

**UCLA**  
**Contemporary Music Score Collection**

**Title**

Dangerous Curves Ahead

**Permalink**

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/4v6604cr>

**Author**

Sullivan, Emily Joy

**Publication Date**

2020

DANGEROUS  
CURVES  
AHEAD



For Piano Trio

Composed for VIPA 2018 and B3: Brouwer Ensemble

2018

*Emily Joy Sullivan*

# PROGRAM NOTES

*Dangerous Curves Ahead* was inspired by the road sign of that name. I wanted to write a piece that unabashedly embraced my love of song and dance traditions and explored rapid, dramatic changes instead of slow, linear processes. The first section features the swift, albeit repetitive, movement we might associate with driving. It swerves “dangerously” at times, but always returns to its incessant forward movement. The second theme is a more sultry, calm interpretation of “curves.” The third theme reflects more on the idea of something “ahead” of us. Here, instead of momentum, action, and unprepared changes, we enter the world of reflection. We experience the tension that can accompany feelings of spaciousness and groundlessness: the unknowability of the future, the terrifying vastness of time and space. From that somewhat heavy, climactic place, the piece returns to the more kinetic, blues-influenced themes it began with, and ends with a bang.

Score, ca. 8'30"

# DANGEROUS CURVES AHEAD

Emily Joy Sullivan (b. 1987)

Driving (♩ = 100)

Violin

Cello

Piano

*sfz mf subito*

Vc.

Pno.

*pizz. f mf subito*

Vc.

Pno.

# Dangerous Curves Ahead

2

## 11 Energetic

Vln. *f* quasi-improvisational *mp* *f*

Vc. *sfz mp*

Pno. *sfz mp*

Vln. *f*

Vc. *sfz mp*

Pno. *sfz mp*

Vln. *mp*

Vc. arco *mp* *f*

Pno. *f* bold *mp* *f*

Dangerous Curves Ahead

20

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

20

23

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

23

*p*

*p subito*

*mf*

27

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

27

*mf*

*f*

*pizz.*

*arco*

*f*

*8va*

# Dangerous Curves Ahead

4

8va-----

30

Vln. *mf subito* *non decrescendo*

Vc.

Pno. *mp* *f*

Melting  
*molto rit.*

34

Vln. *f*

Vc.

Pno. Simultaneous black & white key gliss

38

*a tempo* *accel.* Lively (♩ = 120)

Vln. *mf subito*

Vc. *pizz.* *mf subito*

Pno. *mf subito* percussive, in the style of pizzicato

Dangerous Curves Ahead

43

vibrato, portamento

*mp sultry*

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

48

*p*

*p*

8va

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

53

56

*mf sneaky* 3

*f*

*mf subito*

8va

*f*

*mp subito*

8va

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.



Dangerous Curves Ahead

6

57

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

(8<sup>va</sup>)

61

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

(8<sup>va</sup>)

*f* *mf* subito *f*

*mp*

66

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

(8<sup>va</sup>)

*f*

Dangerous Curves Ahead

70

Musical score for measures 70-74. The score is for Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vc.), and Piano (Pno.). The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#). The time signature is 7/8. The Violin part is mostly silent, with a few notes in measure 74. The Viola part has a melodic line with accents. The Piano part has a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes with accents, marked *mf subito*. A dynamic marking of *p* is present in measure 74.

75

Musical score for measures 75-78. The score is for Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vc.), and Piano (Pno.). The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#). The time signature is 7/8. The Violin part has a melodic line with accents, followed by a rapid sixteenth-note passage in measures 76-78. The Viola part has a melodic line with accents, followed by a rapid sixteenth-note passage in measure 78, marked *arco* and *p*. The Piano part has a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes with accents.

79

Musical score for measures 79-82. The score is for Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vc.), and Piano (Pno.). The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#). The time signature is 4/4. The Violin and Viola parts have rapid sixteenth-note passages with accents. The Piano part has a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes with accents.

