

Silence

for mezzo soprano and chamber ensemble

Programme notes:

A woman hears strange noises in the middle of the night.

Her imagination runs wild trying to explain what they could be and what going to find out more would lead to.

Performance notes:

Voice: Spoken rhythms for the voice should be seen as guidelines rather than strict.

Cello: All repeated bottom Gs should be stopped notes unless specified otherwise.

Duration: c. 10 mins.

Silence

for mezzo soprano and chamber ensemble

Score in C

Mysterious, still ♩ = 46

Score for the first system of 'Silence'. The score is in C major and consists of six staves: Cor Anglais, Clarinet in Bb, Percussion, Mezzo-soprano, and Violoncello. The tempo is marked 'Mysterious, still' with a quarter note equal to 46 beats. The time signature changes from 4/4 to 3/4, then back to 4/4, then to 5/4, and finally back to 4/4. The Percussion part is marked with 'G.P.' (Grande Pausa) above the staff. The Violoncello part begins with a *pp* dynamic and features a triplet of eighth notes in the final measure, marked with a *p* dynamic and an accent (\lessgtr). The Mezzo-soprano part is marked with 'G.P.' above the staff. The Cor Anglais and Clarinet in Bb parts are also marked with 'G.P.' above the staff.

Score for the second system of 'Silence', starting at measure 7. The score continues with five staves: C. A. (Cor Anglais), Cl. (Clarinet in Bb), Perc. (Percussion), M-S. (Mezzo-soprano), and Vc. (Violoncello). The time signature changes from 4/4 to 3/4, then to 5/4, then to 4/4, and finally to 3/4. The Percussion part is marked with 'G.P.' above the staff. The Violoncello part features a triplet of eighth notes in the first measure, marked with a *pp* dynamic, followed by a crescendo to *mp* over the next two measures. The Violoncello part then features a triplet of eighth notes in the fourth measure, marked with a *pp* dynamic, followed by a crescendo to *mp* over the next two measures. The C. A., Cl., and M-S. parts are marked with 'G.P.' above the staff.

11

C. A.

Cl.

Perc.

M-S. *p* dark, paranoid
 Night, Night hides all. From a- far, I hear a
 steady, creepy

Vc. *p* non cresc.

15

C. A.

Cl.

Perc.

M-S. *mp* *p* *3*
 call Si-lence is a dan-ger-ous thing. imagines being attacked

Vc. *ffp* *p* non cresc.

20 $\text{♩} = 108$

C. A. *ff* *mp* *> pp*

Cl. *growl* *ff* *p* *mp*

Cym. *bow* *fff* *mp* *G.P. To Glock.*

M-S. *mp* *imagines being attacked G.P.* *mp* *mf*
Night hides all picturing a made-believe future, more hopeful than believing
A house of love,

Vc. *3 3 3 3 3 3* *ffp* *mp* *G.P. ♩ = 108*

26

C. A. *mp* *> pp* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf*

Cl. *mf* *sub. mp* *mf*

Glock. *To Cym.*

M-S. *mp* *mf* *f* *mf*
just the two of us. Bliss-fu - ly hap - py, — meant to —

Vc. *mf* *p* *mp*

♩ = 96

31 *tr*

C. A.

Cl. *flz*

Glock.

M-S. *mp* *p* dark, paranoid
 — be. Night hides all.

Vc. *mf* *f* *sub. p* *non cresc.*

♩ = 96

38

C. A.

Cl.

Glock.

M-S. *mp*
 From a - far I hear a call. Si-lence is a

Vc. *non cresc.*

43

C. A. *p*

Cl. *flz, breathy*
pp *p*

Glock.

M-S. *p* *mp* *mf*
dan-ger-ous thing. Eve-ry creak, eve-ry screech,

Vc.

48

C. A. *pp* *ff*

Cl. *(tr)* *pp* *growl* *ff*

Glock. Cymbals *bow* *fff*

M-S. *p* *sim.*
Si-lence is a dan - ger-ous thing.

Vc. *fff*

52 ♩ = 168

C. A.

Cl. *mp*

Cym.

M-S. *mf* spoken, crazily pondering
 "Will you walk a lit-tle fas- ter?" said a whi-ting to a snail."There's a por-poise close be-

♩ = 168

Vc.

55 ♩ = 96

C. A.

Cl.

Cym.

M-S. hind us and he's trea-ding on my tail!"

♩ = 96

Vc. *fp*

60

C. A.

Cl.

Cym.

M-S.

Vc.

f mp f

65

C. A.

Cl.

Cym.

M-S.

Vc.

mp dark, paranoid

Si-lence is a dan - ger-ous thing.

ff sub. p

69 ♩ = 168

C. A. *mp*

Cl.

Cym.

