

Sur les pas de la lune

for Mezzo-Soprano & Ensemble

Kelly-Marie Murphy

Full Score

Program Notes:

Sur les pas de la lune was commissioned by the CBC for Rosemarie Van der Hooft and the Winnipeg Chamber Music Society. It sets the text of postwar French poet, Philippe Jaccottet**. The poem contains wonderfully rich symbolism that is very elemental – moon, water, earth, grass – and a timeless message of overcoming the obstacles in one's life.

The setting is for the most part slow, soft, and contemplative. The voice is used in a vocalise style at the beginning and end. When the voice enters with text, she is completely alone. It is really an ensemble piece where the voice weaves in and out of the texture as an equal instrument.

Kelly-Marie Murphy

Sur les pas de la lune
M'étant penché en cette nuit à la fenêtre,
je vis que le monde était devenu léger
et qu'il n'y avait plus d'obstacles. Tout ce qui
nous retient dans le jour semblait plutôt devoir
me porter maintenant d'une ouverture à l'autre
à l'intérieur d'une demeure d'eau vers quelque chose
de très faible et de très lumineux comme l'herbe:
j'allais entrer dans l'herbe sans aucune peur,
j'allais rendre grâce à la fraîcheur de la terre,
sur les pas de la lune je dis oui et je m'en fus...
© Philippe Jaccottet, 1957

In the Steps of the Moon
Leaning out of the window tonight
I saw that the world was without weight
and there were no more obstacles. All
that detains us by day appeared, moreover,
to take me through one door after another
in an abode of water, towards something
as frail and luminous as the grass
I was about to enter without fear,
giving thanks for the freshness of the earth.
In the steps of the moon I said yes and off I went.
translation © Derek Mahon, 1988

***Sur les pas de la lune*, excerpt from *L'ignorant*, by Philippe Jaccottet, © 1957, Editions Gallimard.
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Instrumentation: Mezzo-Soprano, Flute, Bb Clarinet (Bass Clarinet), Violin, Violoncello, Piano

Duration: ca. 14 minutes

Set of parts available for sale separately.

Sur les pas de la lune

♩ = 48

Kelly-Marie Murphy
June - August 2003

Flute

Bb Clarinet
to Bass Clarinet

Violin

Violoncello

Solo Voice

Piano

1

f *sub sempre* →
very resonant sound with pedal

bass cl.

pp *mp* *pp* *pp* *mp*

trem. sul pont.

Damp string inside piano

3

6

fl.

cl.

vln.

vcl.

voice

pno.

5

pp

Solo:

p

gliss.

grad. to sul tasto

gliss.

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Senza misura
as fast as possible
Breathy sound

Musical score for measures 8-10. The score includes staves for flute (fl.), clarinet (cl.), violin (vln.), viola (vcl.), voice, and piano (pno.).

- fl.:** Starts with a rest, then plays a rapid, breathy melodic line starting at measure 9. Dynamics: *pp* to *p*.
- cl.:** Plays a rapid, breathy melodic line starting at measure 9. Dynamics: *pp* to *ppp*.
- vln.:** Plays a sustained, breathy sound. Dynamics: *pp* to *mp*. Includes a glissando (*gliss.*) in measure 10.
- vcl.:** Starts with a rest, then plays a melodic line starting at measure 9. Dynamics: *pp* to *f*.
- voice:** Remains silent.
- pno.:** Remains silent.

Measure numbers 8 and 10 are indicated at the bottom of the piano staff.

Musical score for measures 10-13. The score includes staves for flute (fl.), clarinet (cl.), violin (vln.), viola (vcl.), voice, and piano (pno.).

- fl.:** Starts with a rest, then plays a melodic line starting at measure 10. Dynamics: *ppp* to *pp*. Includes an *ord.* (ornament) in measure 13.
- cl.:** Remains silent.
- vln.:** Plays a sustained melodic line. Dynamics: *ppp* to *pp*.
- vcl.:** Plays a melodic line with triplets. Dynamics: *mp* to *ppp*. Includes a *grad. to sul tasto* instruction and an *ord.* in measure 13.
- voice:** Remains silent.
- pno.:** Remains silent.

Measure numbers 10 and 13 are indicated at the bottom of the piano staff.

Musical score for measures 14-15. The score includes staves for flute (fl.), clarinet (cl.), violin (vln.), viola (vcl.), voice, and piano (pno.). The flute part features a dynamic marking of *p* and includes a triplet of eighth notes. The clarinet part features a triplet of eighth notes. The violin and viola parts feature a triplet of eighth notes. The piano part is silent.

14

Musical score for measures 16-17. The score includes staves for flute (fl.), clarinet (cl.), violin (vln.), viola (vcl.), voice, and piano (pno.). The flute part features a dynamic marking of *f* and includes a triplet of eighth notes. The clarinet part features a dynamic marking of *f* and includes a triplet of eighth notes. The violin and viola parts feature a dynamic marking of *f* and include a triplet of eighth notes. The piano part is silent.

