

Sam McLean's

Thoughts on Rain

For Contralto and Strings

Composed May/June 2019, Melbourne, Australia

Contralto

Baroque Violin (Solo)
Baroque Cello (Solo)

Baroque Violin 1
Baroque Violin 2
Baroque Viola
Baroque Cello
Baroque Bass

Harpsichord

Performance of this piece is best suited to baroque period instruments with gut strings.

Period bows should also be used.

Vallotti temperament was used when composing with A=415.

All technique should be historically accurate (HIP).

No vibrato from orchestra.

Soloists use vibrato as an ornament when feasible.

Performance on modern instruments should try to adhere to HIP.

Sam McLean

Thoughts on Rain

Abundance of life. Earth and giving sky. Eat and drink and laugh and play. Animals and earth share in the joy.
Days are growing long. Days are growing dry. Birds offering hope, flying, singing, loving life. Soon I will see it rain.
Sense remorse as the cull begins. Separation - calf, mother. Indifference - land, rain. Hope, smile, laugh and play. It will always rain.
Dry. Thirst. Starvation. Dust. Death. Look at the calf, near dead. Remorse. Cull.
Torment. Weakened. Lessened. Rescinded. Morbid thoughts from time alone. Solitude. The answer? The fate of the calf?

Sam McLean

$\text{♩} = 180$
the times of plenty

Contralto

Violin Solo

Violoncello Solo

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

Double Bass

Harpsichord

$\text{♩} = 180$

7 **A** *mf*

A. *mf*

A - bun-dance of life _____ Life _____

Vln. *mf*

Vc. *mf*

Vln. I *mp*

Vln. II *mp*

Vla. *mp*

Vc. *mp*

Db. *mp*

Hpsd. **A**

14 **B** *f*

A. *f*

Life _____ Earth and giv-ing sky! _____

Vln. *f*

Vc. *f*

Vln. I *f*

Vln. II *f*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *f*

Db. *f*

Hpsd. **B**

21

A. *Eat and drink and laugh and play*

Vln. *mf*

Vc. *mf*

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

Hpsd.



27

C

A.

Vln. *mp* *mf*

Vc. *mp* *f*

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

C

Hpsd.

34

A.

Vln.

Vc.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

Hpsd.

sul A

f

gliss.

41

A.

Vln.

Vc.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

Hpsd.

mp

mp

mp

mp

mf

pizz.

pizz.

mf

mf

mp

Times between rain grow longer

Days are grow-ing long

6 47

A. *Days are grow-ing, days are dry. Birds of-fer ing hope*

Vln. *(e) (e) (e) (e)*

Vc.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

Hpsd.

52

A. *Flying, liv-ing, lov-ing life* *mf* *Soon, it will ra-in*

Vln. *(e) (e) (e) (e)*

Vc.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

Hpsd.

E

62 *mp* *mp*

A. *mp* *mp*

Soon, I will see it, rain_ soon, I will see it. Soon,

Vln. *mf*

Vc.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

Hpsd.

73 *f*

A. *f*

I will see it rain,_ rain Rain...

Vln. *f*

Vc.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

Hpsd.

F

83

A.

F

93

F

102 *f*
primal

A. What if it does not rain, what if we die?— Sep - er - ate calf and Moth - er.

Vln. *ff*

Vc. *ff*

Vln. I *f*

Vln. II *f*

Vla. *ff*

Vc. *ff*

Db. *ff*

Hpsd.

108 **G**

A.

Vln. *pp* *ff* *pp* *ff* *pp* *mp* *> niente*

Vc.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

Hpsd. **G**

senza misura *espress.* *sul pont.* *distant solitude* *sul tasto*

H

109

A. *mp* *mf* *p* *f* *p* *mp*

Sense re morse as the cull be-gins. Sep er-at-ion_Calf,Moth-er. In dif fer ence land, rain. It will al ways ra in. Hope, smile, laugh and play. It will rain. *>niente*

Vln. _____

Vc. _____

Vln. I _____

Vln. II _____

Vla. _____

Vc. _____

Db. _____

Hpsd. _____

H

110 *p* *f* *mf* *mp*

Dry Thi - rst Star - va - tion. Dust. Du -ust

Vln. _____

Vc. *sul pont.* _____

Vln. I *p* _____

Vln. II _____

Vla. *sul pont.* _____

Vc. *p arco sul pont.* _____

Db. *p arco sul pont.* _____

Hpsd. _____

f *mf* *mf* *mf*

nat. *mf nat.* *mf nat.* *mf nat.*

121 *remoresfully*

A. *mf* *ff* *niente*

Look at the calf, near dead. Re - morse cull. *niente*

Vln. *niente*

Vc. *mf* *ff* *niente*

Vln. I *mf* *ff* *niente*

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc. *mf* *ff* *niente*

Db. *mf* *ff* *niente*

Hpsd. *mf* *ff* *niente*

126 **J** ♩=45 **K** *mf* *ff* niente *p*

A. Re - morse cull. _____ Tor-ment,

Vln. *heavily*

Vc. *f* *ff* *p* *ff* *mf* *mf* *ff* niente

Vln. I *mf* *ff* niente

Vln. II _____

Vla. *mf* *ff* niente sul pont.

Vc. *mf* *ff* niente *pp* sul pont.

Db. *mf* *ff* niente *pp*

Hpsd. **J** **K** ♩=45

132 *mp* niente

A. weak - end, less - end, re - cin - ded _____

Vln. _____

Vc. _____

Vln. I _____

Vln. II _____

Vla. _____

Vc. _____

Db. _____

Hpsd. _____

L

soliloquy

136 *pp* hold sibilance (s) and intensify hiss *ff* *pp* whisper *nat.* *mf* desperately *ff*

Mor - bid thoughts from time a-lone. Sol - i - tude. The an - swer? The fate of the calf!

Vln. Vc. Vln. I Vln. II Vla. Vc. Db. Hpsd.



M

137 *relief* $\text{♩} = 135$

A. Vln. Vc. Vln. I Vln. II Vla. Vc. Db. Hpsd.

146

A.
Vln.
Vc.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.
Hpsd.



156

A.
Vln.
Vc.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.
Hpsd.

162

A.
Vln.
Vc.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.
Hpsd.