M-S. *mf* spoken, crazily pondering

Lit-tle cat and big ger cat, they got in - to a lit-tle spat. Sincethere were none to stop them there, the

♩ = 168

Vc.

72 ♩ = 96

C. A.

Cl.

Cym. Glockenspiel

M-S.

gar-bage bags went eve - ry(!)..

♩ = 96

Vc. *mp* *mf*

♩ = 108
75

C. A. *mp* *> pp* *mp* *> pp* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf*

Cl. *p* *mp* *mf* *mp*

Glock. *mp*

T. Bl.

M-S. *mp* picturing a made-believe future,
starting to believe it more *mf* *f*

♩ = 108 A house of love, just the two of us. Bliss-fu-ly hap py,—

Vc. *mp* *mf* *p* *mp*

81

C. A. *tr*

Cl. *mf* *flz*

Glock. *To Cym.*

T. Bl.

M-S. *mf* *mp*
meant to be.

Vc. *mf* *f* *mf*

86

C. A.

Cl.

Glock.

M-S.

Vc.

mp

mp

mf really picturing it
and believing it'll
happen

We fall in love al - most

5

f

91

C. A.

Cl.

Glock.

M-S.

Vc.

mf

f

mf

f

mp

mf

f

ins-tant-ly, My heart al-ways ra-ces at his sight and so does his...

fp

96

C. A. *p*

Cl. *p*

Glock.

M-S. *p* *mp* *p*
He takes my hand as we

Vc. *p* *mp*

102

C. A. *mp* *p*

Cl. *< mp* *p* *pp*

Glock.

M-S. *mp* *p*
walk a -way, A-way from the dark- ness, Where si-lence is -n't

Vc.

106

C. A. *pp* *ff* *tr*^b

Cl. growl *ff* *tr*^b

Cym. Cymbals bow *fff* *ffff*

M-S. dan-gerous a-any - more._

Vc. *ffmf* *p* *mf* *f*

112

C. A. *ff* *tr*^b

Cl. growl *ff* *tr*^b

Cym. Cymbals bow *fff*

M-S.

Vc. *ffp* *p* *mf* *pp* *mf*

119

C. A.

Cl.

Cym.

M-S.

Vc.

f *pp* *p* *pp*

125

C. A.

Cl.

Cym.

M-S.

Vc.

pp dark, paranoid

Si-lence is a dan-ger-ous thing.

ppp

15

♩ = 96
accel.

132

C. A.

Cl.

Cym.

M-S.

mp spoken,
mp crazily pondering

May-be a pack of mi-ni e-le-phants es-caped from the pa-rade and there's a

♩ = 96
accel.

Vc.

135

C. A.

Cl.

Cym.

M-S.

mp *mf*

las-soo wief-ding zoo kee-per who's prac-tis-ing his trade? May-be a car mis-fir-ed, dri-ven

Vc.

138

C. A.

Cl.

Cym.

M-S.

Vc.

by a short gir-raffe. Or may be a wild horde of land dol-phins is plan-ning an at-tack What

mf

f *mp*

3

141

C. A.

Cl.

Cym.

M-S.

Vc.

if a cra-zy sci-en-tist, on exchange from Pe-ru, is ex-per-i-men-ting with las-ers, on

mp

mf

3

144 - - - - - ♩ = 126

C. A.

Cl.

Cym.

M-S. *f* *p* *ppp* starting to get paranoid and anxious <audible panicked gasp>

gi-ant co-cka-toos? Or may be there are ti-ny moun-tains gro-wing from the ground, + You

----- ♩ = 126
sul tasto

Vc. *pp*

147

C. A.

Cl.

Cym.

M-S. *mp* *sim.*

plant a rock and 'til they pop they make no earth-ly sound! I feel them from down un der, + They're

Vc. *p* *mp*

150

C. A.

Cl.

Cym.

M-S.

Vc.

mf

gur-gling un-der-ground, While o-thers might be sleep-ing I will hear the pave-ment pound! I would

153

C. A.

Cl.

Cym.

M-S.

Vc.

ppp

f

mf

f

go and warn the oth-ers if it won't be far too late, + If it won't then I will save them all and

156 c. 5" ♩ = 96

C. A.

Cl.

Cym. *f* To Glock. *mp* To S. D.

M-S. *fff* c. 5" *mp* calmer, trying to rationalise things to herself thoughtfully

help us all es-cape! Or it could be just a gust of wind that's rat-tl-ling the street? It's

Vc. c. 5" ♩ = 96 *ff*

160 poco rall. A tempo

C. A.

Cl. poco rall. A tempo

Glock. poco rall. A tempo

T. Bl.

M-S. poco rall. *p* A tempo frustrated *mf* *f*

when the air is stan-ding still that all ev-il ex-ists! Won't it just quit?!

