

Where You Love From

for narrator, percussion, violin, viola, and cello

JESSICA MEYER

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for narrator, percussion, violin, viola, and cello

14'

PROGRAM NOTES

I fall in love with the power of words all over again when I read Rumi (particularly this translation by Coleman Banks). The rich imagery makes my job a joy for the sounds almost jump off the page and into my mind to play around with.

This particular text speaks to me because it naturally has "movements" or episodes. Though they seem rather disjointed at first, I wanted to weave them together with a musical narrative about the nature of love and how allowing yourself to love beyond expectation can be a means to freedom.

As someone who sees the ocean as an inspiring life force, the last section particularly strikes me as a meaningful metaphor for what our various relationships could potentially be and serves as a fitting climax to the piece. However, I chose to pose my own question to the audience via the narrator during the final moments of the work - "where do you love from"?

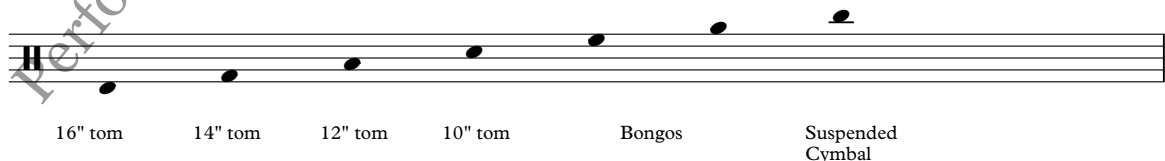
Most days, I feel our society could be in a better place if we just asked ourselves that question more often.

Many thanks to Jorja Fleezanis for the opportunity to bring these sentiments into sound.

Percussion Key

+ on marimba & vibes = dead stroke
o on marimba & vibes = let ring
Bows will be needed for Vibraphone & Marimba
Vibraphone will need to have a working motor
For drums, you will need sticks and brushes in addition to mallets
x notehead on the staff means hitting the rim of the tom-tom

Percussion List: Vibraphone, Marimba (5 octaves), Glockenspiel, Tom-toms, Bongos, Suspended Cymbal



Poetry by Rumi (1207-1273)

Translation by Coleman Banks from "The Book of Love" (used with permission)

TEXT OF ODE "WHERE YOU LOVE FROM"

*Look inside and find where a person
loves from. That's the reality,
not what they say.*

*Hypocrites
give attention to form, the right
and wrong ways of professing belief.
Grow instead in universal light.*

*When that revealed itself, God gave it
a thousand different names, the least
of those sweet-breathing names being,
the one who is not in need of anyone.*

*You've so distracted me,
your absence fans my love.
Don't ask how.*

*Then you come near.
"Do not..." I say, and
"Do not..." , you answer.*

*Don't ask why
this delights me*

*In your light I learn how to love.
In your beauty, how to make poems.*

*You dance inside my chest
where no one sees you,*

*but sometimes I do,
and that sight becomes this art.*

*Drumsound rises on the air,
its throb, my heart.*

*A voice inside the beat says,
"I know you're tired,
but come, this is the way."*

*Are you jealous of the ocean's generosity?
Why would you refuse to give this love to anyone?*

*Fish don't hold the sacred liquid in cups!
They swim the huge fluid freedom.*

FOR PERUSAL ONLY

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Where You Love From

Commissioned by the The Michael Steinberg and Jorja Fleezanis Fund

RUMI/COLEMAN BANKS

JESSICA MEYER

1. Look inside and find

♩ = 50 **Dreamy**

1

Narr. *4/4*

Vib. *4/4* *p*

Vln. *4/4* *p*

Vla. *4/4* *p*

Vc. *4/4* *p*

4

Narr.

Vib.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

gliss.

f

f

f

7 *accel.* **Rapturous** $\text{♩} = 65$

Narr.

Vib.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

p

f

p

f

pizz.

arco

p

f

9

Narr.

Vib.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

p *f* *p* *f*

55 Searching

12 *rit.*.....

Narr.

Vib.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

look inside and find

mp *pp* *p* *pp* *pizz.* *mp*

14 *where a person loves from*

Narr. 

Vib. 

Vln. 

Vla. 

Vc. 

16 *THAT's the reality not....what they say.*

Narr. 

Vib. 

Vln. 

Vla. 

Vc. 

♩ = 60 **Corrupted**

Hypocrites.....give attention...

19

Narr.

Vib.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

20 *...to form*

Narr.

Vib.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

6

21 *the right.....and wrong ways*

Narr.

Vib.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

22 *of professing belief*

*Grow instead...
in universal light*

Narr.

Vib.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Wonderous

24

Narr.

Vib.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

bowed, with motor
faster..slower

pizz.

arco

mf

mf

f p

mf

mp

p

arco

mf

28

Narr.

Vib.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

still bowed,
no motor

*God gave it a
thousand
different
names*

*when THAT
revealed itself*

To Glock.

p < mf

pp < f

p < mf

pp < f

mp

mf

pizz.

arco

p < mf

pp < f

32

Narr.

