

IN THE MOUNTAINS

WATERCOLORS II
(2020)

DANIEL PESCA

FOR PERUSAL ONLY

PREMIERED SEPTEMBER 2020 IN BALTIMORE, MD

The works in my own ongoing cycle of piano pieces *Watercolors* each evoke a specific image, scene or environment. “In the Mountains” is inspired by the day hikes I took over several summers spent in Colorado. Among the marvels of hiking up a mountain is passing through many distinct micro-climates. This piece depicts several such environments, starkly juxtaposed. Some passages recall the limpid flow of mountain streams; others the dangerous scree fields you find near mountain summits, which demand substantial athletic effort to cross.

DURATION: 7 MINUTES

II. IN THE MOUNTAINS

NOTE ON THE FIRST 17 MEASURES

Chords are always played exactly with the melody note on the middle staff with which they are vertically aligned.

MELODY (stemmed notes on the middle staff): oboe-like and focused

CHORDS: very light and short, like a flash of distinct color highlighting each note of the melody. With the exception of the accented chords, these should be played one or two dynamic levels lower than the melody.

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$\text{♩} = 80$ *p, legg.* *8va* *loco* *RH 8va* *LH*

mp, cant.

p, legg. secco

pp *mf* *f*

mp *pp* *p*

una corda tre corda

12

LH *f* RH *f* RH *ff, intense* [ped*] LH RH *ff, intense* [ped*]

15^{ma} loco

LH *mf* RH *mf* RH *p* RH *mp* RH *mp*

8^{va} loco

molto rall. ...
like an afterthought

8^{va} loco *p* *pp* *ppp*

una corda
with pedal

* these four short pedals are to aid the legato of the melody. Take care not to capture any residue of the chords.

Expressive, "parlando," with rubato ♩=66

mp *p* *f* *f*

tre corda
without pedal (mostly)

First system of musical notation, measures 1-4. The piece is in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first measure starts with a *mf* dynamic and a five-fingered chord. The second measure is marked *p*. The system concludes with a double bar line.

Second system of musical notation, measures 5-8. Measure 5 begins with a *mf* dynamic and a six-fingered chord. Measure 6 is marked *f, intense* and features a triplet. Measure 7 is marked *espr.*. Measure 8 is marked *mp*. The system concludes with a double bar line.

Third system of musical notation, measures 9-12. Measure 9 is marked *molto*. Measure 10 is marked *ff*. Measure 11 is marked *mf*. Measure 12 features a five-fingered chord. The system concludes with a double bar line.

Fourth system of musical notation, measures 13-16. Measure 13 is marked *p, lighter* and includes a triplet. Measure 14 features a five-fingered chord. Measure 15 includes another triplet. Measure 16 features a five-fingered chord. The system concludes with a double bar line.

Fifth system of musical notation, measures 17-20. Measure 17 is marked *p*. Measure 18 includes a triplet. Measure 19 is marked *accel.*. Measure 20 features a five-fingered chord. The system concludes with a double bar line.

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mf *sffz* *mfp*

A tempo ♩=66
very rapid

ped. with a little ped.

molto *sffz* *pp, hazy* *mf sub.*

ped.

f *mf* *f* *pp* *mf sub.*

ped.

41 *f* *mp* *mf* *molto*

43 *sffz* *pp* *mf sub.* *p* *mf*

ped.

5
6
3 3 3 3
ff *p sub.* *mf* *ff*

47
6
5
3 3
molto *mf* *sffz* *p* *molto* *ff*

ped.

51 eruptive
10
6 6 6
sffz *mp* *ff* *sffz* *mp* *molto cresc.*

8^{vb}

54 *molto ritenuto* *pp* *ff* *mp* *p*

Extremely rapid — even, flowing, light, like running water
♩=96

NOTE FOR MM 55-78
Always with pedal—never fully clearing, but with frequent fluttering and half changes so that the harmonic field is constantly, smoothly morphing

56
5 6
poco cresc. *mp decresc.*

musical score system 1, featuring piano and bass staves with notes and a *pp* dynamic marking.

melodic tones always clearly above the running notes, but *dolce*, never strident, and all adding up to a long melodic unfolding

musical score system 2, continuing the piano and bass staves with melodic lines and running notes.

musical score system 3, starting at measure 60, continuing the piano and bass staves.

musical score system 4, continuing the piano and bass staves.

musical score system 5, continuing the piano and bass staves with a *poco cresc.* marking.

