



Barron, Richard (2021) *From text to music: a Scots portfolio*. PhD thesis.

(4. Sichts unseen)

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Richard Barron

Sights Unseen

after 'View from St Cyrus'

for SATB and six instruments

March 2021

Sichts Unseen

The piece and its text were suggested by *View from St Cyrus* by James Morrison, a painting in the Heriot-Watt University art collection. The piece won the Heriot-Watt composer competition of 2016, and was performed in St Giles Cathedral in July of that year. The score was updated in March 2021.

The text, in the Scots of the North East, is intended to reflect the main elements of the painting – the sky, the woods shielding the village, the sand and the furrows that cut across it. The words are also intended to reflect what is unseen but implicit – the work of the fishermen harvesting the sea and hauling their catch over the beach.

The text is:

*Grand sky, braid blue,
Braw bield afore the toon;
Rauch straiks convergin ower the sand –
Fit sights unseen div they convey
O hairsts hard won ahint wer een?*

The piece is scored for SATB and six instrumental parts:

Flute

Oboe

Bassoon

Violin

Viola

Cello

The voice parts are intended for chorus but could also be sung by single voices. However, the *Sprechstimme* sections of the voice parts should be taken by soloists; these sections are indicated by crossed noteheads and are intended to be closer to speech than song.

Performance time is about 13 minutes.

Sichts Unseen

after 'View from St Cyrus'

Expansively
♩ = 80

Vocal Parts:

- Soprano:** Grand sky, (Dynamics: *f*, *p*)
- Alto:** (Silent)
- Tenor:** Grand sky, (Dynamics: *f*, *p*)
- Bass:** (Silent)

Orchestral Parts:

- Flute:** *pp*, *f*, *pp*, *sf p*
- Oboe:** *pp*, *f*, *pp*, *sf p*
- Bassoon:** *pp*, *f*, *pp*, *sf p*
- Violin:** *pp*, *ff*, *pp*, *sf p*
- Viola:** *pp*, *f*, *pp*, *sf p*
- Cello:** *pp*, *f*, *pp*, *sf p*

Second System (Measures 9-12):

- Soprano:** Grand, Grand, Grand (Dynamics: *p*, *f*)
- Tenor:** Grand sky, Grand sky, Grand (Dynamics: *p*, *f*)
- Flute:** *p*, *f*
- Oboe:** *p*, *f*
- Bassoon:** *p*, *f*
- Violin:** *p*, *f*
- Viola:** *p*, *f*
- Cello:** *p*, *f*

15

S
sky _____ Braid _____ blue, _____ blue, _____

A

T
sky, _____ sky, _____ Braid _____ blue, _____ Braid _____

Fl.
sf pp _____ *f* _____ *p* _____ *sf pp* _____

Ob.

Bsn.

Vln.
sf pp _____ *f* _____ *p* _____ *sf pp* _____

Vla.

Vc.
sf pp _____ *f* _____ *p* _____ *sf pp* _____

23

S
Braid _____ blue, _____ Braid _____ sky _____ braid _____ blue _____ grand

T
blue, _____ Braid _____ blue, _____ grand _____ sky _____ braid blue

Fl.
f _____ *p* _____

Vln.
f _____ *p* _____

Vc.
f _____ *p* _____

30 *p* *pp* **A** Warmly $\text{♩} = 90$

S Grand sky, _____

T braid blue, _____

Fl. *p* *pp*

Ob. *pp* *mp*

Bsn. *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp*

Vln. *p* *pp*

Vc. *p* *pp*

36 *p* *mf* *p*

Ob. *p* *mf* *p*

Bsn. *p* *mf* *p*

40 *mf* *f*

A Braw _____ bield a - fore the toon, a - fore the toon, braw _____

T A - fore the toon, Braw _____ bield, Braw _____

Fl. *p* *tr*

Ob. *p*

Bsn. *p*

B Expansively

$\text{♩} = 80$

44

A
bield, _____

T
bield, _____

Fl.

Ob.
mf *f* *pp*

Bsn.
mf *f* *pp*

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.
pp

49

S
Grand _____ sky, _____

T
Grand _____ sky, _____

Fl.
f *pp* *sf p*

Ob.
f *pp* *sf p*

Bsn.
f *pp* *sf p*

Vln.
f *pp* *sf p*

Vla.
f *pp* *sf p*

Vc.
f *pp* *sf p*

C Coarsely

$\text{♩} = 100$

S

A

T

B

Bsn.

Vla.

Vc.

f

Rauch — straits con - ver - gin —

mf *f*

Rauch straits —

mf *f* *mf*

mf *f* *mf*



64

S

A

T

B

Bsn.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

o - ver the sand,

Rauch straits

f *pp*

f *pp*

f *pp*

D Reflectively

\downarrow -90

S
A
T
B

Fl.
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

pp *f* *p* *mf*

SOLO
Fit



72

A

sichts un - seen ——— Fit sights un - seen div they con - vey?

Fl.
Ob.
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

sf *pp* *sf* *pp* *pp* *pp*

flz.

