

AVENUE OF THE GIANTS

for Wind Quintet

JESSICA MEYER

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18'

PROGRAM NOTE

Avenue of the Giants is a piece about our family trip to see the California Redwood Forest in 2021. Lined by titan trees, the 31-mile Avenue parallels Highway 101 and has been called the finest forest drive in the world. After pulling off the avenue and exploring, we learned about the ecosystem specific to the Redwoods.

This work explores the various cycles of life, destruction, and renewal that exist within the grandeur of these majestic trees and the feelings experienced when among them. The first movement, "Relic Redwoods", is about our first moments in the trees - walking into the Founder's Grove and just being overcome by their size and beauty. The second movement, "In the Crowns", is a playful romp capturing the antics of the flying squirrels, red tree voles, and marbled murrelets living high up in the forest canopy and who are rarely seen below. The third movement, "In the Shifting Silence" is based on a walk we took in the far less-populated Rockefeller Grove nearby. In a video taken by husband Ben Fingland, the silence and gentle breezes were palpable and magical even when watching the video again several years later.

This flows into the last movement, "Dyerville Giant", which is a musical retelling of the story of one of the largest trees in the Redwoods - measuring 200 feet taller than Niagara Falls, and 17 feet wide. In 1991, the ground surrounding it became too saturated because of the rainy season, causing several trees to fall and lean upon each other, eventually causing this particular tree to fall all the way to the ground. Though it is sad when a tree falls, it immediately becomes a "nurse log" and a host, home, and food source to over 4000 species of plants and animals that will live on or in it for many years to come. While it decays, it becomes recycled within the living forest, wasting nothing.

I have always found much solace in nature, and I can't imagine life without visiting the ocean or being among trees on a regular basis. They are alive, they know things, and they can whisper their secrets to us when we really take the time to be present and truly...listen.

Many thanks to Richard Bayles and the Dorian Wind Quintet for commissioning this piece.

AVENUE OF THE GIANTS

commissioned by the Dorian Wind Quintet
made possible by Richard Bayles

GENERAL PERFORMANCE NOTES

- Oboe, Fl, Basson: always trill to next natural pitch above
- Clarinet: H = Half Step trill, W = Whole step trill
- Exaggerate all accents and swells

I. RELIC REDWOODS

♩ = 55 **Approaching**

JESSICA MEYER

take your time a tempo

Musical score for the first system, measures 1-4. The score includes parts for Flute, Oboe, Clarinet in Bb, Horn in F, and Bassoon. The Flute part begins with a trill marked 'uneven, not regular trill' and dynamic markings *p* and *mp*. The Oboe part has a trill marked 'pp' and a performance instruction 'blow air through instrument'. The Clarinet in Bb part features sixteenth-note patterns with dynamic marking *p* and performance instructions 'blow air through instrument'. The Bassoon part has a dynamic marking *mp*.

take your time a tempo

take your time

Musical score for the second system, measures 5-8. The score continues with Flute, Oboe, Clarinet in Bb, Horn in F, and Bassoon. The Flute part has a trill and dynamic marking *p*. The Oboe part has a trill and dynamic marking *p*, with a performance instruction 'blow air through instrument'. The Clarinet in Bb part has a trill marked 'W' and dynamic marking *p*. The Bassoon part has a dynamic marking *mp*. Measure numbers 5, 6, 7, and 8 are indicated at the start of their respective staves.

a tempo

9

Fl. *pp*

Ob. *pp*

Cl. *pp*

Hn.

Bsn. *p*

11

Fl. *mp*

Ob. *mp*

Cl. *mp*

Hn. *mf*

Bsn. *mp*

13

Fl. *f*

Ob. *f*

Cl. *f*

Hn.

Bsn. *f*

tr

15

Fl. *f* 6 6 6 6

Ob. *f* 6 6 6 6

Cl. *f* 3 3 3

Hn. 3 3 3

Bsn. *f* 3 3 3

17

Fl. *poco rit...* *a tempo* 6 6 6

Ob. 6 6 6

Cl. 3 3 3

Hn. 3 3 3

Bsn. 3 3 3

19

Fl. 6 6 6

Ob. 6 6 6

Cl. 3 3 3

Hn. 3 3 3

Bsn. 3 3 3

22

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hn.

Bsn.

p

p

mp

mp

mp

p

30

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hn.

Bsn.

p

p

38

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hn.

Bsn.

rit.....

mp

pp

p

$\text{♩} = 55$ **In Awe**

45

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hn.

Bsn.

p

mp

p

52

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hn.

Bsn.

mf

ff

mf

ff

mf

ff

mf

ff

58

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hn.

Bsn.

p

mp

pp

p

pp

p

pp

blow air through instrument

blow air through instrument

p

II. IN THE CROWNS

♩ = 96 **Playful**

The musical score is divided into three systems, each containing five staves for Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Horn (Hn.), and Bassoon (Bsn.).