Glock.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

pp

mf 3

brushy stroke

6 6 6

33

Narr.

Glock.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

3

6 6 6

mp 6 3

34 *God gave it a thousand different names*

Narr.

Glock.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

35 *the least of those sweet breathing names being*

Narr.

Vib.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

36

Narr.

Vib.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

37

Narr.

Vib.

Vln.

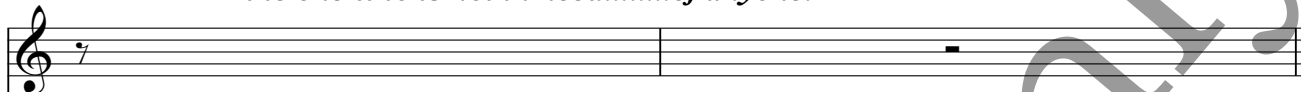
Vla.

Vc.

39

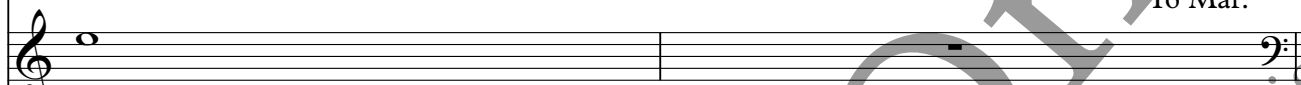
the one who is not in need.....of anyone.

Narr.



A single staff for the Narrator, showing a fermata over a note followed by a bar line.

Vib.



A single staff for the Vibraphone, showing a fermata over a note followed by a bar line.

To Mar.

Vln.



A single staff for the Violin, showing a triplet of eighth notes followed by a bar line.

Vla.



A single staff for the Viola, showing a triplet of eighth notes followed by a bar line.

Vc.



A single staff for the Violoncello, showing a triplet of eighth notes followed by a bar line.

pizz.

o

11. You've so distracted me

♩ = 96 **Playful**

1

Narr. 

Mar. 

Vln. 

Vla. 

Vc. 

8

Narr. 

Mar. 

Vln. 

Vla. 

Vc. 

Twangy open E-string pizz. throughout

pizz.

f

vo

15

Narr.

Mar.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

f

ff

20

Narr.

Mar.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

You've soooooooooo
distracted me

24

Narr.

Mar. *ff*

Vln. *ff*

Vla. *ff*

Vc. *ff* *mf* *p*

your absence

29

Narr.

Mar. *mp* *f*

Vln. *f* *mp* *pizz.*

Vla. *mp* *pizz.*

Vc. *mp*

36 *fans my love*

Narr. 

Mar. 

Vln. 

Vla. 

Vc. 

42 *don't ask how*

Narr. 

Mar. 

Vln. 

Vla. 

Vc. 

46

Narr.

Mar.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

51

Narr.

Mar.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

55 *Then you.....come near.*

Narr.

Mar.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

f

p

fp

60

Narr.

Mar.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

pizz.

arco

mp

p

p

65 "Do not"... I say "Do not"...

Narr.

Mar.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

pizz.

p

69 you answer

Narr.

Mar.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

pizz.

f

Don't ask why

73

Narr. 

Mar. 

Vln. 

Vla. 

Vc. 

this delights me

78

Narr. 

Mar. 

Vln. 

Vla. 

Vc. 

85

Narr.

Mar.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

91

Narr.

Mar.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

III. In your light

♩ = 50 **Luminous**

1

Narr. 

Mar. 

Vln. 

Vla. 

Vc. 

6

Narr. 

Mar. 

Vln. 

Vla. 

Vc. 

11

Narr.

Mar. *To Glockenspiel*

Vln. *ord. vib.*

Vla. *ord. vib.*

Vc. *3* *n.v.* *poco vib.*

mp *p* *mp*

15

Narr.

Glock. *ord.* *f* *6* *3*

Vln. *3* *3* *3* *3* *3* *3* *3* *3*

Vla. *gliss.*

Vc.

18 *In your Light...* *I learn to love*

Narr.

Glock.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

p *mf*

20 *In your beauty,*
how to make poems

Narr.

Glock.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

mf *p*

To Bongos & Toms

♩ = 110 **Dancing**

23

Narr.

Perc. *Lightly, with hard sticks*

Vln. *mf* *p*

Vla. *f* *p*

Vc. *mf* *p*

26

Narr.

Perc.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc. *pizz.* *mf*

29

Narr.

Perc.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

mp *arco* *mp*

32 *You dance where no one sees you*
inside my chest sees you

Narr.

Perc.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

p *pizz.* *arco* *f* *f* *f*

♩ = 50 **Lovingly**

43

Narr.

Mar. bowed
mp

Vln. *p*

Vla. *p*

Vc. *p*

46

Narr.

Mar. To Perc.

Vln. $\langle mf \rangle p$

Vla. $\langle mf \rangle p$

Vc. $\langle mf \rangle p$

IV. Drumsound rises on the air

1 $\text{♩} = 84$ **Breathless**

Narr. 

