

Flute

Gwyneth Walker

Duos by the Lake

for Flute and Piano

“Clear Lake”

“Where the Great Heron Feeds”

“Footprints”

“Above the Waves”

Program Notes:

During the summer of 2016, the composer attended a beautiful concert (including flute and piano) in a cathedral by Lake Champlain, in Burlington, Vermont. It was a sunny day. The light filled the sanctuary as the musicians played.

With this imagery in mind, the composer has created a set of **Duos by the Lake**. Each movement is inspired by water themes.

#1. "Clear Lake" opens with rapid patterns in piano, as the mist rising. Flute lines are sparse and open, with clarity. Floating, *filigree* patterns emerge. The mist rises once again.

#2. "Where the Great Heron Feeds" opens with with expanding arpeggios, adding extra beats to successive measures, as a heron opening large wings in flight. The flute theme moves slowly, stepwise, as the movement of a great bird.

#3. "Footprints" is marked *stealthily, daintily*. Perhaps these are the tracks left by small birds in the sand by the lake shore. At the end, the creature scurries away!

#4. "Above the Waves" is based on a Celtic ballad, "The Great Silkie." This is the story of a creature which is half-seal, half-man. He comes upon the land to mate, and then returns to the sea. In this interpretation, he comes back to claim his son, teaching him to swim in the ocean, to soar above the waves.

This music explores both the *floating upon the waves* and the *depths of the sea* sonorities.

I am a man upon the land, I am a silkie (seal) on the sea.

And I shall teach my little young son to swim above the waves with me.

Duos by the Lake

Flute

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1. Clear Lake

ca. 4" Play ca. 4" Play Play

(Piano, rapidly, blurred) *pp* barely audible (Piano)

5 (Piano) *p* *rit.*

9 **A** With motion ♩ = 108 (Piano) *mf cantabile* Play

15

20 **B**

25

29 **C** *p* 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

33 *rit.* *cresc.* *f*

a tempo (♩ = 108)*as quietly and softly as possible, as a filigree***D**

38

41

44

47

rit. **E** *a tempo* (♩ = 108)

50

54

rit.
Play *>*

(Piano)

F *a tempo* (♩ = 108)*with a floating quality*

58

Slower *Play*

62

*The last two notes of this measure may be omitted if needed for a good breath.

65 **G** *rit.* *molto rit.* (Piano RH, rapidly, blurred) [2"] [2"]

71 [2"] [2"] [4"] Sustained ♩ = 60 *Play* *rit.* *p* *pp*

Detailed description: This block contains two staves of music. The first staff starts at measure 65 with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). It features a melodic line with triplets and a fermata. Above the staff, there is a box labeled 'G', a '2' indicating a second ending, and performance directions: 'rit.', 'molto rit.', and '(Piano RH, rapidly, blurred)'. There are also two bracketed '2"' markings. The second staff starts at measure 71 with the same clef and key signature. It continues with triplets and a wavy line indicating a tremolo effect. Above the staff, there are markings for '[2"]', '[2"]', and '[4"]'. A tempo marking 'Sustained ♩ = 60' is present. The staff concludes with a fermata and dynamic markings '*p*' and '*pp*'.

2. Where the Great Heron Feeds

♩ = 120
(Piano introduction)

6 **A** *Play* *p peacefully*

11

16 **B** *mp with warmth* *mf*

21 **C** *2*

Detailed description: This block contains a piano introduction and five staves of music. The piano introduction is in 8/8 time with a tempo of ♩ = 120. It consists of two staves. The first staff of the main piece starts at measure 6 with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps. It features a melodic line with a fermata and a box labeled 'A'. Performance directions include '*Play*' and '*p peacefully*'. The second staff of the main piece starts at measure 11 with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps. It features a melodic line with a fermata. The third staff starts at measure 16 with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps. It features a melodic line with a fermata and a box labeled 'B'. Performance directions include '*mp with warmth*' and '*mf*'. The fourth staff starts at measure 21 with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps. It features a melodic line with a fermata and a box labeled 'C'. Performance directions include '*2*'.

27 (Piano) *Play*
(mf)

31 **D**

35

40

45 *rit.* **E** Slower ♩ = 108, relaxed mood
(Piano RH)

51 *Play*
mf espr.

