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beneath the dark blue waves

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**Author**

O'Leary, Jane

**Publication Date**

2020

Jane O'Leary

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*beneath the dark blue waves*

by Jane O'Leary  
(2019)

for flute, bass clarinet, violin, cello, piano  
duration: approximately 10 minutes

in 2 movements

Commissioned by Hard Rain Soloists Ensemble, with funds from the ACNI Small Grants Programme  
premiere: 31 January, 2020, SARC, Queens University, Belfast

Composed for the Hard Rain Soloists Ensemble in Belfast, the quintet moves in waves of sound, continually sparkling with colour. The piano catches the surface movement with bright, incisive gestures. The music was written with a vision of Gwen O'Dowd's abstract sea paintings in mind - turbulent, effervescent moments, and the title is taken from Nathaniel Hawthorne's 1825 poem, *The Ocean*, which contemplates the depths of the sea - quietness and peacefulness below the 'fury on the waves.'

Where possible, the music should be accompanied by a projection of images from Gwen O'Dowd's sea paintings.

# beneath the dark blue waves

## I.

Jane O'Leary  
(2019)

**Mysterious**  
♩ = 50

*tr*   *trem*  *trem*

**poco a poco accel**  
(move gradually to trill)

Flute  
*pp* *sfp*

Bass Clarinet in B $\flat$   
*pp* *sfp*

Violin  
CON SORDINO IV, ST short bow changes, pulsing (irreg) *pp* *SP* bow trem *SP* bow trem SENZA SORDINO ( *sfp* II

Violoncello  
CON SORDINO ST *pp* bow trem *SP* SENZA SORDINO *p* II

Piano  
**Mysterious**  
♩ = 50  
*mf* PIZZ strings (fingertip) strum strings, fingertips (2 hands) **poco a poco accel**

depress silently  
catch with sostenuto pedal

A Tempo, piu mosso

A = 60

4

7

tr <sup>b</sup>

Fl.

FLZ

B. Cl.

III

II

Vln.

ricochet

IV

PIZZ ARCO

Vc.

PIZZ

finger trem

Pno.

accel molto

8<sup>va</sup>

8<sup>va</sup>

mp

ff

ff

mf

mf

p

*mf*

*sfp*

*p*

*f*

*pp*

*pp*

*sf p*

*f*

*pp*

*mf*

*mf*

*p*

*gliss.*

*gliss.*

Ped. \_\_\_\_\_

(Sostenuto Ped) →

16

Fl. *gliss.* *tr* *sfp* *tr* *sfp* *tr* *sfp*

B. Cl. *gliss.* *sfp* *sfp* *sfp*

Vln. *f* *ricochet (bounce bow)* *mf* *ricochet*

Vc. *mf* *(arpeggiate and gliss)* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.*

Pno. *sf sf sf f* *mp* *sf* *mf*

Detailed description: This page of a musical score, numbered 16, features five staves. The Flute (Fl.) and Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.) parts begin with a glissando and are followed by three measures of trills, each marked *sfp*. The Violin (Vln.) part features a *f* dynamic *ricochet (bounce bow)* in the second measure and a *mf* *ricochet* in the fourth. The Viola (Vc.) part starts with a *mf* dynamic and includes arpeggiated and glissando passages, with multiple *gliss.* markings. The Piano (Pno.) part begins with a series of chords marked *sf sf sf f*, followed by a *mp* dynamic passage with a *5* fingering, and concludes with *sf* and *mf* dynamics.

22

Fl. *tr* *sfp*

B. Cl. *sfp*

Vln. *mp* *p* *f* *p*  
 ricochet I II (e) III N IV III  
 bow trem SP no trem

Vc. I finger trem SP *tr* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* (hold) I, SP *pp* II

Pno. (keyboard) *mp* *mf* *mf*  
 nail trem on high strings *8va* repeat freely  
 stroke strings with finger tips to keep chord resonating (keyboard)

29 **B** 7

Fl.

B. Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

SP III  
N III  
SP III  
N  
SP III  
freely alternate these 3 pitches, on III

N  
SP  
N  
II SP  
III  
add short bow tremolo, ad lib

hold each note until sostenuto pedal catches the chord

*f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p*

*mp* *mp*

*f* *mf*

Sost Ped



35

Fl. *trem* *trem, add air* *N trem* *trem, add air* *N trem, add air* *N trem, add air* *N*

B. Cl. *trem* *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp* *trem, add air* *mp*

Vln. *move gradually to* *arpeggiate freely - irregular rhythms* *II-III-IV* *add bow trem*

Vc. *move gradually to* *arpeggiate freely - irregular rhythms* *I-II-III* *add bow trem*

Pno. *f*

Detailed description: This page of a musical score (page 8) contains five staves. The Flute (Fl.) staff begins at measure 35 with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat, and a 3/4 time signature. It features a melodic line with trills, tremolos, and accents, marked with dynamics like *mp* and *mp*. The Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.) staff is in the same key and time signature, playing a more rhythmic accompaniment with tremolos and accents, also marked with *mp*. The Violin (Vln.) and Viola (Vc.) staves are in the same key and time signature, playing arpeggiated chords with irregular rhythms and bow tremolos. The Piano (Pno.) staff is in the same key and time signature, with a dynamic marking of *f* and a melodic line in the right hand. The score includes various performance instructions such as 'trem, add air', 'N trem', 'arpeggiate freely - irregular rhythms', and 'add bow trem'.

40 trem, add air

Fl. N (vibr) -----> (vibr)

B. Cl. N (vibr) tr# -----> (vibr)

Vln. II tr SP N SP II

Vc. (vibr)

Pno. ad lib finger gliss across strings to resonate chord mp

add nail PIZZ on E string keyboard

mp legato

(Sost Ped)

47

Fl. *mp* <sup>3</sup> (no tr) (vibr) **C** *f*

B. Cl. *mp* (vibr) *f*

Vln. *p* *f* SP (vibr) PIZZ (sul pont) *f* ARCO

Vc. *p* *f* *p* SP

Pno. *ff* *f* nail PIZZ on string keyboard *p* *f* 5 6

(catch new chord with sost ped)

with air (breathy sound)  
as fast as possible

53

Fl. FLZ N (stop tr) (vibr) FLZ N (stop tr) *sfp* *f* *sfp* *p*

B. Cl. FLZ N (vibr) FLZ N FLZ, with air *sfp* *f* *sfp* *p*

Vln. SP N (vibr) SP N ST flautando *sfp* *f* *sfp* *pp*

Vc. SP N SP N SP *sfp* *f* *sfp* *pp*

Pno. *ff* *p* alternate pizz string and note played on keyboard ad lib

12

with air (breathy sound)  
as fast as possible

58

Fl.

FLZ, with air

FLZ, with air

FLZ, with air

B. Cl.

SP I

N III IV II arpeggiate → rit.

SP II N III 3 I II bow trem

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

tr

alternate pizz and keyboard, increase speed to tremolo

depress key silently, hold key down

63

Fl. FLZ, with air trem *p* FLZ, with air *p*

B. Cl. FLZ, with air trem *p* FLZ, with air *p*

Vln. PIZZ ARCO III II I arpeggiate bow trem *mp* *f* arpeggiate bow trem PIZZ (nail) *mf*

Vc. SP intermittent trem/held harmonic SP (I) II gliss I II SP *p* *pp*

Pno. trem with nails across these strings depress key silently, hold

(Sost Ped) ———

69

Fl.

B. Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

*f* *pp*

*f* *pp*

PIZZ rapid repeated pizz *8va*

rapid jagged gliss on I and II - gradually slowing

(circular bowing)

gliss. gliss. gliss.

gliss. gliss. gliss.

(harmonic trill on both strings, with gliss)

(keyboard)

*f*

tap strings gently to resonate chord

(catch new chord with Sost Ped)

72

Fl. with air *mp*

B. Cl. with air *mp*

Vln. (8) gradually slowing → slowing

Vc. *gliss.* I *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* end on and hold final note

PIZZ nail

continue pizz, ad lib, gradually dying away

KEYBOARD depress D silently

*f* repeated short gliss (finger tip) on these strings only

repeat ad lib gradually slowing

*mp*

(hold Sost. Ped. to end)



