

# four pieces about water

for L'Ensemble Contemporain de Montréal

## I running water bass part

accidentals apply to the entire measure, although reminder accidentals are given frequently

*fluid, with sounds blending as much as possible*

Emily Doolittle, 2000

♩ = 96 (harmonics are written an octave above sounding pitch)

bass

*mf* *fp* *ff*

6 piano

12 20 violin

35

40 bass *mp* *mp* *p*

45 *mp* *pp* *p* *p*

51 *p* *pp* (disappear into cello sound)

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58 **7** **violin** **3**

68 **mf p** **mf p** **mf p** etc.

72 **3** **5** **p**

79 **p**

84 **mp pp** **p** **pp**

88 **p** **p**

92 **mp > p** **fff**

96 **f** **mf**

100

gliss.

*(mf)*

103

*(mp)*

*p*

4/4

The first system of the musical score for 'The Little Boat' consists of a single staff. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The tempo and mood are indicated by the marking *(mp)* (mezzo-piano). The music is in 4/4 time, as shown by the time signature at the end of the system. The melody is composed of eighth notes, with many of them beamed in groups of three, suggesting triplets. The dynamics start at *(mp)* and gradually increase to *p* (piano) by the end of the system. The system concludes with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

106 directly into II (with absolutely no pause)

*mf p* *mf*

## II bass part salt water

The large diamond-shaped noteheads indicate "wood" sounds, made by drawing the bow across the side of the instrument, which should imitate the sound of waves and/or wind. The transition from pitched sounds to noise sounds should be gradual, so the given durations are only approximate. In all cases the horn leads the "noise". The horn entrance should be audible, and the other instruments should complement the horn sound.

$\text{♩} = 56$ , but with some freedom  
*broad, warm*

move bow gradually to the side of the instrument, so it bows only the wood

pitch  $\longrightarrow$  noise

very smooth

*p*  $\triangleleft$  *mp*  $\triangleleft$  *p*  $\triangleleft$  *pp*  $\triangleleft$

(cut off by high note in piano)

nothing  $\triangleleft$  *mf*  $\triangleleft$  nothing  $\triangleleft$  *p*  $\triangleleft$

7 *mp*  $\triangleleft$  *p*  $\triangleleft$  *p*  $\triangleleft$  *mp*  $\triangleleft$  *f*

10 moving forward slightly *mp*  $\triangleleft$  *mp*  $\triangleleft$

back to  $\text{♩} = 56$

14 pitch  $\longrightarrow$  noise *mf*  $\triangleleft$  *mp*  $\triangleleft$  *mf*  $\triangleleft$  nothing

17 pitch  $\longrightarrow$  noise *mp*  $\triangleleft$  *p*  $\triangleleft$  nothing

The musical score is written for a bass instrument in 3/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The first staff starts with a whole rest, followed by a half note G2, a quarter note F2, and a half note E2. The second staff begins with a half note D2, followed by a quarter note C2, a half note B1, and a quarter note A1. The third staff starts with a half note G1, followed by a quarter note F1, a half note E1, and a quarter note D1. The fourth staff begins with a half note C1, followed by a quarter note B1, a half note A1, and a quarter note G1. The fifth staff starts with a half note F1, followed by a quarter note E1, a half note D1, and a quarter note C1. The sixth staff begins with a half note B1, followed by a quarter note A1, a half note G1, and a quarter note F1. The score includes various dynamics (p, mp, mf, pp, f) and articulations (accents, slurs, triplets). A large diamond-shaped notehead is used for the G1 note in the third staff. The tempo is marked as 56 beats per minute, but with some freedom. The performance instructions include 'broad, warm', 'very smooth', 'move bow gradually to the side of the instrument, so it bows only the wood', and 'pitch to noise' transitions.

20

$p < mp$   $p$   $mf$

24

$mf$   $mp$   $p$   $mf$   $mp$

27

pitch → noise

$mf$   $f$  nothing

31

2 7

38

bassoon

$pp$

43

$pp$

# III

## frozen water

### bass part

The piccolo and bass parts have been beamed according to phrasing, which is often counter to the meter.

♩ = 66

piccolo

violin

bass

5

pp

d.b.

bass

pp

9

pic.

d.b.

p

p

13

pic.

5:6

d.b.

p

mp

5:6

p

pp

p

pp

17

pic.

d.b.

p

mf

mp

mf

mp

mp

20

pic. *mf* *5:6* *p* *5* *mp* *f* *mf* *p* *3*

d.b. *mf* *5:6* *p* *5* *mp* *f* *mf* *p* *3*

23

pic. *mp* *7:8* *p* *7:8* *mp* *f* *7:8* *mp*

d.b. *mp* *7:8* *p* *7:8* *mp* *f* *7:8* *mp*

26

pic. a little rough

d.b.

