
Echoes off the
Mountain

for solo bassoon

Candace Bustard

2 0 2 0

Program Notes:

Echoes off the mountain is an exploration of bassoon extended techniques. The music explores the precarious nature of the mountain. There are moments of discomfort culminating in the incomparable serenity of vast expanse layed out before you. The musical elements focus on sustained pitch and silenece to create the serene and mysterious atmosphere. Quintal harmonies created with multiphonics and minor seconds add to this allusion.

Performance Notes

General Notes

All rubato indications are meant to give artistic liberty to the performer to take time as needed

Flutter tongue

Flt. indicates flutter tongue while the bracket indicates the duration of technique.

Blow through instrument

At the beginning of the piece the performer is asked to create an unpitched air (wind) sound by blowing through their instrument. This should be a relatively quiet and relaxed sound which grows in intensity with the dynamic changes. This technique is notated as in example.

1. Musical notation in bass clef, 4/4 time. Above the staff, the text reads "Remove reed" and "Blow air through body". The notation shows a whole note with a wavy line underneath it, indicating an unpitched sound. There are two circled 'x' marks on the staff, one before and one after the wavy line.

Microtones

mm. 55-56 have microtones these act much like the pitch bends from earlier in the piece. Slight deviation, flattening, of the pitch.

Pitch Bends

Pitch bends are indicated with straight lines as well as scoops. Scoops are meant to be slight bends in pitch approaching the indicated notes (as seen in example 2.a). Pitch bends are to be played more drastically and are notated as seen in example 2.b.

2.a Musical notation in bass clef. Above the staff, the text reads "Pitch Bend". The notation shows three notes on a staff with straight lines connecting them, indicating a slight bend in pitch.

2.b Musical notation in bass clef. Above the staff, the number "30" is written. The notation shows a note with a sharp upward curve (scoop) leading to it, and another note with a sharp downward curve (pitch bend) leading to it.

Tremolos

Tremolos, as seen mm. 26 - 29, are to be played at the speed most comfortable to the performer, where accuracy is the goal. Chose the easiest fingering, irrespective of the resulting tone.

Multiphonics

Multiphonics are indicated by stacked chord. The finger is not indicated to make allowances for variations between bassoons.

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Candace Bustard (1996 -)

Airy with Mystery ♩ = 60

Remove reed
Blow air through body

Replace reed
Take time

*ft.

b

fr

Musical notation for measures 1-5. The piece begins in 4/4 time with a dynamic of *mp*. It features a wavy line representing a breath exercise. The notation includes a fermata over a whole note, followed by a series of eighth notes with a slur and a dynamic of *p*. The piece concludes with a dynamic of *mf* and a final *p* dynamic.

Musical notation for measures 6-9. Measure 6 starts with a dynamic of *mf* and a slur. Measures 7-8 are marked *Rubato* and *ft.* (flutter tongue). Measure 9 ends with a dynamic of *p*.

Musical notation for measures 10-13. Measure 10 begins with a dynamic of *p*. Measures 11-12 are marked *ft.* and *b fr*. Measure 13 ends with a dynamic of *mf*.

Musical notation for measures 14-17. Measure 14 starts with a dynamic of *mf*. Measure 15 is marked *ft.*. Measure 16 has a dynamic of *mp*. Measure 17 ends with a dynamic of *f* and the instruction *poco accel.*

Musical notation for measures 18-20. Measure 18 is marked *a tempo* and *ft.*. Measure 19 has a dynamic of *mp*. Measure 20 ends with a dynamic of *f* and the instruction *poco accel.*

Musical notation for measures 21-24. Measure 21 is marked *a tempo*. Measure 22 has a dynamic of *mf*. Measure 23 is marked *Pitch Bend*. Measure 24 ends with a dynamic of *mf* and a slur.

Musical notation for measures 25-28. Measure 25 has a dynamic of *mf*. Measure 26 has a dynamic of *p*. Measure 27 has a dynamic of *mf*. Measure 28 ends with a dynamic of *mf*.

*ft. = flutter tongue

30

chord

fit.

chord

chord

pp

38

mp

45

fit.

chord

fit.

chord

mf

p

pp

52

chord

Pitch Bend

pp

ppp

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