

Falling Water, Rising Wings

for Violin, Cello, and Piano

Kevin McCarter

Program Note

As I was writing this piece, I recalled and reflected on a spring afternoon when I sat for a while near a tree-shaded pool at the base of a waterfall. The images and sounds that quietly animated this nook of nature – seemingly solitary but not far from the roads of regular routines – prompted a poetic response which I crafted as I watched and listened. The poem provides a good introduction to the atmosphere of the music:

Foothill in May

Alone
among countless smooth boulders
and tall barked trunks,
listening
as a creek slides in unmeasured rhythm
down a soft cliff,
then looking up as wings flutter,
pausing on a bright branch
beneath a boundary newly green
at the opening of undimensional blueness.

A Note to the Performers

As you develop your interpretation of this piece, I'd like you to know that the notes you see on the page came first and instructions such as dynamics, tempo markings, and phrasing mostly came later as a kind of interpretation of the music. In writing the music, my attention centered on the lyrical shape of the lines and the sonorities and textures they created together. If you become convinced that changing some details of the interpretive markings would better bring out the spirit of the music, I encourage you to make the adjustment.

The slurs in the string parts attempt to convey the musical relationship among the notes while bearing in mind the nature of bowing. The composer does not play a string instrument and will be happy to have the bowings implied by the slurs revised by the performers.

A warm, singing tone is my sound ideal for most of the piano part, with the top notes usually brought out a little as a melodic line. Please balance warmth of tone with linear and harmonic clarity in deciding how to use the pedal. A number of suggested pedalings have been marked. Many additional short pedals, lasting one or two notes, may add a desirable richness to the tone (depending on the acoustics of the performance space).

Falling Water, Rising Wings

Kevin McCarter

Violin

Cello

Piano

mp

Thoughtful, heartfelt (♩ = ca. 52)

Vln.

Vc.

Piano

mp

pizz.

6

Vln.

Vc.

Piano

arco

Più mosso (♩ = ca. 63)

mp *legato*

12

Vln. *cresc.* *mf* *dim.* *mp*

Vc. *cresc.* *mf* *dim.* *mp*

18

cresc. *mf* *dim.* *mp*

Ped. * Ped. *

Vln. B

Vc. *pp*

23

mp poco rubato

Vln. *poco riten.* *p cantabile, flowing*

Vc. *pizz.* *p*

27

Gently active (♩ = ca. 72)


p lyrically


Vln. 


Vc. 


31 


Vln. 

Vc. 


34 *sempre legato* 


(poco a poco cresc.) 


*Ped. ** 

Vln. 

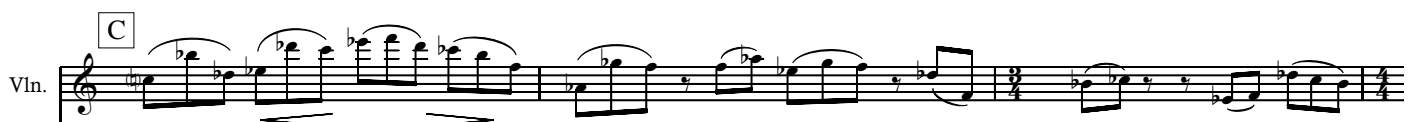
Vc. 

37 

*Ped. ** 

*Ped. ** 

Vln. C



Vc. *arco* 3



40



Ped. * *Ped.* *Ped.* * *Ped.* * *Ped.*

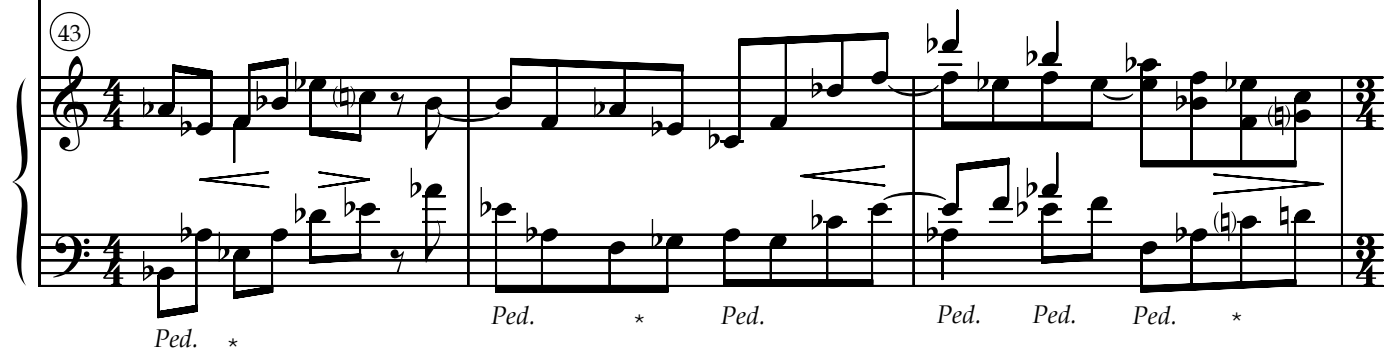
Vln.