- System 1 (Measures 63-67):**
 - Flute and Oboe: Rests.
 - Clarinet: Sixteenth-note patterns with dynamics *mf* to *fp*, *pp*, *p* to *f*, and *f* to *fp*. Includes a triplet of eighth notes.
 - Horn and Bassoon: Rests.
- System 2 (Measures 68-70):**
 - Flute and Oboe: Rests.
 - Clarinet: Trill (tr) and sixteenth-note patterns with dynamics *f*, *p*, *mp*, and *pp*. Includes a quintuplet of eighth notes.
 - Horn and Bassoon: Trill (tr) and sixteenth-note patterns with dynamics *f*, *p*, *mp*, and *pp*. Includes triplets of eighth notes.
- System 3 (Measures 71-74):**
 - Flute and Oboe: Sustained notes with dynamics *mf* to *ff*.
 - Clarinet: Sixteenth-note patterns with dynamics *f* and *ff*. Includes a sextuplet of eighth notes.
 - Horn and Bassoon: Sustained notes and sixteenth-note patterns with dynamics *f* and *ff*. Includes a sextuplet of eighth notes.

74

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hn.

Bsn.

6

6

6

6

6

5

5

p *f* *pp*

77

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hn.

Bsn.

p

p

6

3

tr

mp

mp

mf 6

mf

mp breathe where needed

81

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hn.

Bsn.

p

p

5

3

6

3

5

p 3

84

Fl. *mf* *pp* *p*

Ob. *mf* *pp* *p*

Cl. *mf* *pp* *p*

Hn. *mf* *mf*

Bsn. *mf* *mf*

89

Fl. *mp* *f* *pp* *p*

Ob. *mp* *f* *pp* *p*

Cl. *mp* *f* *pp* *p*

Hn. *f* *mf*

Bsn. *f* *mf*

93

Fl. *mp* *mf* *f*

Ob. *mp* *mf* *f*

Cl. *mp* *mf* *f*

Hn. *f*

Bsn. *f*

96

Fl. *ff*

Ob. *ff*

Cl. *ff* 6

Hn. *ff* *mp*

Bsn. *ff*

Measures 96-98: Flute and Oboe play sixteenth-note patterns. Clarinet has a sixteenth-note run with a '6' fingering. Horns play a sustained note. Bassoon plays a rhythmic pattern. Dynamics range from *ff* to *mp*.

99

Fl. *mf* 6

Ob. *mf* 6 *mf*

Cl. *mf* 6

Hn. *ff*

Bsn. *f*

Measures 99-101: Flute and Clarinet play sixteenth-note runs with '6' fingerings. Oboe has a similar pattern. Horns play a sustained note. Bassoon plays a rhythmic pattern. Dynamics range from *f* to *mf*.

102

Fl. *mf* *f* *p*

Ob. *f* 3 *p*

Cl. *f* *p* *trm*

Hn. *mf* *f* *mf* 3

Bsn. *f* *mf* 3

Measures 102-104: Flute and Oboe play sixteenth-note patterns with dynamics *mf*, *f*, and *p*. Clarinet has a sixteenth-note run with a '3' fingering and a trill. Horns play a sustained note. Bassoon plays a rhythmic pattern. Dynamics range from *f* to *p*.

105

Fl. *f* *ff*

Ob. *f* *ff*

Cl. *f* *ff*

Hn. *f* *ff*

Bsn. *f* *ff*

Measures 105-107: Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Horn, and Bassoon parts. Measure 105 includes a triplet of eighth notes in the Flute and Oboe parts. Measure 106 includes a sextuplet of eighth notes in the Oboe part and a triplet of eighth notes in the Clarinet part. Measure 107 includes a triplet of eighth notes in the Clarinet part. Dynamics range from *f* to *ff*.

108

Fl. -

Ob. -

Cl. *mf*

Hn. -

Bsn. -

Measures 108-110: Clarinet, Horn, and Bassoon parts. Measure 108 includes a triplet of eighth notes in the Clarinet part. Measure 109 includes a triplet of eighth notes in the Clarinet part. Measure 110 includes a triplet of eighth notes in the Clarinet part. Dynamics range from *mf* to *f*.

110

Fl. *mp* *f*

Ob. *mp* *f*

Cl. *mp* *f*

Hn. *mf*

Bsn. *mf*

Measures 110-112: Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Horn, and Bassoon parts. Measure 110 includes a triplet of eighth notes in the Flute, Oboe, and Clarinet parts. Measure 111 includes a triplet of eighth notes in the Oboe and Clarinet parts. Measure 112 includes a triplet of eighth notes in the Clarinet part. Dynamics range from *mp* to *f*.

113

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hn.

