

Middle-Sea and Lear-Sea

for Six Players (Pierrot Ensemble + Percussion), ~8'

Spencer Klaw Kennedy, 2026

Full Score

INSTRUMENTATION/PERFORMANCE NOTES:

Flute

Bb Clarinet

Percussion (Vibraphone, Suspended Cymbal, Two Wooden Planks)

Piano

Violin

Violoncello

GENERAL NOTES: Romantic interpretations of all aspects of the music (dynamics, phrasing, tempo, etc.) is highly encouraged; make the music your own.

All slur and bowing markings are only suggestions.

Accidentals apply through the measure without octave transposition. Courtesy accidentals are often provided for clarity.

This score is written in C.

CLARINET: The primary theme of this piece is first played by the clarinet using close-dyad multiphonics. All multiphonics are taken from Heather Roche's website. If the given fingering is problematic, and you can devise another, please use it. Small deviations (i.e. of less than an eighth-tone) in pitch are fine.

PERCUSSION: The two wood planks (most likely pine) should both be low and dull, but should still have a definite relative pitch (i.e. one should be higher than the other). Choices of mallets and pedalling specifics are left up to the performer; using softer

rubber or yarn mallets on the planks is *highly* recommended. Two bows are required.

PIANO: Pedalling specifics are at the discretion of the performer. Do not be stingy!

VIOLIN: A mute is required. "Ord." indicates a return to the normal bow position and a normal mode of playing.

VIOLONCELLO: A mute is required. "Ord." indicates a return to the normal bow position and a normal mode of playing.

A slow pressure trill is performed by slowly pressing the finger from normal to half-harmonic to harmonic pressure and back and forth; three similar but distinct notes should be heard. Switch between levels of pressure as fast as possible, while still being sure to let each level of pressure sound for at least a moment.

PROGRAM NOTES: This is the second piece I have written based on David Jones' 1952 modernist poem *The Anathemata*. This piece shares a title with the second chapter of the poem, which tells two stories about classical-era naval voyages: the first, a warship returning home to Athens, and the second, a trading expedition to early Britain. Interwoven with these narratives are various reflections and stories about the emergence of civilizations along the Mediterranean.

A very small amount of material—specifically, a clarinet theme made of dyad multiphonics, a dotted rhythm, and numbers found within the text of the poem—is used in this composition. These materials are presented over and over again in many configurations and arrangements, lashing against and spilling over into each other. The music is the water and the objects floating in it, swimming towards and away and away and away.

“From the tomb of the strife-years the new-
born shapes begin already to look uncommonly like the
brats of mother Europa.
We begin already to discern our own.
Are the proto-forms already ours?
Is that the West-wind on our cheek-bones?

But it's early—very grey and early in our morning and
most irradiance is yet reflected from far-side Our Sea,
the Nile moon still shines on the Hittite creatures and
Crete still shows the Argives how.”

—David Jones, *The Anathemata*

This piece was written for Brightwork Ensemble.

And now his celestial influence gains:
 across the atmosphere
 on the water-sphere
and the wide sinus changes humour and the sea-hues
suffer change
 from Peloponnese Cenchréae
to the homing Attic deck-boy's
own Phaléron.
And suddenly:
 the build of us
 patterns dark the blueing waters

and shadow-gulls
perch the shadows of the yards across the starboard bow-wave
and on the quiet beam water.

For his chariot
has crossed our course and he stands over Argolis,
southward and westing and darts back his tangent ray.

Middle-Sea and Lear-Sea

for Pierrot Ensemble

Spencer Klaw Kennedy

♩ = 42, larghetto, tranquil

Flute

Clarinet in B $\flat$

Violin

Violoncello

Percussion

Piano

7

Fl.

Cl. in B $\flat$

Vln.

Vc.

Perc.

Pno.

con sord., s.t., balanced with the clarinet

con sord., s.t.

Two Planks (one high, one low)

pedal ad lib. throughout

8

ppp

pp

ppp

ppp

22

Fl. *sim.*
pp *mp* *mf* *mf* *f*

Cl. in B $\flat$
mp *mf* *p* *mp* *p* *mp* *p* *mf*

Vln.
I
II
p *mp* *p* ³ *mp* *mf* *p*

Vc.
ord.
slow pressure trill:
fingered D#, harmonic G#
open D string, fingered B
(II)
($\circ$)
p *mf*

Vib.
mf *f*

Pno.
8
mf *mp* *p* *mf*

26 *poco rit.* $\text{♩} = 42, \text{ a tempo}$

Fl.

Cl. in B $\flat$

Vln.

Vc.

Vib.

Pno.

mp *mf* *p*

mp *mf* *p*

mf

(ord.)

fingered D#, harmonic G#

ord.

m.s.t.

p

p

Suspended Cymbal

arco, bring out single notes; change bow direction only when the change is masked (possibly the second beat of every measure)

mp

very lyrical

p *mp*

30

Fl.

Cl. in B $\flat$

Vln.

Vc.

Sus. Cym.

Pno.

ord.

mp

s.t. senza sord.

mp

senza sord.

s.t.

mp

Vibraphone
ordinary mallets

pp

pp

36

Fl.

Cl. in B $\flat$

Vln.

Vc.

Vib.

Pno.

poco rit. — — — — —

ord. —————> uvular trill

slow pressure trill:
fingered F $\sharp$, harmonic B

mf

p

39 ♩ = 52, a tempo, slightly faster

Fl. *mp* ord.

Cl. in B *mp* ord.

Vln. *mp* ord.

Vc. *mp* ord.

Vib. *mf* Two Planks *pp* *p>* *p>* *pp*

Pno. *mp* *p* *mp* *p* *pp*

(F#)

42

Fl.