# II

Flute

Bass Clarinet in B $\flat$

Violin

Violoncello

Piano

Flute dynamics: *pp*, *ff*, *mp*

Violin dynamics: *p*

Violoncello dynamics: *p*

Piano dynamics: *ff*, *sfp*

Tempo:  $\text{♩} = 52$

Time signatures: 4/4, 3/4

Annotations: *FLZ*, *N*, *gliss.*, *tr*, *8va*, *6*, *7*, *place 6" (plastic ruler) on strings*, *quick vertical scrape along lowest strings with back of finger nails*, *Red (hold always)*

FLZ + AIR

82

Fl. *mf* *p* *mf* *pp*

B. Cl. *mp* *p*

Vln. I *mp*

Vc. *mp* *gliss.* *gliss.* *p*

Pno. *sfp* *p*

FLZ 6 tr

accel. rit.

bubbly sound - FLZ  
no pitch, AIR  
LH and RH random fingerings

FLZ 3

timbral trill

PIZZ  
nail trem across 3 strings  
(or CL ricochet)

ARCO III

remove ruler from strings

nail trem or CL

87 **a tempo** + AIR

Fl.

B. Cl. *mf* *mp* *tr*

Vln. I *sfp* ARCO, SP (unmeasured arpeggio)

Vc. *gliss.* *sfp* *gliss.* *sfp* (unmeasured arpeggio)

Pno. **a tempo** *p* *f* *sf* *f* *legato* *f*

**D**

N, FLZ

90

Fl. *mp* *p*

B. Cl. *f* *mp* *tr* *trill on IV* *ST* *SP* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *con sordino* *ST, finger trem, long bow*

Vln. I *ff* *sfp* *pp* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *con sordino* *ARCO, ST*

Vc. *ff* *sfp* *pp* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *rapid trem, nails, highest strings* *III IV*

Pno. *ff* *PIZZ* *trem on these strings, finger tips - ad lib with nails -*

**D**

depress silently and hold these notes

96

Fl. *pp* *mp* + AIR

B. Cl. *p* + AIR FLZ

Vln. I *mp* *mf* *pp* *mp* *f* N SP V molto vibr PIZZ

Vc. *mp* *fp* SP finger trem + bow trem *gliss.*

Pno. KEYBOARD *mf* *ff* *f* Ped

101

Fl.

B. Cl.

Vln. I

Vc.

Pno.

*fp*

ARCO SP III

*gliss.*

*fp*

PIZZ

*f*

*lightly*

*p*

*tr*  $\flat$  21

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for a chamber ensemble consisting of Flute (Fl.), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Violin I (Vln. I), Viola (Vc.), and Piano (Pno.). The piece is in 2/4 time. The Flute part begins with a trill on a flat note (marked *tr*  $\flat$ ) in measure 101, followed by a whole rest. In measure 102, it plays a melodic line starting with a forte-piano (*fp*) dynamic, featuring a slur over a quarter note and a half note. The Bass Clarinet part has a whole rest in both measures. The Violin I part starts with a trill, followed by a whole rest. In measure 102, it plays a glissando (*gliss.*) leading to a note with a flat ( $\flat$ ), marked *fp*, followed by a slur and a pizzicato (*PIZZ*) section. The Viola part has a trill (*tr*) with a wavy line, followed by a glissando (*gliss.*) leading to a note with a sharp ( $\sharp$ ), followed by a forte (*f*) pizzicato (*PIZZ*) section. The Piano part features a light, rhythmic accompaniment with a piano (*p*) dynamic, consisting of eighth-note patterns with slurs and fingerings (5).

22

(stop trill)

103

Fl.

B. Cl.

Vln. I

Vc.

Pno.

+ AIR

**E** Freely and independently

*p*

M (89)

ARCO SP

*fp*

*fp*

SENZA SORDINO

ARCO SP

PIZZ

*fp*

SENZA SORDINO

ARCO

**E** Freely and independently

*f*

Sost Ped

106

Fl.

B. Cl.

Vln. I

Vc.

Pno.

improvise against piano line, using these figures in varying rhythms and speeds

*fp*

*gliss.*

*fp*

*gliss.*

*fp*

*gliss.*

*fp*

*gliss.*

*fp*

*gliss.*

*fp*

*mf*

*sf*

*p*

*mf*

*sf*

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for measures 106-109. The Flute and Bass Clarinet parts have long notes with fermatas. The Violin I and Viola parts feature improvisation boxes with specific figures and glissando markings. The Piano part has a complex rhythmic and melodic line with various dynamics.