E Expansively $\text{♩} = 80$ *flz.* *ord.*

Fl. *pp* *f* *pp*

Ob. *pp* *f* *pp*

Bsn. *pp* *f* *pp*

Vln. *pp* *f* *pp*

Vla. *pp* *f* *pp*

Vc. *pp* *f* *pp*

Fl. *mp*

Ob. *mp*

Bsn. *mp*

Vln. *mp*

Vla. *mp*

Vc. *mp*

E Warmly $\text{♩} = 90$

Fl. *p* *mp*

Ob. *p* *mp*

Bsn. *p* *mp* *mp*

Vln. *p*

Vla. *p*

Vc. *p*

89 *flz.* *ord.*

Fl. *mf* *p*

Ob. *mf* *p*

Bsn. *mf* *p*

Vla. *mf* *p*

Vc. *mf* *p*



93 *mf* *mf* *f*

S Braid blue,

A Braw bield a - fore the toon, a - fore the toon, braw

T A - fore the toon, Braw bield, Braw

B blue, Braid

Fl. *p*

Ob. *f*

Bsn. *f*

Vln. *p*

Vla. *p*

Vc. *p*

G Coarsely
♩=100

97

S
braid

A
bield,

T
bield,

B
bluc,

Fl.
f *ff*

Ob.
f *ff*

Bsn.
f *ff* *pp*

Vln.
f *ff* sul pont. *pp*

Vla.
f *ff* sul pont. *pp*

Vc.
f *ff* sul pont. *pp*

102

Fl.
pp *mp* *pp* flz.

Ob.

Bsn.
mp *pp*

Vln.
mp *pp*

Vla.
mp *pp*

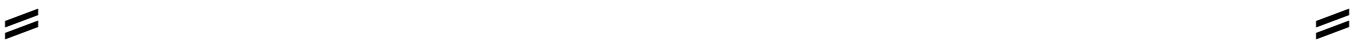
Vc.
mp *pp*

109

S
A
T
B
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

mf Rauch *f* straiks

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



115

S
A
T
B
Bsn.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

f Rauch straiks con-ver-gin over the sand

f Rauch straiks con-ver-gin over the sand, straiks,

f Rauch straiks con-ver-gin over the sand,

Rauch straiks con-ver-gin Rauch

f *pp* *f* *pp* *f* *pp* *f* *pp*

ord. *f* *pp* *f* *pp*

f *pp* *f* *pp*

H Reflectively $\text{♩} = 90$ SOLO *mp*

S Fit sights un - seen

A SOLO *mf* Fit

Fl. ord. *pp* *f* *p*

Ob. *p*

Bsn. *f* *p* *sf*

Vln. *pp* *f* *p* *sf*

Vla. *pp* *f* *p* *sf*

Vc. *pp* *f* *p* *sf*

I Coarsely $\text{♩} = 100$

S ¹²⁴ *mf* Fit sights div they con - vey?

A sights un - seen Fit sights un - seen div they con - vey?

Fl. *pp* *fz.*

Ob. *p* *sf*

Bsn. *sf* *sf* *pp* *pp*

Vln. *sf* *sf* *pp* *pp* sul pont.

Vla. *sf* *sf* *pp* *pp* sul pont.

Vc. *sf* *sf* *pp* *pp* sul pont.

129

Fl. *f* flz.

Ob. *f*

Bsn. *f*

Vln. *f*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *f*

135

S *f*
Rauch straits con - ver - gin

A *f*
Rauch straits con - ver - gin over the sand,

T *mf* *f*
Rauch straits Rauch straits, Rauch straits

B *mf* *f*
Rauch straits Rauch straits, Rauch straits con -

Fl. *ff* flz. ord. *f*

Ob. *ff* *f*

Bsn. *ff* *f*

Vln. *ff* sul pont. *f*

Vla. *ff* sul pont. *f*

Vc. *ff* sul pont. *f* marcato 3 3 3

J Reflectively

$\text{♩} = 80$ SOLO *mp*

141

S con - ver - gin _____ ower the sand Fit sights

A _____ straits, _____ Fit sights un - seen _____ Fit

T con - ver - gin _____ ower the sand - - - - -

B ver - gin _____ Rauch _____

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn. *p*

Vln. *p* ord.

Vla. *p* ord.

Vc. *p* ord.

145

S div they con - vey? O _____ hairsts hard won

A sights un - seen div they con - vey O hairsts hard won _____

T _____ O hairsts hard won _____

B _____ Fit sights un - seen _____

Bsn. *p* *p*

Vln. *p* *p* *pp*

Vla. *p* *p*

Vc. *p* *p*

K Expansively

Musical score for woodwinds and strings, measures 135-148. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.). The tempo is marked "Expansively" with a metronome marking of ♩=80. The dynamics are marked *pp* (pianissimo). The key signature is one sharp (F#). The time signature changes from 7/4 to 3/4. The woodwind parts feature melodic lines with triplets and slurs. The string parts provide harmonic support with sustained chords and moving lines.



