

A Nation Unfinished

for trumpet in B-flat, violoncello, and piano

Transposed Score

JESSICA MEYER

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A Nation Unfinished

for trumpet in B-flat, cello, and piano

6'

PROGRAM NOTES

In January 2021, our nation witnessed an attack on our capitol and the inauguration of a new President of the United States.

The days in between were fraught with horror, shock, sadness, and uncertainty - and this work is meant to express those moments.

Amanda Gorman's poem "The Hill We Climb" was a highlight of the inauguration, and the title of my piece was inspired by the following passage:

*Somehow we've weathered and witnessed
a nation that isn't broken
but simply unfinished*

This work was cathartic to write in order to process all that was going on, and I thank the Silver Spruce Trio for the opportunity.

A Nation Unfinished

Commissioned by the Silver Spruce Trio

JESSICA MEYER

 = improvise a meandering gesture with this pitch or pitches, slow

 = improvise a gesture with this pitch or pitches, start slow, get faster, then slower

 = improvise your own extremely fast gesture with these pitches

$\text{♩} = 50$ Ominous

Trumpet in B \flat

Violoncello

Piano

Need pick
for m. 38-39



Tpt.

Vc.

Pno.

ad libitum.....

a tempo

3

ord

mp

gliss.

p

mp

3

p



11

Tpt. *p*

Vc. *n < ff zing!*

Pno. *ff Leo.* *ff Leo.*

passionately *3*

= 65 Foreboding

16

Tpt. *s*

Vc. *fp fp fp*

Pno. *mp Leo.* *ff*

meandering: repeat and change patterns and rhythms

pp

mp

pp

mp

20

Tpt. *f ff f*

Vc. *start speeding up the gestures.....*

Pno. *start speeding up the gestures.....*

keep pedal down until mid. m. 25

22

Tpt. $\text{G}^{\#} \text{A}^{\#} \text{B}^{\#}$ ff fff

Vc. $\text{G}^{\#} \text{A}^{\#} \text{B}^{\#}$ ff p < fff p < fff

Pno. $\text{G}^{\#} \text{A}^{\#} \text{B}^{\#}$ ff

start using separate bows and add random accents.....get even faster.....

n.v. \Rightarrow vib. n.v. \Rightarrow vib.

start to use double-stops....add random accents.....get even faster.....

$\text{G}^{\#} \text{A}^{\#} \text{B}^{\#}$

 $\text{J} = 45$

26

Tpt. *walk back to normal position*

Vc. $\text{G}^{\#} \text{A}^{\#} \text{B}^{\#}$ p gliss.

Pno. $\text{G}^{\#} \text{A}^{\#} \text{B}^{\#}$ pp

uneven, ad libitum rhythms (until .30)

29 *a tempo*

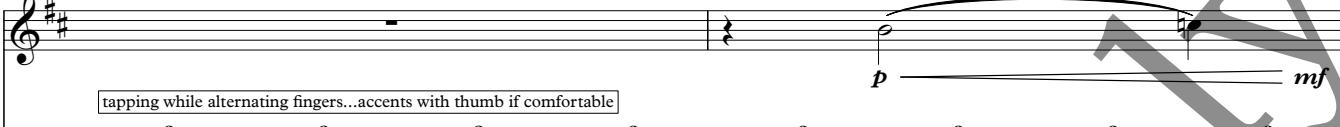
Tpt. con sord.

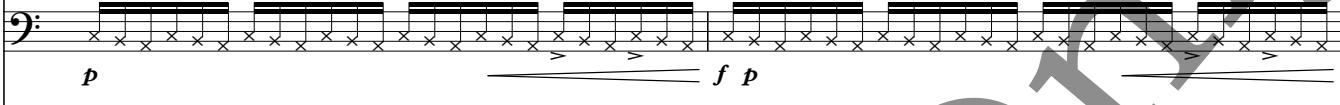
Vc. bow down n fingers tapping the top of cello knocking 3 mf mp

