. *pp*

I lift my eyes _____ I lift my eyes

Andante $\text{♩} = 72$

Mezzo *mf*₂ inhaling (mouth closed) exhale (mouth open) *mp*
To the hills Mmm Ha From ___ where comes my

Fl. *pp* *mp*

Pno. *pp*

Vc. *mp*

Mezzo *mp* *mf*
help I lift my eyes I lift my eyes _____

Fl. *p* *mp*

Pno. *pp*

Vln. *pp* non-vib gliss *p* *pp* *p* *pp*

Vc. *pp* non-vib *p* *pp* *p* *pp*

VIII. Final
Flowing ♩.=92

278 *f*
Mezzo To the hills

278 *mp*

278 *pp* norm *mp* norm

Vc. *pp*

283

Pno.

283

Vln.

Vc.

288

Fl.

288 *mf*

Pno.

288 *mp* *p*

Vln.

Vc. *mp* *p*

293

Fl.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

296

Fl.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

mp

mp

mp

mf

mf

299

Fl. *mf*

Pno. *mf*

Vln. *mp* pizz.

Vc. *mp*

302

Mezzo

Fl. *f*

Pno. *f*

Vln. *f* arco 2

Vc. *f*

L.R. *f*

303

Mezzo

303

am

I

am

I

am!

rit.

L.R.

mp

ff

p

Fl.

303

tr

tr

Pno.

303

fp

fp

Vln.

303

fp

gently

p

Vc.

303

fp

gently

p

Detailed description: This page of a musical score covers measures 303 to 304. It features five staves: Mezzo-soprano, Flute, Piano, Violin, and Viola. The Mezzo part has lyrics 'am' and 'am!' and includes dynamic markings *mp*, *ff*, and *p*. The Flute part has trills marked *tr*. The Piano part has a *fp* marking. The Violin and Viola parts also have *fp* markings and a *gently* instruction. The score concludes with a double bar line.