# Dangerous Curves Ahead

8

83

Vln. *f*

Vc. *f*

Pno. *f*

*molto rit.* ----- **Lento** (♩ = 48)

86

Vln. *pp*

Vc. *pp*

Pno. *p*

*mf* dry, detached

*Ped. heavily throughout section, allowing chords to blur.*

91

Vln. *p*

Vc. *p*

Pno. *mp*

Dangerous Curves Ahead

100

accel. ----- Slightly Faster (♩ = 68)

96

Vln. *ppp* *p*

Vc. *pp* *p*

Pno. *f*

Constantly moving forward until measure 111

102

Vln. *pp* *mf*

Vc. *pp mp* *p* *mf*

Pno. *p* *mp*

107

Vln. *f* *ff*

Vc. *f* *ff*

Pno. *f* *ff*

6

\* resume pedaling normally

Dangerous Curves Ahead

10 [ AT LEAST 5" ]

(8<sup>va</sup>)

[ AT LEAST 3" ]

112

Lento (♩ = 48)

accel. -----

Musical score for measures 10-112. The score is for Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vc.), and Piano (Pno.).  
- Vln.: Starts at measure 111 with a fermata and *fff* dynamic. Measure 112 has a fermata and *pp* dynamic.  
- Vc.: Starts at measure 111 with a fermata and *fff* dynamic. Measure 112 has a fermata and *mp* dynamic.  
- Pno.: Starts at measure 111 with a fermata and *fff* dynamic. Measure 112 has a fermata and *mf subito* dynamic. Measure 113 features a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand and a half note in the left hand.  
- Performance markings include *8<sup>va</sup>* (8va) and *accel.* (accelerando).

114 Slightly Faster (♩ = 56)

Musical score for measures 114-116. The score is for Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vc.), and Piano (Pno.).  
- Vln.: Measures 114-116 show a melodic line with a fermata at the end of measure 114.  
- Vc.: Measures 114-116 show a melodic line with a fermata at the end of measure 114.  
- Pno.: Measures 114-116 feature a complex rhythmic pattern with triplets and sixteenth notes. Measure 114 has a *p* dynamic.  
- Performance marking includes *Slightly Faster* (♩ = 56).

117  
*f p subito*

Musical score for measures 117-119. The score is for Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vc.), and Piano (Pno.).  
- Vln.: Measure 117 starts with *f* and *p subito*. Measure 118 has a fermata. Measure 119 has a fermata and *ff* dynamic.  
- Vc.: Measure 117 starts with *f*. Measure 118 has a fermata. Measure 119 has a fermata and *ff* dynamic.  
- Pno.: Measure 117 starts with *f*. Measure 118 has a fermata. Measure 119 has a fermata and *ff* dynamic. A note in measure 119 is marked with a wavy line and the instruction "simultaneous black & white key gliss".  
- Performance markings include *f*, *p subito*, *ff*, and *8<sup>va</sup>* (8va).

Dangerous Curves Ahead

120 **Tempo I** (♩ = 100)

Vln. *f*

Vc. *f* pizz.

Pno. *sfz*

Vln. *f* *intense* *8va*

Vc. *f* arco

Pno. *f*

Vln. *mp* *8va*

Vc. *f*

Pno. *f*

Dangerous Curves Ahead

12

129

Vln. *mf*

Vc. *mf*

Pno. *mf subito*

133

Vln. *ff*

Vc. *pizz.* *arco* *ff*

Pno. *ff*

136

Vln. *f* *mp*

Vc. *f*

Pno. *f*

*8va*

Dangerous Curves Ahead

139 *8va*  
Vln. *ppp*  
Vc. *f* *savage*  
Pno.

142  
Vln.  
Vc. *mp*  
*ff*

142  
Pno.

145 *accel.* ----- Lively (♩ = 120)

Vln.  
Vc. *pizz.*

145  
Pno. *f*  
*8va*



Dangerous Curves Ahead

14

151

Vln. *mp*

Vc.

Pno. *mp*

156

Vln. *mf*

Vc. *f*

Pno. *f*

161

Vln. *f* *mf subito* *f*

Vc.

Pno. *p* *8va*

Dangerous Curves Ahead

166

Vln. *mf* *mf lazy*

Vc.

Pno. *mf* *8va*

172

Vln. *f*

Vc.

Pno.

177

Vln. *p* *arco*

Vc. *mp*

Pno.

Dangerous Curves Ahead

16

182

Vln. *f*

Vc. *f*

Pno. *f* *8va*

187 Triumphant (♩ = 100)

Vln. *ff* *8va*

Vc. *ff*

Pno. *ff*

Vln. *p subito* *f* *8va*

Vc. *p subito* *f*

Pno. *p subito* *f*

Dangerous Curves Ahead

193 *8<sup>va</sup>*

Vln. *mp* *ff*

Vc. *mp* *ff*

Pno. *mp* *ff*

(*8<sup>va</sup>*)

196

Vln. *ff*

Vc. *ff*

Pno. *ff*