Perc. 

switch to mallets for toms & bongos

Vln. 

Vla. 

Vc. 

5

Narr. 

Perc. 

Vln. 

mp < f

Vla. 

mp < f

Vc. 

mp < f

bow rib of instrument like an inhale/exhale

9

Narr.

Perc.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

mf mp

gliss.

12

Narr.

Perc.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

p mp

gliss.

sul pont

ord.

14

Narr.

Perc.

mf

Vln.

Vla.

mf *f*

Vc.

mf

Ecstatic Groove

16

Narr.

Perc.

on rim of one of the toms, with shaft of mallet...shuffle groove

p

Vln.

Vla.

ff *mp*

Vc.

19 *Drumsound rises.....on the air*

Narr.

Perc.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

22 *it's throb my heart*

Narr.

Perc.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

25

Narr.

Perc.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6

gliss.

p

tr

28

Narr.

Perc.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6

mf

mf

6

6

mf

3

mf

30

Narr.

Perc.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6

3 3 3

fp

3

fp

fp

32

Narr.

Perc.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

*A voice inside
the beat says*

*I know
you're tired*

but come

*this is
the way*

f

mp

6

fp

fp

fp

36

Narr.

Perc.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

38

Narr.

Perc.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

39

Narr.

Perc.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

40

Narr.

Perc.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

42

Narr.

Perc.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

43

Narr.

Perc.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

mp *ff* *mf*

fp

45 *rit.....*

Narr.

Perc. *ff mp ff mp*

Vln. *ff*

Vla. *ff*

Vc. *ff* *attacca*

V. The ocean's generosity

48 ♩ = 72 **Churning**

Narr.

Perc. *mp ff*

Vln. *3*

Vla. *tr*

Vc. *3*

49

Narr.

Perc.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

6 7

5 6

3

50

Narr.

Perc.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

mp *ff*

tr

3

51

Narr.

Perc.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

6 7

mp *f* *mp* *f*

tr *gliss*

3 3 6 3

53

Narr.

Perc.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

6 6 6 6 6 3

mp *f* *mp* *f* *mp*

tr 3

3

56

Narr.

Perc.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

ff *mf* *ff* *p* *mf* *pp*

fff *fff*

60 *rit.*.....

Narr.

Perc.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

are you jealous of the ocean's generosity?

why would you refuse to give love? to anyone?

62

Narr.

Perc.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

gliss.

♩ = 65 **Flowing**

65

Narr.

Vib.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

To Vibraphone

bowed

mp

mp

66

Narr.

Vib.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

mf

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67

Narr.

Vib.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

3

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68

Narr.

Vib.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

bowed

69

Fish don't hold the sacred liquid in cups!

Narr.

Vib.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

gliss.

70 *they swim... the huge... fluid....*

Narr.

Vib.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

rit..... ♩ = 50

71 *freedom*

Narr.

Vib.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

73

Narr.

Vib.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

bowed
no motor

mp

mp

76

Narr.

Vib.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

To Marimba

gliss

79 *Where do you... love from?*

Narr. 

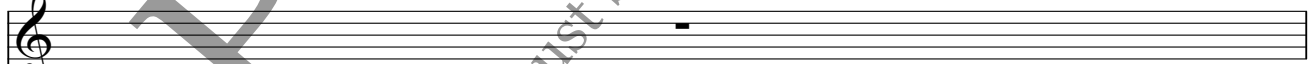
Mar. 

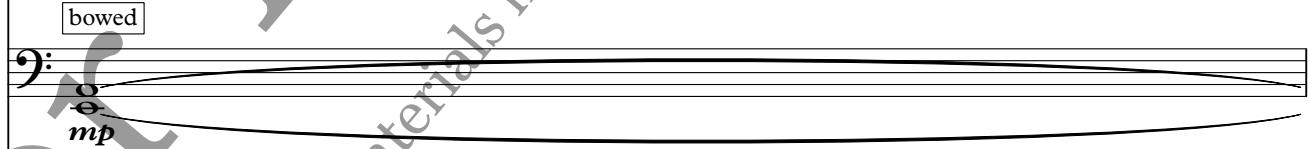
Vln. 


Vla. 

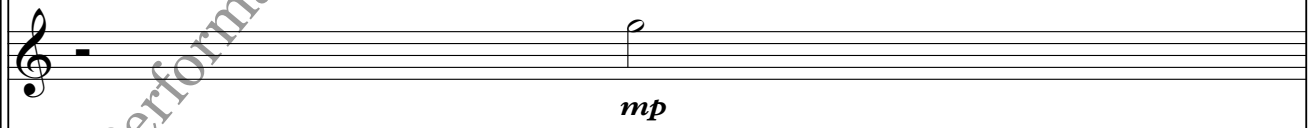
Vc. 


81

Narr. 

Mar. 

Vln. 

Vla. 

Vc. 

82

Narr.

Mar.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

p

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NYC