Cl. in B $\flat$

Vln.

Vc.

Plnks.

Pno.

mf

mf

mf

mp

mf

p $\triangleleft$ *mp* $\triangleright$ *mf*

p $\triangleleft$ *mp* $\triangleright$

p $\triangleleft$ *mp* $\triangleright$ *mf*

pp

8

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for measures 42, 43, and 44. The Flute (Fl.) and Clarinet in B-flat (Cl. in B $\flat$) parts have melodic lines with slurs and dynamics of *mf*. The Violin (Vln.) part has sustained notes with dynamics *mf*, *mp*, and *mf*. The Viola (Vc.) part has sustained notes with dynamics *mf*, *mp*, and *mf*. The Percussion (Plnks.) part has rhythmic patterns with dynamics *p*, *mp*, and *mf*. The Piano (Pno.) part has a complex accompaniment with chords, triplets, and dynamics *p*, *mp*, *mf*, and *pp*. The piano part includes a wavy line in measure 43 and a triplet in measure 44.

[illegible]

rit. ————— ♩ = 52, a tempo

49 uvular trill

Fl. *pp* *mf* *f*

Cl. in B $\flat$ *mf* *f*

Vln. *mf* *f*

Vc. *mf* *f*

Vib. *mp* *mf*

Pno. *mp* *mf* *f*

ord.

8

5

52

Fl.

Cl. in B $\flat$

Vln.

Vc.

Vib.

Pno.

The musical score consists of six staves. The Flute (Fl.) and Clarinet in B-flat (Cl. in B $\flat$) staves have a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The Violin (Vln.) and Viola (Vc.) staves have a treble and bass clef respectively, with a 4/4 time signature. The Vibraphone (Vib.) staff has a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The Piano (Pno.) staff has a grand staff with treble and bass clefs and a 4/4 time signature. The score is divided into four measures. Measure 52 starts with a 4/4 time signature. Measure 53 changes to 3/4. Measure 54 changes to 4/4. Measure 55 changes to 3/4. The dynamics are marked as *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *f* (forte). The Flute and Clarinet parts have long horizontal lines indicating sustained notes. The Violin and Viola parts have long horizontal lines indicating sustained notes. The Vibraphone part has a complex rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes. The Piano part has a complex rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes, with a 5-measure rest in the first measure.

56

Fl.

Cl. in B $\flat$

Vln.

Vc.

Vib.

Pno.

mp

p

mp

f

p

mf

p

f

mp

p

Suspended Cymbal
ordinary mallets

(C)

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for measures 56 to 60. Measure 56 is in 4/4 time. The Flute (Fl.) part has a half note G4, a half note A4, and a half note B4, all slurred together. The Clarinet in B-flat (Cl. in B $\flat$) part has a half note F3, a half note G3, and a half note A3, all slurred together. The Violin (Vln.) part has a half note G3, a half note A3, and a half note B3, all slurred together. The Viola (Vc.) part has a half note F2, a half note G2, and a half note A2, all slurred together. The Vibraphone (Vib.) part has a complex rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes. The Piano (Pno.) part has a complex rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes. The score includes dynamic markings: *mp* (mezzo-piano), *p* (piano), *f* (forte), and *mf* (mezzo-forte). There are also slurs and accents. A box labeled 'Suspended Cymbal ordinary mallets' is placed over the Vibraphone part in measure 59. The score ends with a double bar line and a 'C' in parentheses.

62 **accel.** — — — — — $\bullet = 63$, faster
uvular trill ord.

Fl. *mp* *f* *ff*

Cl. in B $\flat$ *mp* *f* *ff*

Vln. *mf* *mp* *mf*

Vc. *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp*

Sus. Cym. *f* *mp* *mf*

Pno. *f* *mf* *f*

Vibraphone

poco rit.

accel.

♩ = 63, a tempo

67

Fl. *mf*

Cl. in B *mf*

Vln. *mp*

Vc. *p* m.s.p.

Vib. *mp* *p* *p* *f* Suspended Cymbal

Pno. *mf* *mp* *p* *mf*

[illegible]

77 $\bullet = 63, \text{ a tempo}$

Fl. *ord.*
sub. *mp* *p* *pp* *ppp*

Cl. in B $\flat$ sub. *mp* *p* *pp*

Vln. *ord.* *s.p.* *m.s.p.*
sub. *mp* *p* *pp* *ppp*

Vc. *ord.* *s.p.* *m.s.p.*
sub. *mp* *p* *pp*

Vib. **Two Planks**
sub. *mp* *p* *mf* *p*

Pno. *sub. mp*

have the crescendo be bigger than the resulting note;
almost like this chord is a little disappointment

81 $\bullet = 42$, as before (8va if needed)

Fl.

Cl. in B $\flat$

Vln.

Vc.

Wd. Bl.

Pno.

ppp

p

ord., con sord.

ppp

ppp

Vibraphone
ordinary mallets

pp

The musical score for measures 81-88 is written for a chamber ensemble. The Flute part begins with a breath mark and a ppp dynamic. The Clarinet in B-flat part starts with a p dynamic. The Violin and Viola parts start with a ppp dynamic and a 'ord., con sord.' marking. The Wood Bass part starts with a pp dynamic. The Piano part is mostly silent. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, slurs, and dynamic markings.

Extend your hands
all you *orantes*
for the iron-dark shore
is to our lee
over the lead-dark sea
and schisted Ocrinum looms in fairish visibility
and white-plumed riders shoreward go
and
THE BIRDS DECLARE IT
that wing white and low
that also leeward go
go leeward to the tor-lands
where the tin-veins maculate the fire-rocks.

The birds
have a home
in those rocks.