Bsn.

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

116

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hn.

Bsn.

p

p

p

p

mf

p

121

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hn.

Bsn.

pp

pp

p

124

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hn.

Bsn.

mp

This system of music contains measures 124 through 126. It features five staves: Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Horn (Hn.), and Bassoon (Bsn.). The Flute, Oboe, and Clarinet parts consist of continuous eighth-note triplets. The Horn part has a rest in measure 124, followed by eighth-note triplets in measures 125 and 126. The Bassoon part features eighth-note triplets throughout. A dynamic marking of *mp* is present in measure 125.

127

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hn.

Bsn.

mf

This system of music contains measures 127 through 129. It features five staves: Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Horn (Hn.), and Bassoon (Bsn.). The Flute, Oboe, and Clarinet parts continue with eighth-note triplets, with the Flute and Oboe parts including sixteenth-note sextuplets in measure 129. The Horn part has a rest in measure 127, followed by eighth-note triplets in measures 128 and 129. The Bassoon part features eighth-note triplets throughout. A dynamic marking of *mf* is present in measure 127.

Musical score for measures 129-130. The score is for five instruments: Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Horn (Hn.), and Bassoon (Bsn.). The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The time signature is 4/4. The dynamic marking is *f* (forte). The Flute and Oboe parts have long, sustained notes with slurs. The Clarinet part features a complex sixteenth-note pattern with sixteenth-note rests, marked with a '6' for sixteenth notes. The Horn part has a long, sustained note with a slur. The Bassoon part has a sixteenth-note pattern with sixteenth-note rests, marked with a '6' for sixteenth notes and a '5' for quintuplets. The score ends with a double bar line.

Musical score for measures 131-133. The score is for five instruments: Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Horn (Hn.), and Bassoon (Bsn.). The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The time signature is 4/4. The Flute part has a sixteenth-note pattern with sixteenth-note rests, marked with a '6' for sixteenth notes. The Oboe part has a sixteenth-note pattern with sixteenth-note rests, marked with a '6' for sixteenth notes. The Clarinet part has a sixteenth-note pattern with sixteenth-note rests, marked with a '6' for sixteenth notes. The Horn part has a sixteenth-note pattern with sixteenth-note rests, marked with a '6' for sixteenth notes. The Bassoon part has a sixteenth-note pattern with sixteenth-note rests, marked with a '6' for sixteenth notes. The dynamic markings are *fp* (fortissimo piano) and *pp* (pianissimo) for the Clarinet and Bassoon parts, and *mf* (mezzo-forte) for the Horn part. The score ends with a double bar line.

III. IN THE SHIFTING SILENCE

♩ = 48 Solitude

134

Fl. open mouth gentle "ahhh" breath
Lips in "o" shape gentle blow breath
"ahh" breath
"o" blow

Ob. open mouth gentle "ahhh" breath
Lips in "o" shape gentle blow breath
"o" blow
"ahh" breath

Cl. open mouth gentle "ahhh" breath
Lips in "o" shape gentle blow breath
"ahh" breath
"o" blow

Hn. open mouth gentle "ahhh" breath
Lips in "o" shape gentle blow breath
muted
p

Bsn. open mouth gentle "ahhh" breath
Lips in "o" shape gentle blow breath
"o" blow
"ahh" breath

142

Fl. "ahh" breath
mf

Ob. "ahh" breath
mf

Cl. "o" blow
mf

Hn. gliss with hand

Bsn. "o" blow
mf

trills unless
nothing above

150

Fl. *pp* *tr tr* *tr tr* *tr tr* *tr tr*

Ob.

Cl. *pp* *tr* *tr* *tr* *p* *tr*

Hn.

Bsn. *p* 3 3

155

Fl. *tr tr* *tr tr* *tr tr* *tr tr* *tr tr* *p*

Ob.

Cl. *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr* *mp* *p* *tr*

Hn. ord.

Bsn. *mp*

160

Fl. *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr*

Ob.

Cl. *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr*

Hn.

Bsn. *p* 3 3

165

Fl. *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr* *mf* *p* *f*

Ob. *mf* *p* *f*

Cl. *mf* *f*

Hn. *mf* *p* *f*

Bsn. *mf* *p* *f*

take your time..... a tempo

171

Fl. *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr* *pp* *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr*

Ob. *pp* *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr*

Cl. *p*

Hn. *p*

Bsn. *p*

177

Fl. *tr* *"o" blow* *"ahh" breath* *key clicks* *Lips in "o" shape gentle blow breath*

Ob. *"o" blow* *key clicks* *open mouth gentle "ahhh" breath*

Cl. *"o" blow* *"o" blow* *"ahh" breath* *open mouth gentle "ahhh" breath*

Hn. *gliss with hand* *+*

Bsn. *pp* *"ahh" breath* *"ahh" breath* *Lips in "o" shape gentle blow breath*

attacca

IV. DYERVILLE GIANT

♩ = 125 Urgent

183

Fl. -

Ob. -

Cl. *p* *p* *3* *5*

Hn. *fp* *f* *p* *mp*

Bsn. -

Detailed description: This system covers measures 183 to 187. The Flute and Oboe parts are mostly rests. The Clarinet part features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, starting with a *p* dynamic and including triplets and quintuplets. The Horn part has a few notes with dynamics *fp*, *f*, *p*, and *mp*. The Bassoon part is a whole rest.