Vc.



43



Ped. * *Ped.* * *Ped.* *Ped.* *Ped.* *

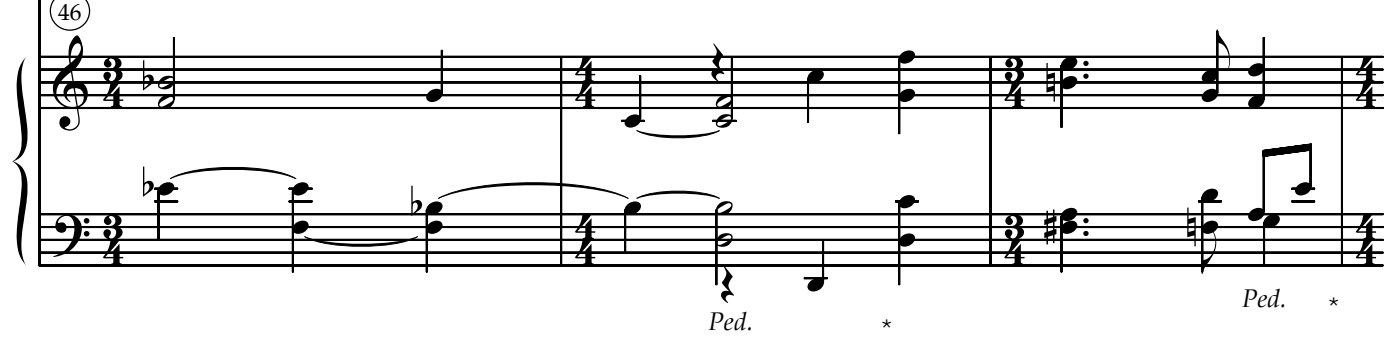
Vln. D *cresc.*



Vc. *cresc.*



46



Ped. * *Ped.* *

Vln. *f* *poco a poco dim.*

Vc. *f* *poco a poco dim.*

49 *f* *poco a poco dim.*

Ped. *

Vln. *p*

Vc. *p*

52 *mp* *rall.* *Calmly* (♩ = ca. 60) *mp* *legato*

E

Vln. *mp*

Vc. *mp*

56 *mp*

Ped. *

F

Vln.

Vc.

61

Vln.

poco a poco cresc. *mf* *dim.* *mp*

Vc.

poco a poco cresc. *mf* *dim.* *mp*

67

(♩ = ca. 72)
Pressing forward a little

mf *dim.* *p*

Vln.

poco a poco cresc. *f* *dim.*

Vc.

poco a poco cresc. *f* *dim.*

73

cresc. *f* *dim.*

G

Vln. *mp*

Vc. *mp*

78 *mp* *pp*

Sost. Ped. * *Ped.* *

Vln. *poco rit.* *pizz.*

Vc. *poco rit.* *p*

83 *poco rit.* *(a tempo)* *poco rit.* *Flowing, unhurried* (♩ = ca. 76)

Ped. *

Vln. *arco* *p*

Vc.

87 *p legato*

Vln. *poco cresc.* *poco cresc.*

Vc. *poco a poco cresc.* *mp*

89 *poco cresc.* *mp*

Vln. **H** *p*

Vc. *pizz.*

91 *p*

Vln.

Vc. *arco* *p*

93

Vln. *poco cresc.*

Vc. *poco cresc.*

95

Vln. *mp*

Vc. *mp*

97

cresc.

Ped. *

Vln. *mf*

Vc. *mf*

99

mf dim. *mp cresc.*

Ped.

Vln. *cresc.* *f* *poco a poco dim.*

Vc. *cresc.* *f* *poco a poco dim.*

101 *mf*

Ped. Ped. * Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

Vln.

Vc.

103 *poco a poco dim.*

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. *

Vln. *dolce* *mp* *leggero* *p*

Vc. *mp* *mp cantabile*

105 *mp*

Ped. *

Vln. K

Vc.

109

Ped. Ped. *

Vln.

Vc.

poco cresc. *mf*

poco cresc.

113

poco cresc.

Vln.

Vc.

mp *cresc.* *f*

mf *mp* *cresc.* *f* *mf*

117

mf *mp* *cresc.* *rit.* *f*

Ped. *

(♩ = ca. 52)
Tempo I

Vln. *mf* *mp* *accelerando*

Vc. *mp*

122 *mp* *(♩ = ca. 76)* *More active again*

Vln. *cresc.*

Vc. *cresc.*

127 *poco cresc.* *mp* *cresc.*

*Ped. ** *Ped. ** *Ped. ** *Ped. **

Vln. *mf* *dim.* *mp* *pp*

Vc. *mf* *dim.* *mp* *pp*

131 *mf* *rallentando* *mp* *8va*

*Ped. **