15

fl. *p*

cl. *p*

vln. *p* *trem. sul pont.* *pp*

vcl. *p* *pp* *trem. sul pont.*

voice

pno.

16

18

fl. *pp*

cl. *pp* *to Clarinet*

vln.

vcl. *pp* *trem. sul pont.*

voice *p* *port.* Ah Ah

pno. *f* *8vb sempre* **very resonant sound with pedal**

18

25

fl.

cl.

vln. *ord.* very fast *repeat* becomes continuous pattern *f*

vcl. *ord.* very fast *repeat + become continuous pattern* *f*

voice *pp* *p* Ah *mf* *pp*

pno. *Damp string inside piano* *loco* *ord.* *f* *9* *8va*
23 *8vb* *lowest cluster* *f*

fl. *3* *3* *pp*

cl. *3* *pp* *Play approx. 10x* *molto accel. + molto rit.*

vln. *pp* *f* *p*

vcl. *p*

voice

pno. *8va* *loco* *repeat pattern* *molto accel. + molto rit.* *pp* *f* *p*
26 *8vb*

31 *delicato*

fl. cl. vln. vcl. voice pno.

f *pp* *pp* *p* *mf* *pp*

delicato *delicato* *delicato*

Ah

29

fl. cl. vln. vcl. voice pno.

mf *pp*

32

36

fl. *fp*

cl. *fp*

vl. *legato fp fp fp fp*

vcl. *legato fp fp fp fp*

voice *mf ff*
Warm + lyrical
Ah

pno. *p*

35

8^{vb} - -1

fl.

cl.

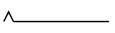
vl. *fp fp*

vcl. *fp fp*

voice *mf*
Ah

pno. (continue to pedal each chord change)

38



Musical score for measures 40-41. The score includes staves for flute (fl.), clarinet (cl.), violin (vln.), viola (vcl.), voice, and piano (pno.).

- fl.:** Rapid sixteenth-note passages. Dynamics: *f*.
- cl.:** Rapid sixteenth-note passages. Dynamics: *f*.
- vln.:** Arched sixteenth-note passages with triplets. Dynamics: *fp* and *f*.
- vcl.:** Arched sixteenth-note passages with triplets. Dynamics: *fp* and *f*.
- voice:** Melodic line with a slur. Dynamics: *fp* and *f*.
- pno.:** Chordal accompaniment. Dynamics: *f*.

40

Musical score for measures 42-43. The score includes staves for flute (fl.), clarinet (cl.), violin (vln.), viola (vcl.), voice, and piano (pno.).

- fl.:** Rapid sixteenth-note passages. Dynamics: *ppp*.
- cl.:** Rapid sixteenth-note passages. Dynamics: *ppp*.
- vln.:** Arched sixteenth-note passages with triplets. Dynamics: *ppp*.
- vcl.:** Arched sixteenth-note passages with triplets. Dynamics: *ppp*.
- voice:** Melodic line with a slur. Dynamics: *pp*.
- pno.:** Chordal accompaniment. Dynamics: *pp*. Includes markings for *8va* and *Semplice*.

42

43

fl.

cl.

vln.

vcl.

voice

pno.

pp

8va

senza vibrato

gliss.

pp

*gliss. at the end of held note

loco

fl.

cl.

vln.

vcl.

voice

pno.

fp

ppfp

pp

fp

p

gliss.

gliss.

gliss.

gliss.

gliss.

gliss.

gliss.

pp

*gliss. at the end of held note

to Bass Clarinet

8va

8vb

Musical score for measures 60-62. The score includes parts for flute (fl.), clarinet (cl.), violin (vln.), viola (vcl.), voice, and piano (pno.).

- fl.:** Starts with a *f* dynamic, followed by a *p* dynamic with a triplet of eighth notes, then *f*, and finally *mp*. Includes a trill (tr) in the second measure.
- cl.:** Remains silent throughout these measures.
- vln.:** Plays a descending glissando from *pp* to *mp*.
- vcl.:** Plays a descending glissando from *pp* to *mp*.
- voice:** Remains silent.
- pno.:** Features a bass line with a triplet of eighth notes in measure 60 and a half note in measure 62.

Musical score for measures 63-65. The score includes parts for flute (fl.), clarinet (cl.), violin (vln.), viola (vcl.), voice, and piano (pno.).

- fl.:** Starts with a *f* dynamic, includes a "bend" instruction, then *p*, and finally *poco rit.*
- cl.:** Remains silent until measure 64, where it has a "to Clarinet" instruction.
- vln.:** Plays a descending glissando from *pp* to *mp* in measure 63, and another from *pp* to *mp* in measure 64.
- vcl.:** Plays a descending glissando from *pp* to *mp* in measure 63, and another from *pp* to *mp* in measure 64.
- voice:** Remains silent.
- pno.:** Features a bass line with a half note in measure 63 and a half note in measure 65, with a "lv." (lento) marking in measure 65.