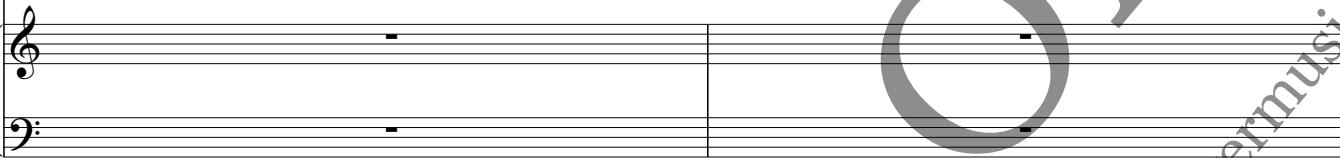
Pno. tr. $\text{G}^{\#} \text{A}^{\#} \text{B}^{\#}$ p $\text{G}^{\#} \text{A}^{\#} \text{B}^{\#}$ $\text{G}^{\#} \text{A}^{\#} \text{B}^{\#}$ $\text{G}^{\#} \text{A}^{\#} \text{B}^{\#}$ $\text{G}^{\#} \text{A}^{\#} \text{B}^{\#}$

J = 75 Incitement

34

Tpt. 

Vc. 

Pno. 

36

Tpt. 

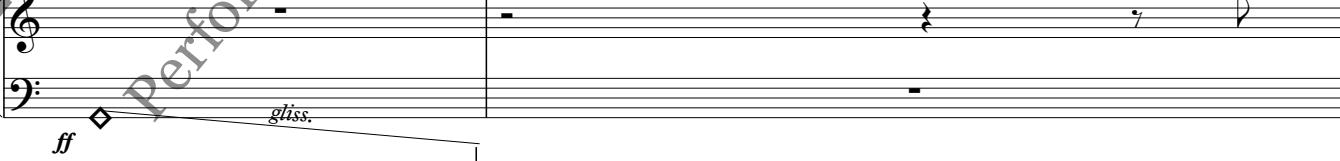
Vc. 

Pno. 

38

Tpt. 

Vc. 

Pno. 

40

Tpt. *mp* 6 5 fl.z. senza sord.

Vc. 6 6 6 6 get bow

Pno. return seated f 6 6 6 6 6

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42

Tpt. - f 5

Vc. f 6 6 6 6

Pno. ff

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43

Tpt. 6 6

Vc. 6 6 6 6

Pno. 6 6

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44

Tpt. Vc. Pno.

6 6 6 6

con sord
rubber plunger

Come in when you can
repeat in any order
as fast as possible

45

Tpt. Vc. Pno.

6 6 6 6 ff pp

repeat in any order
as fast as possible

pp (damper pedal for this bar)

tutti: repeat this bar until
you feel like you will explode

repeat as fast as possible and add
random accents in response to cello

open plunger slowly
flz. →

mf < ff

47

Tpt. Vc. Pno.

f sul pont p fp ff

repeat in any order in random
gestures, with space in between,
some notes repeated in a row

gliss on A string
to highest note
ord.

as you repeat, add random
accents in response to cello

hit the lowest
strings inside
the piano with
the palm of
your hand

= 80 Storming

ffff

6 6 6 6

mf

Ped.

51

Tpt.

Vc. *mf*

Pno.

6 6 6 6

52

Tpt. *mf*

Vc.

Pno.

6 6 6 6

53

Tpt.

Vc.

Pno.

6 6 6 6

54

Tpt.

Vc.

Pno.

 $\text{♩} = 112$

55

Tpt.

Vc.

Pno.

57

Tpt.

Vc.

Pno.

make up the highest "warning" riff you can - an evil, outraged, dissonant trumpet call above A5

slide up using a dissonant double stop

gliss.

fff

random clusters fff

11

60 **Shock**

Tpt. - Passionate cadenza...
 Vc. (tr) molto accel... rit...
 Pno.

molto vib.

64

take all the time you need...
 choose a mute that has a sterile and solemn sound
 Tpt. -
 Vc. less and less vib.....
 Pno.

a tempo con sord

mf mp pp

72 **The Waiting**

choose a different mute that has a more expressive sound
 Tpt. -
 Vc. p < ==
 Pno. pp p mp

79

Tpt.

Vc.

Pno.

3

5

s

rit.....

82

Tpt.

Vc.

Pno.

3

Jan 26th, 2021 NYC