188

Fl. *p* *mf* *3*

Ob. -

Cl. *mf* *pp* *3* *5* *mp*

Hn. *mf* *ord.*

Bsn. *pp* *3* *mp*

Detailed description: This system covers measures 188 to 191. The Flute part has a triplet starting with *p* and moving to *mf*. The Clarinet part has a *mf* dynamic followed by a *pp* section with triplets and a quintuplet, ending with *mp*. The Horn part has a *mf* dynamic and a marking *ord.*. The Bassoon part has a *pp* dynamic with triplets and a quintuplet, ending with *mp*.

192

Fl. *mp* *f* *3* *3* *3* *3*

Ob. *3*

Cl. *mp* *f* *3* *3* *3* *3*

Hn. -

Bsn. -

Detailed description: This system covers measures 192 to 195. The Flute part has a *mp* dynamic followed by a *f* dynamic section with four triplets. The Oboe part has a triplet. The Clarinet part has a *mp* dynamic followed by a *f* dynamic section with four triplets. The Horn and Bassoon parts are rests.

molto rit

key clicks that sound like a rainstorm 10"

195

$\text{♩} = 100$

poco a poco accel......

200

$\text{♩} = 110$

207

poco a poco accel......

212

Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
Hn.
Bsn.

This system contains measures 212, 213, and 214. The Flute (Fl.) and Oboe (Ob.) parts feature eighth-note patterns. The Clarinet (Cl.) part has a similar eighth-note pattern. The Horn (Hn.) part has a long note with a slur. The Bassoon (Bsn.) part has a steady eighth-note accompaniment.

$\text{♩} = 120$

215

Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
Hn.
Bsn.

This system contains measures 215, 216, and 217. The Flute (Fl.) and Oboe (Ob.) parts have more complex eighth-note patterns. The Clarinet (Cl.) part continues with eighth notes. The Horn (Hn.) part has a triplet of eighth notes. The Bassoon (Bsn.) part has a steady eighth-note accompaniment.

218

Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
Hn.
Bsn.

This system contains measures 218, 219, and 220. The Flute (Fl.) and Oboe (Ob.) parts have eighth-note patterns. The Clarinet (Cl.) part has eighth notes. The Horn (Hn.) part has a long note with a slur. The Bassoon (Bsn.) part has a steady eighth-note accompaniment.

220

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hn.

Bsn.

f

ff

3

222

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hn.

Bsn.

3

224

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hn.

Bsn.

p

fp

♩ = 60

fast chromatic scale down *flutter tongue*

play UGLY MULTIPHONIC

fast chromatic scale down *flutter tongue*

muted

fast chromatic scale down *flutter tongue into multiphonic*

♩ = 50 Rejuvenating

230

Fl. *pp*

Ob. "wha wha" sound

Cl. "wha wha" sound *p*

Hn. ord.

Bsn. "wha wha" sound *p*

234

Fl. *p*

Ob.

Cl.

Hn. *mp*

Bsn.

237

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hn.

Bsn.

poco a poco accel.....

240

Fl. *3*

Ob. *3*

Cl. *3*

Hn.

Bsn. *3*

poco a poco accel.....

243

Fl. *3*

Ob. *3*

Cl. *3*

Hn. *3*

Bsn. *3*

f = 65 *poco a poco accel..... rit* = 65

246

Fl. *f* *fff*

Ob. *f* *fff* *rit.....*

Cl. *f* *fff*

Hn. *f* *fff*

Bsn. *f* *fff*

♩ = 60 *rit*..... ♩ = 55 *rit*.....

250

Fl. *mf* *tr* uneven, not regular trill *mp*

Ob. *mf* *mp*

Cl. *mf* *mp*

Hn. *mf* *mp*

Bsn. *mf* *mp*

254

Fl. *p* *pp*

Ob. *p* *pp*

Cl. *p* *pp*

Hn. *p* *pp*

Bsn. *p* *pp*

p ♩ = 50 *poco a poco rit*.....

258

Fl. *pp* *pp*

Ob. *pp*

Cl. *mp* *pp*

Hn. *pp*

Bsn. *pp*

blow air across instrument

blow air through instrument

blow air through instrument

for Ben, NYC
March 12th, 2023