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64 *8va* *mp* *decresc.* *loco*

pp *8va* *mfpp*

(8) *loco*

68 *8va*

(8) *loco*

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musical score system 1, measures 68-71. Treble clef, bass clef. Dynamics: *poco cresc.*, *mp*.

musical score system 2, measures 72-75. Treble clef, bass clef. Dynamics: *decresc.*, *pp*. Includes *8va* marking.

musical score system 3, measures 76-79. Treble clef, bass clef. Includes *8va* marking.

musical score system 4, measures 80-83. Treble clef, bass clef. Dynamics: *loco*, *mf*, *pp*. Includes *8va* marking.

musical score system 5, measures 84-87. Treble clef, bass clef. Dynamics: *cresc.*

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8va
f
molto decres.

Jagged & energetic

$\text{♩} = 112$

(8)
p
molto \rightarrow f
fp
loco
ped.
secco

82
mf
ff
3
ped. |
ped. |
(ped. sim., with slurs)

85
mp
f
3 sfz
8vb
mf
mf

p 3 p
sfz
mf
pp
ped. \rightarrow

89

pp, very rapid, furtive

molto

Musical score for measures 89-90. The piece is in 3/4 time. Measure 89 features a rapid sixteenth-note pattern in the bass clef with a forte (f) dynamic. Measure 90 continues this pattern, ending with a fermata. Fingerings of 6 and 7 are indicated.

91

ff

mf

f

Musical score for measures 91-92. Measure 91 has a forte (ff) dynamic and includes a triplet of eighth notes in the bass clef. Measure 92 has a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic and includes an octave (8va) marking. A large red watermark 'FOR PERUSA ONLY' is overlaid on the score.

8va (stem-up chord only)

ff

mf

f

Musical score for measures 93-94. Measure 93 has a forte (ff) dynamic and includes a triplet of eighth notes in the bass clef. Measure 94 has a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic and includes an octave (8va) marking. A large red watermark 'FOR PERUSA ONLY' is overlaid on the score.

96

sffz

mf

mf

Musical score for measures 95-98. Measure 95 has a sforzando (sffz) dynamic and includes an octave (8va) marking. Measure 96 has a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic. Measure 97 has a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic. Measure 98 has a sforzando (sffz) dynamic and includes an octave (8va) marking. A large red watermark 'FOR PERUSA ONLY' is overlaid on the score.

ped.

pp

pp, very rapid, furtive

Musical score for measures 99-101. Measure 99 has a pianissimo (pp) dynamic. Measure 100 has a pianissimo (pp) dynamic and includes a sixteenth-note pattern in the bass clef with a forte (f) dynamic. Measure 101 continues this pattern. Fingerings of 6 are indicated. A large red watermark 'FOR PERUSA ONLY' is overlaid on the score.

(8)

molto *ff*

102 *mf* *sfz* *mf*

104 *f* *ffp* *molto*

106 *ff* *mf* *ff* *sfz* *mf*

(always pedal with the slurs)

allarg.

108 *f* *mf* *ff* *fff*

a tempo ♩=112 but more flexible & loose

loco

110

mp 7 7 7 *f, abrupt*
very rapid

Detailed description: This system contains measures 110 and 111. Measure 110 is in 3/4 time and features a rapid, flowing melody in the right hand with a dynamic of *mp* and a fermata. The left hand plays a steady accompaniment of eighth notes with a dynamic of *mp*. Measure 111 is in 5/4 time and continues the melody in the right hand, which becomes more expressive and dynamic, marked *f, abrupt*. The left hand has a few notes and rests.