31

pic. *f* *7* *7* *7* *7* *7*

d.b. (not harmonics) *f* *7* *7* *7* *7* *7*

34

pic. *ff* *7* *7* *7* *7* *7* (until reverberation has died away) *pp*

d.b. *ff* *7* *7* *7* *7* *7* *pp*

37

pic. slightly slower

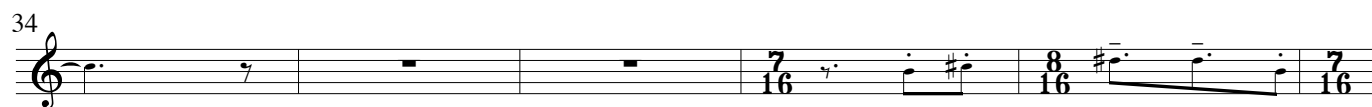
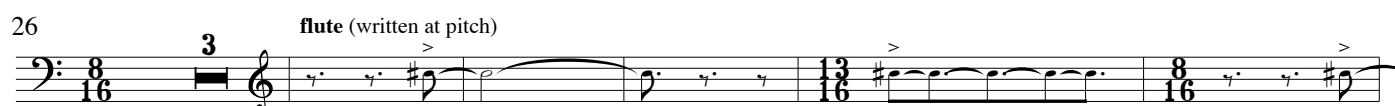
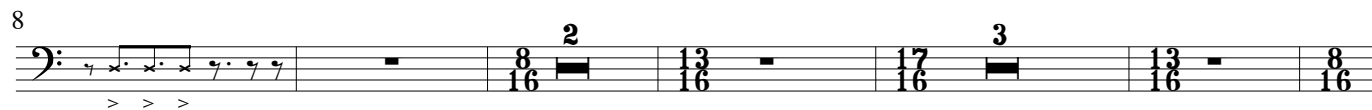
d.b. *p* *p* *mp* *p*

# IV rain water bass part

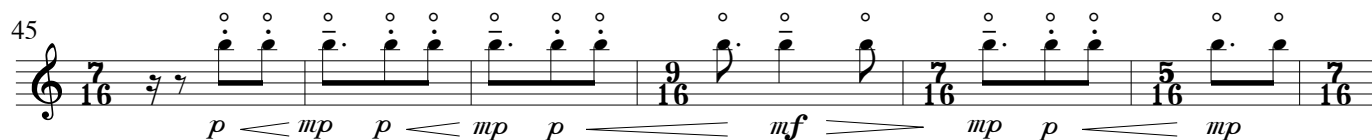
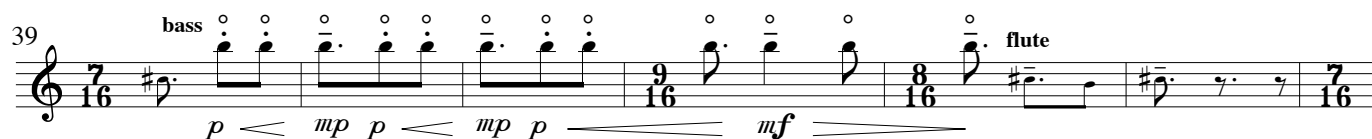
♩ = 148 (do not slow down!)

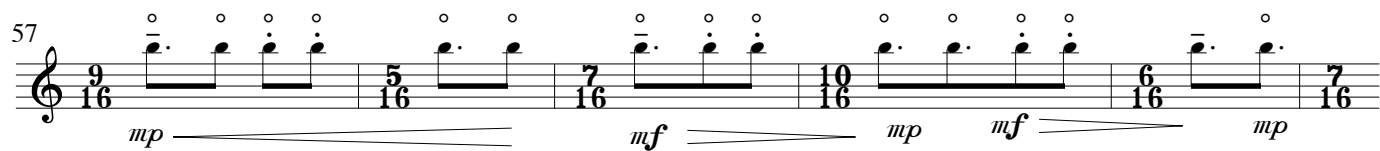
*percussive and light*

tambourine



harmonic sounds an octave below written note  
(string sound predominates here)

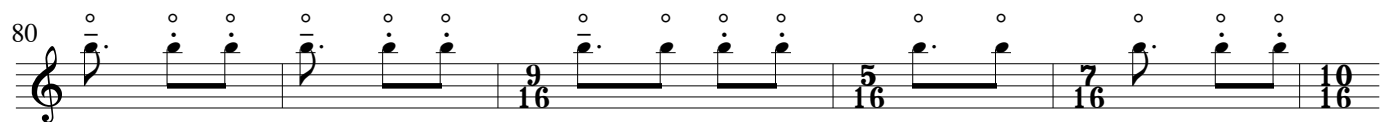


57  *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp*

62  *f* *piu f* *mf* *subito ff* *enthusiastically reckless*

67 

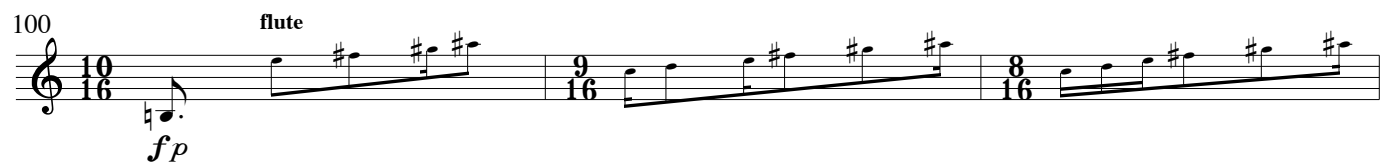
72  *tambourine* *violin*

80 

85  *pp* *mp* *mp*

90  *mp* *p* *mp*

95  *mf*

100  *flute* *fp*