55

59 **F**
f

63

68 **G**

73

77

81 **H** *poco rit.*

more freely

85

87

89 *rit.* **I Slower**

92 *rit. to end*

3. Footprints

$\text{♩} = 100$
4
(Piano RH)

8 **A** *Play*
mf

11 *f*

14

17 **B**

C *with energy*
21 *(f)* *p*

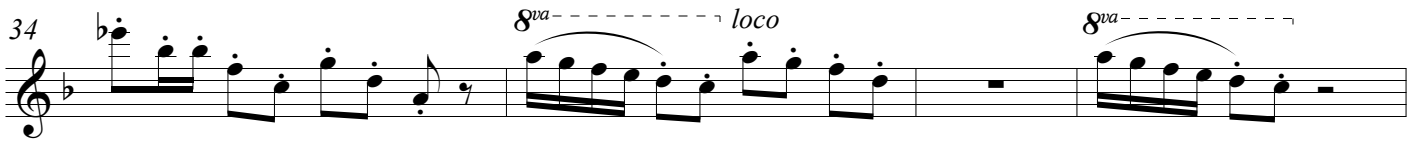
24 *f*

27 **D** *f*

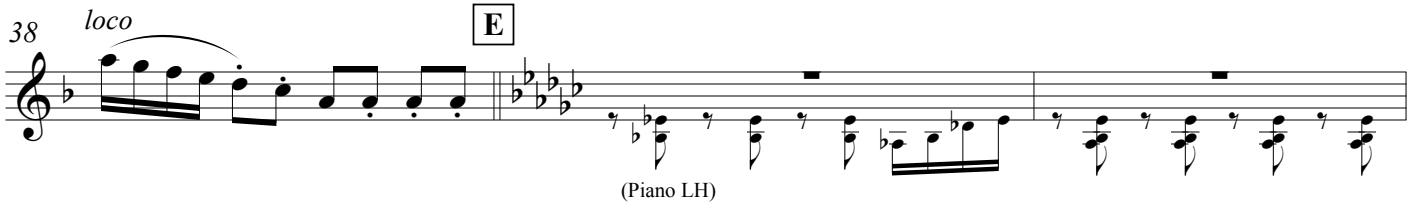
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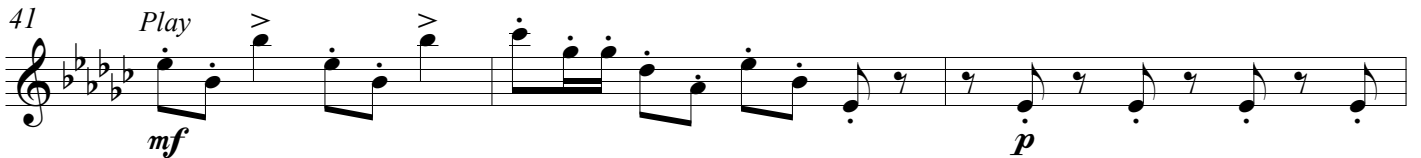
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38



41



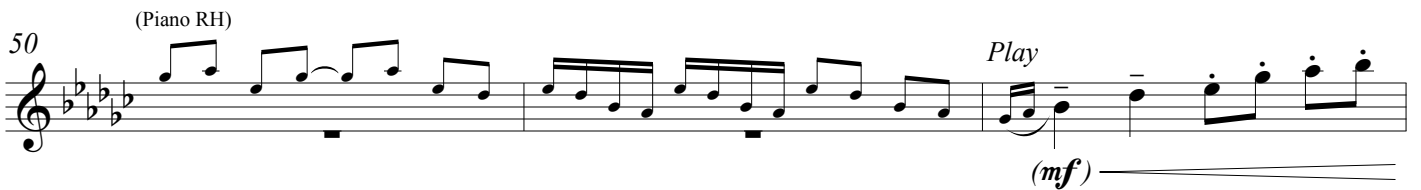
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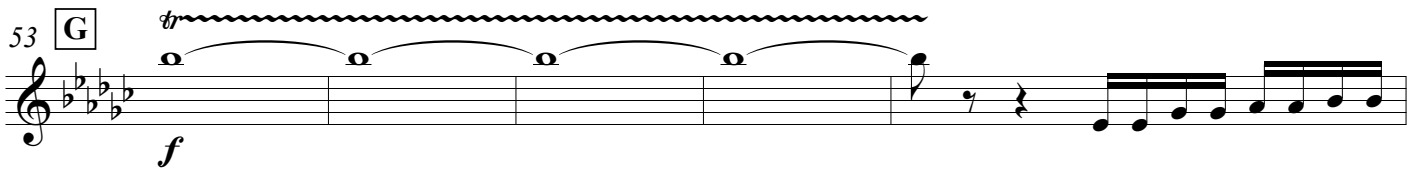
47



50



53



58



4. Above the Waves

Moderate tempo ♩ = 88
as though from afar

p

5 *as waves*

pp

9 **Flowing** ♩ = 108

A
Play
p tenderly

18

B

26

36 **C**

(p) lightly

46 **D**

D
(Piano RH)

51 **E**

E
Play

57 **F**

F
(Piano RH)

63

p flowing