Vc. poco rall. A tempo *p*

165

C. A.

Cl.

S. D. Snare Drum on rim on rim on rim

T. Bl.

M-S.

Vc. getting more and more frightened by the noises

very gradual cresc. from nothing sul pont

mp *mf* *mf* *mp*

172

C. A.

Cl.

S. D. on rim on rim To Cym. scrape/scratch

T. Bl.

M-S.

Vc. ord. 3

f *f* *f* *p*

177

C. A.

Cl.

Cym. To S. D.

M-S. *pp* dark, as if muttering to herself, getting gradually more anxious and panicked

si-lence is a dan - ger-ous thing, si-lence is a dan - ger-ous thing,

Vc. *sim.*

179 *accel.*

C. A.

Cl.

Cym.

M-S. *p* *mp* si-lence is a dan - ger-ous thing, si-lence is a dan ger-ous thing, si-lence is a dan - ger-ous

accel.

Vc. *mp* *mf*

181

C. A.

Cl.

Cym.

M-S.

thing, si-lence is a dan-ger-ous thing, si-lence is a dan - ger-ous thing, si-lence is a

Vc.

mf

183

C. A.

Cl.

Cym.

M-S.

dan-ger-ous thing, si-lence is a dan - ger-ous thing, si-lence is a dan-ger-ous thing,

Vc.

f

185

C. A.

Cl.

Cym.

M-S.

Vc.

f

3

3

3

3

si-lence is a dan - ger-ous thing, si-lence is a dan ger-ous thing, si-lence is a dan - ger-ous

ff

187

♩ = 144

C. A.

Cl.

Cym.

M-S.

Vc.

tr

ff

growl

tr

ff

Snare Drum

ff

3

3

3

3

thing, si-lence is a dan-ger-ous thing, si-lence is a dan-ger-ous thing, si-lence is a

♩ = 144

fff

ffp

190 G.P. G.P. *tr* G.P. G.P. *tr* G.P.

C. A.

Cl.

S. D.

T. Bl.

M-S.

Vc.

ffp *ffmf*

$\text{♩} = 126$

198 *tr*

C. A.

Cl.

S. D.

M-S.

Vc.

To Cym.

f panicked, picturing it happening

A hand grabs me in the dark- ness, — there's no es- cape!

$\text{♩} = 126$

ffmf *f*

202

C. A. *f* growl

Cl. *f* *mf* *f*

Cym. Cymbals *fff* bow To Glock.

M-S. *ff*
I try to fight with all my might but _____ it's far too late! I try to scream but no sound

Vc. *ff*

205

C. A.

Cl. *ff* *mf*

Glock. *ff* To T. Bl.

M-S. *f* *mf*
leaves my mouth + I scream in - side but it just won't come out

Vc. *f*

<audible panicked gasp>

208

C. A. *rall.* *mp* *pp* *ff* *A tempo*

Cl. *rall.* *pp* *growl* *ff* *A tempo*

T. Bl. *To Cym.* *fff* *A tempo*

M-S. *sadly pleading* *mp* *p* *A tempo*

Vc. *rall.* *mp* *p* *ff* *A tempo*

Please help me God why's eve-ry-thing so dark?!

213

C. A. *breathy* *B b* *tr* *mp* *♩ = 100*

Cl. *mp*

Cym. *p*

T. Bl. *mf*

M-S. *mf gradually calming down* *♩ = 100*

Vc. *pp* *f*

I hear a - no - ther noise,

218

C. A. *mp* *mf* *mp* *pp*

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

Cym. *mf* To Glock. Glockenspiel

M-S. *mp* *mf* *mp*
 the hand lets go. There's fight-ing sounds but I just can't tell what's go-ing on.

Vc. *p* *f* *ff*

221 *rall.*

C. A. *rall.*

Cl. *rall.*

Glock. *rall.*

M-S. *pp* *A tempo*
 It lasts a while and then the si-lence grows

Vc. *rall.* *gradually slow down tremolo* *still*
mp *ppp* *pp non cresc.*

227

C. A. *p* *mp*

Cl. ord. *p* *< mp*

Glock.

M-S. *p* *mp* *mp* *p* *mf*
really believing it
He takes my hand as we walk a-way, A-way from the dark-ness__

Vc. *mp*

233

C. A. *p* *pp* *mp* *pp*

Cl. *p* *pp* *flz b* *tr* *mp* *pp*

Glock.

M-S. *p* *pp*
Where si-lence is -n't dan-gerous a-ny- more_____

Vc. *p*

238

C. A. poco rit.

Cl. poco rit.

Glock. poco rit.

M-S. spoken thoughtful, annoyed

Though if it's just al-ley cats I might just give it a miss..

Vc. poco rit.