L Warmly

Musical score for vocalists and woodwinds, measures 159-172. The score includes parts for Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), Bass (B), Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.). The tempo is marked "Warmly" with a metronome marking of ♩=90. The dynamics are marked *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *p* (piano). The key signature changes to one flat (Bb). The time signature changes from 7/4 to 3/4. The vocal parts are silent. The woodwind parts feature melodic lines with triplets and slurs. The string parts provide harmonic support with sustained chords and moving lines.

163

mp port.

S Grand _____ sky, _____

mp port.

T braid blue, _____

mp port.

B braid blue, _____

Fl. *flz.* _____ *flz.* _____ *ord.* _____

Ob. *p* _____ *mp* _____ *mf* _____ *p* _____

Bsn. _____ *mp* _____ *mf* _____ *p* _____

Vla. _____ *sempre p* _____

Vc. _____ *sempre p* _____

168

mf

S Braid _____ blue, _____ *mp*

mf

A Braw _____ bield a - fore the toon, a - fore the toon, braw _____ *mp*

mf

T A - fore the toon, Braw _____ bield, Braw _____

mf

B blue, _____ Braid _____

Fl. _____

Ob. _____

Bsn. _____

Vla. _____

Vc. _____

M Coarsely

$\text{♩} = 100$

172

S *p* braid

A *p* bield,

T *p* bield,

B *p* blue,

Fl. *p* *mp*

Ob.

Bsn. *p* *mp*

Vc. *p* *mp* *f*

178

S

A

T

B

Fl. *mf* *f* *mp*

Ob. *mf* *f* *mp*

Bsn. *f* *mp*

Vln. *p* *f* *mp*

Vla. *mp* *f* *mp*

Vc. *p*

184 N rit. SOLO *mp*

Score for measures 184-187. The system includes parts for Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.). The Flute part has a 'Fit' marking. Dynamics range from *pp* to *sf*. There are triplets and a quintuplet in the woodwind parts.

188

Score for measures 188-191. The system includes parts for Flute (Fl.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.). The Flute part has lyrics: "sichts un - seen — Fit sights un - seen div they con - vey? flz.". Dynamics range from *pp* to *sf*. There are triplets and a quintuplet in the woodwind parts.

O ♩=100 *mp* *mf*

Score for measures 192-195. The system includes parts for Bassoon (Bsn.), Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), and Bassoon (Bsn.). The Bassoon part has lyrics: "Rauch straiks — Rauch straiks — con - ver - gin, con - ver - gin ower the sand". Dynamics range from *pp* to *mf*. There are triplets and a quintuplet in the woodwind parts.

197 *mf* P *rit.*

S Rauch straiks _____ con - ver - gin, con - ver - gin over the sand,

A SOLO *mf*
Fit sights un - seen _____

T SOLO *mf*
O

B SOLO *mf*
O hairsts hard won _____

Bsn. *p* *p*

Vln. *p* *p*

Vla. *p* *p*

Vc. *p* *p*

202 Q *a tempo*

S

A TUTTI *f*
Rauch straiks _____ con - ver - gin over the

T TUTTI *f*
hairsts hard won _____ Rauch straiks, Rauch straiks con - ver - gin over the sand, _____ over the sand,

B

Ob.

Bsn.

Vln. *f* *marcato*

Vla. *f* *marcato*

Vc.

207

S *ff* Rauch strai - ks con - ver - gin o - ver the

A *ff* sand, Rauch strai - ks con - ver - gin o - ver the

T *ff* Rauch strai - ks, Rauch strai - ks con - ver - gin o - ver the sand, o - ver the sand,

B *TUTTI ff* Rauch strai - ks, Rauch strai - ks con - ver - gin o - ver the sand, o - ver the sand,

Fl. *flz. ff* *ord.* *marcato*

Ob. *flz. ff* *ord.* *marcato*

Bsn. *ff* *marcato* *flz.*

Vln. *ff* *marcato*

Vla. *ff* *marcato*

Vc. *ff* *marcato*

212

S sand,

A sand,

T sand,

B

Bsn.

Vln.

Vla. *f* *pp*

Vc. *f* *pp*

R Reflectively

SOLO *mp*

S *♩=80*

A

T SOLO *mp*

B SOLO *mp*

Fl. *pp*

Ob. *p*

Bsn. ord. *p*

Vln. *p*

Vla. *p*

Vc. *p*

O hairsts hard won

Sichts un - - - seen

O hairsts hard won

a - hint wer een?

S

223

A *p*

T

Fl. *pp* *pp* *pp* ord. *pp*

Ob. *p* *pp*

Bsn. *p* *pp* *pp*

Vln. *p* *pp*

Vla. *p* *pp* *pp*

Vc. *p* *pp* *pp*

a - hint wer een? _____

229

flz.

ord.

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

f *pp* *f* *pp* *f* *pp* *f* *pp*



235

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

ppp *ppp* *ppp* *ppp* *ppp* *ppp*