112

f > *sfz* *mp, emerging from the resonance* *molto* *sfz*
ped. sub.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 112 and 113. Measure 112 is in 9/8 time and starts with a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand, marked *f*. The left hand has a triplet of eighth notes. Measure 113 is in 4/4 time and features a long, expressive melody in the right hand, marked *sfz*, which then softens to *mp* and is described as *emerging from the resonance*. The left hand has a few notes and rests. A *ped.* (pedal) marking is present, and a *sub.* (suboctave) marking is at the end of the system.

114

pp 7 *mp* *f* *mf* > *f* *sfz*
3 3

Detailed description: This system contains measures 114, 115, and 116. Measure 114 is in 3/4 time and starts with a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand, marked *pp*. Measure 115 is in 3/4 time and features a melody in the right hand that grows in dynamics from *mp* to *f*. Measure 116 is in 4/4 time and continues the melody in the right hand, marked *mf* and *f*, with a triplet of eighth notes at the end marked *sfz*. The left hand has a steady accompaniment.

Tempo I ♩=80

117

f > *p* *pp* *poco* *p* *pp* *secco* *pp*
10 5

Detailed description: This system contains measures 117, 118, and 119. Measure 117 is in 4/4 time and starts with a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand, marked *f*. Measure 118 is in 3/4 time and features a melody in the right hand that is *poco* (slightly) *p* (piano). Measure 119 is in 4/4 time and continues the melody in the right hand, marked *p*, with a quintuplet of eighth notes at the end. The left hand has a steady accompaniment. A *ped.* (pedal) marking is present, and a *secco* (secco) marking is at the end of the system.

120

pp *mp* *p* *mp* *fp* *rubato* *mf* 5 *poco marc.*
3 5

Detailed description: This system contains measures 120, 121, and 122. Measure 120 is in 5/4 time and starts with a quintuplet of eighth notes in the right hand, marked *pp*. Measure 121 is in 4/4 time and features a melody in the right hand that is *mp* and *p*. Measure 122 is in 3/4 time and continues the melody in the right hand, marked *mp* and *fp*, with a triplet of eighth notes at the end. The left hand has a steady accompaniment. A *rubato* (rubato) marking is present, and a *poco marc.* (poco marcato) marking is at the end of the system.

123 *dolce* **molto rall.**

8va

p sub. *espr. rubato* *pp*

una corda with ped.

$\text{♩} = 96$

126 *8va*

(pedal as before)

128

(without slowing) *long*

loco *15ma* *8va* *ppp*

(pedal as before)

(15) *mp*

loco *poco*

(without slowing)

132 *pp*

shorter *8va* *mf* *pp* *loco*
tre corda
(pedal as before)

8va *loco* *mp*

136 *8* *56* *pp* *loco* *mp*
ped. *secco*

Suddenly transformed
(A little slower) ♩=50

8 *8va* *loco* *f* *fff* *sim.*
m.d. pp, light, icy, distant
m.s. mp, cant., rich with pedal

(8)

Musical score for measures 8-16. The piece is in 2/4 time. Measure 8 is marked with a circled 8. The score consists of a treble and bass clef. The right hand plays a complex rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes. The left hand plays a simple bass line with long notes. A 5/16 time signature change occurs at measure 15. The piece ends at measure 16 with a 2/4 time signature.

(without slowing)

(8)

142

Musical score for measures 142-154. The piece is in 2/4 time. Measure 142 is marked with the number 142. The score consists of a treble and bass clef. The right hand plays a complex rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes. The left hand plays a simple bass line with long notes. A 5/16 time signature change occurs at measure 15. The piece ends at measure 154 with a 4/4 time signature. Performance instructions include *mp, espr., rubato, warmer* and *pp, suddenly icy again (without rubato)*. Dynamics *molto* and *sfz* are also indicated. A *8va* marking is present in measure 154. A red watermark "FOR PERUSAL ONLY" is overlaid on the score.

mp, espr., rubato, warmer

pp, suddenly icy again (without rubato)

molto

sfz

8va

Chicago
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