113

Fl.

B. Cl.

Vln. I

Vc.

Pno.

timbral trill

*fp*

*fp*

insert trem  
ad lib 25

M (42)

SP  
III  
IV

bow trem on 2 strings

SP  
I  
II

bow trem on 2 strings

(tr)

PIZZ

*mf*

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for five instruments: Flute (Fl.), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Violin I (Vln. I), Viola (Vc.), and Piano (Pno.). The Flute part features a 'timbral trill' starting in the fourth measure, marked *fp*. The Bass Clarinet part has a measure marked 'M (42)' in the fifth measure. The Violin I and Viola parts play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with triplets in the first two measures, followed by a 'bow trem on 2 strings' in the fifth measure, with fingerings SP III IV for Violin I and SP I II for Viola. The Piano part starts with a trill '(tr)' in the first measure, followed by a 'PIZZ' (pizzicato) section in the second measure marked *mf*. The score concludes with a measure marked 'insert trem ad lib 25' in the fifth measure.

poco piu mosso, turbulent

G

Fl. 119 add vibr *f* *mp*

B. Cl. add vibr *f* *mp*

Vln. I gliss, harmonic trill + bow trem *pp* III *gliss. gliss. gliss.* III IV bow trem on 2 strings *gliss. gliss.* gliss. gliss. (slow harmonic gliss)

Vc. *pp* gliss, harmonic trill + bow trem *gliss. gliss. gliss.* *gliss. gliss.* PIZZ *f* ARCO II *mp*

poco piu mosso, turbulent

G

Keyboard *ff* *mf* *ff* *8vb*

Pno. gliss across lowest strings with finger tips

123

Fl. *8va* *ff* *p*

B. Cl. *ff* *p* add vibr

Vln. I *sf* *fp* *gliss.* *gliss.* III IV

Vc. *f* *p* *sf* *fp* *gliss.* *gliss.* III IV SP

Pno. *ff* *pp* *ff* *5* *5* *8va*

(trill - ad lib speeds) *molto SP*

125

Fl. FLZ N 8<sup>va</sup>

B. Cl. FLZ 5 N

Vln. I bow trem SP sf gliss. SP III (jagged) fp

Vc. bow trem I SP II fp SP I finger trem

Pno. place plastic ruler on these strings PIZZ, nail fp KEYBOARD mp

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for measures 28-31 in 4/4 time. The Flute part (Fl.) starts with a dynamic of *f* and a 'timbral trill' instruction, then moves to *fp*. The Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.) part starts with a dynamic of *f* and a '5' fingering, then moves to *p*. The Violin I (Vln. I) part features 'bow trem' and 'gliss.' markings, with dynamics ranging from *sf* to *fp*. The Viola (Vc.) part also features 'bow trem' and 'finger trem' markings, with dynamics ranging from *fp* to *mp*. The Piano (Pno.) part includes instructions for 'place plastic ruler on these strings', 'PIZZ, nail', and 'KEYBOARD', with dynamics of *fp* and *mp*. The score includes various performance techniques such as 'timbral trill', 'gliss.', 'finger trem', and 'KEYBOARD'.

130

Fl.

B. Cl.

Vln. I

Vc.

Pno.

**H** + AIR

*mp* *mp*

*mp* *mp*

III III IV IV  
 ( ) ( ) ( ) ( )  
 alternate freely  
 continue ad lib

III SP III IV  
 IV SP IV  
 gliss. gliss. gliss. gliss. gliss. gliss.

*fp* *fp*

slow gliss

SP  
 trill harmonic (whole tone)

trill

I  
 trill

*mp*

gliss. gliss. gliss. gliss.

**H** PIZZ *8va* KEYBOARD PIZZ *8va* Nail gliss (thumb)

*ff*

136

FLZ, + AIR

Fl. *mp*

B. Cl. *p*

Vln. I

Vc.

KEYBOARD

Pno.

*ff*

*p*

*mf*

III IV bow trem

repeat freely (trem), accel.

III IV bow trem

SP II III

continue trill from highest note

stretch out, follow vl semi-tone trill, slide down

gliss.

tr

gliss.

gliss.

harm trill

gliss. harm trill on I

8va

8va

tr