12

66

♩ = 52

meno mosso

fl. *ppp*

cl.

vln.

vcl.

voice

with freedom

p Mé - tant pen - ché en cette nu - it à la fen - ê - tre, *f* je *p*

pno.

66

71

fl.

cl.

vln.

vcl.

voice

vis que le monde é - tait deve - nu lé - ger Ah

pno.

71

poco accel.....

♩ = 60

77

fl.

cl.

vln.

vcl.

voice

pno.

75

82

fl.

cl.

vln.

vcl.

voice

pno.

79

8^{vb}-----

8^{vb}-----

Musical score for measures 83-87. The score includes staves for flute (fl.), clarinet (cl.), violin (vln.), viola (vcl.), voice, and piano (pno.). The piano part features a complex rhythmic pattern with many triplets. The flute and clarinet parts have melodic lines with triplets and slurs. The violin and viola parts have sustained chords and some melodic movement. The voice part is silent.

Musical score for measures 84-88. The score includes staves for flute (fl.), clarinet (cl.), violin (vln.), viola (vcl.), voice, and piano (pno.). The piano part continues with complex rhythmic patterns and triplets. The flute and clarinet parts have melodic lines with triplets and slurs. The violin and viola parts have sustained chords and some melodic movement. The voice part is silent.

fl. *ff*

cl. *ff*
legato

vln. *ff*
legato

vcl. *ff*

voice

pno. *ff*

85

86

fl.

cl.

vln. *pizz.*
f

vcl.

voice

pno.

86

fl.

cl.

vln.

vcl.

voice

pno.

87

fp

fl.

cl.

vln.

vcl.

voice

pno.

89

ff

f

f

loco

Tout ce qui nous re -

88

8vb

fl. *giocoso*
p

cl. *giocoso*
p

vln. *giocoso*
>p

vcl. *pizz.*
p

voice
tient

pno. *p*

90

fl.

cl.

vln.

vcl.

voice
dans le jour

pno. *p*

91

Musical score for measures 92-93. The score includes staves for flute (fl.), clarinet (cl.), violin (vln.), viola (vcl.), voice, and piano (pno.). The flute and clarinet parts feature complex rhythmic patterns with many triplets. The voice part has a long note with a triplet of eighth notes. The piano accompaniment is in the right and left hands.

92

Musical score for measures 93-94. The score includes staves for flute (fl.), clarinet (cl.), violin (vln.), viola (vcl.), voice, and piano (pno.). The flute and clarinet parts continue with complex rhythmic patterns. The voice part has lyrics: "blait plu - - - tôt de - - - voir". The piano accompaniment is in the right and left hands, with a *p* dynamic marking.

93

blait plu - - - tôt de - - - voir

p

fl. 

cl. 


vln. 

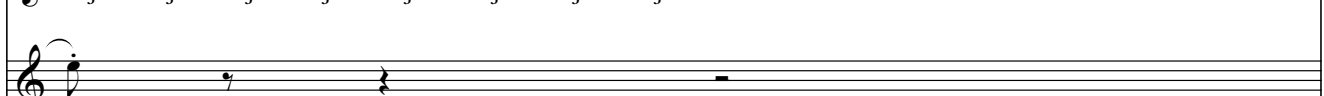
vcl. 


voice 
me port - er mainte -


pno. 

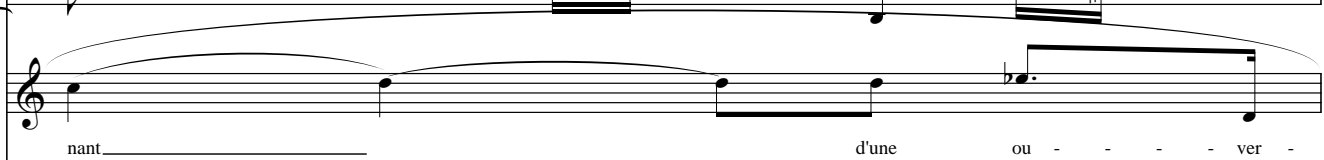
94


fl. 

cl. 

vln. 

vcl. 

voice 
nant d'une ou - - - ver -

pno. 

95

Musical score for measures 96-98. The score includes staves for flute (fl.), clarinet (cl.), violin (vln.), viola (vcl.), voice, and piano (pno.). The flute and violin parts feature complex triplet patterns. The voice part has a long note with the text "ture" underneath. The piano accompaniment is sparse, with notes in both hands.

Musical score for measures 97-99. The score includes staves for flute (fl.), clarinet (cl.), violin (vln.), viola (vcl.), voice, and piano (pno.). A box containing the number "97" is positioned above the flute staff. The voice part has the lyrics "à l'au - tre à l'au - tre à l'au - tre à l'in - - -" with a *ff* dynamic marking at the end. The piano accompaniment consists of rhythmic patterns in both hands.