

GWYNETH WALKER

Songs Without Words

for Violoncello Solo and Piano

I. First Notes

1. Gently Flowing
2. With Energy
3. Homecoming

II. Journeys

1. The Far Coast
2. Salty Spray
3. Singing Waves

Songs Without Words are two sets of short movements for cello and piano. The first set, "First Notes," was composed specifically for student cellists. The following set, "Journeys," is intended for more advanced players.

The programmatic titles of the movements offer ample description of the music. However, a word might be added about "Homecoming." This piece was composed when the composer returned to her Vermont home after an extended period of travel. The peaceful, rural home setting was especially appreciated.

Meanwhile, "Journeys" was inspired by a concert trip to Cape Cod, Massachusetts. For a composer living in North-central Vermont, any trip to see the distant ocean fills the imagination with nautical imagery and associations. And thus, the listener may hear longing and homesickness (in "The Far Coast"), a jaunty spirit with syncopated rhythms (in "Salty Spray") and undulating, shimmering waters (in "Singing Waves").

The composer would describe herself as a non-visual person who tends to experience imagery through musical sounds.

Duration: 9'40" / 10'45" / Total: 20'25"



Widely performed throughout the country, the music of American composer **Gwyneth Walker** is beloved by performers and audiences alike for its energy, beauty, reverence, drama, and humor. Dr. Gwyneth Walker (b.1947) is a graduate of Brown University and the Hartt School of Music. She holds B.A., M.M. and D.M.A. degrees in Music Composition. A former faculty member of the Oberlin College Conservatory, she resigned from academic employment in 1982 in order to pursue a career as a full-time composer. For nearly 30 years, she lived on a dairy farm in Braintree, Vermont. She now divides her time between her childhood hometown of New Canaan, Connecticut and the musical community of Randolph, Vermont.

Further information concerning Gwyneth Walker and her works is available at:

www.gwynethwalker.com

Songs Without Words

for Violoncello Solo and Piano

Gwyneth Walker

I. First Notes

1. Gently Flowing

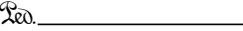
Gently flowing ♩ = 120

Violoncello

Gently flowing ♩ = 120

Piano

p

Ped.  *simile*

5

mp espr. legato

10

2

15

Musical score for measures 15-19. The system consists of three staves: a single bass staff at the top and a grand staff (treble and bass) below. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The music features a melodic line in the bass staff and a piano accompaniment in the grand staff. The piano part has a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the bass and a more active melody in the treble.

20

Musical score for measures 20-24. The system consists of three staves. Measure 20 has a *mf* dynamic marking. A box labeled 'A' is placed above the bass staff in measure 20 and above the treble staff in measure 23. The piano accompaniment continues with a steady eighth-note pattern in the bass and a melodic line in the treble.

25

Musical score for measures 25-28. The system consists of three staves. Measure 25 has a *sost.* dynamic marking and an asterisk (*). A box labeled 'A' is placed above the treble staff in measure 27. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the bass and a melodic line in the treble.

29

Musical score for measures 29-33. The system consists of three staves. The piano accompaniment continues with a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the bass and a melodic line in the treble.

*grace notes precede the beat

I. First Notes: *I. Gently Flowing*

33

37

41

45

4

49

53

58

62

D

p

D

p

66

p lightly

70

74

78

f *espr.*

The image shows a musical score for a piece titled "I. First Notes: I. Gently Flowing". The score is written for a piano and consists of four systems of music. Each system has three staves: a bass staff, a grand staff (treble and bass), and a right-hand staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The first system (measures 66-69) is marked "p lightly" and features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the bass and right-hand staves, with a melodic line in the grand staff. The second system (measures 70-73) continues the accompaniment, with the grand staff playing a more active melodic line. The third system (measures 74-77) shows the grand staff playing a melodic line with a long slur, while the bass staff provides harmonic support. The fourth system (measures 78-81) is marked "f espr." and features a more dynamic and expressive melodic line in the grand staff, with a chordal accompaniment in the bass staff. A chord symbol "E" is placed above the grand staff in the first two measures of this system. The score concludes with a double bar line and repeat signs in the bass staff.

I. First Notes: I. Gently Flowing

6

83

87

92

97

102 (rubato) Slightly slower, more freely

f

(rubato) Slightly slower, more freely

f

Red.

107 rit. a tempo

rit. a tempo

pp

Red.

111 rit. to end

dim. poco a poco to the end

rit. to end

Red.

115 (rit.)

sost.

(rit.)

p

pp

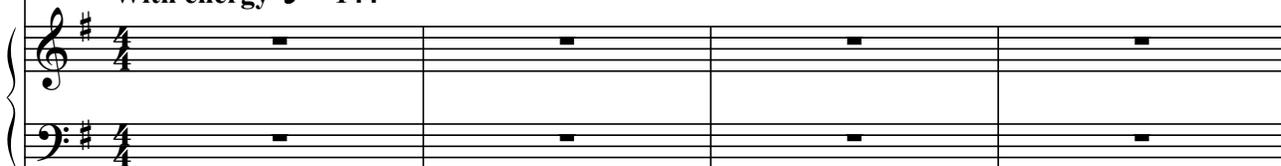
Red.

2. With Energy

With energy ♩ = 144



With energy ♩ = 144



5

9 A

12



15

B

B

19

B

23

C

C

f

26

I. First Notes: 2. *With Energy*

10

29

32

35

39

I. First Notes: 2. With Energy

43 *arco*
mf *p* *pizz.*

46 *arco* **E**
mf **E** *mf*

49

52 *accel.* *accel.*

12

55

(accel.)

F *a tempo* (♩ = 144)

58

61

64

bounce bow, col legno

67 **G**

Musical score for measures 67-69. Measure 67 has a **G** chord box. The bass line is mostly rests. The treble and piano parts feature chords and eighth notes.

70

p

Musical score for measures 70-72. Measure 70 has a *p* dynamic marking. The bass line has eighth notes with accents. The treble and piano parts have chords and eighth notes.

73

H

mf

Musical score for measures 73-75. Measure 73 has an **H** chord box. Measure 75 has an **H** chord box and an *mf* dynamic marking. The bass line has eighth notes with accents. The treble and piano parts have chords and eighth notes.

76

Musical score for measures 76-78. The bass line has eighth notes with accents. The treble and piano parts have eighth notes and chords.

I. First Notes: 2. *With Energy*

79

82

85

88

91

94

97

100

3. Homecoming

$\text{♩} = 100$

$\text{♩} = 100$

p gently, tenderly

as a ray of light

leg. *leg.* *simile*

5 *rolled pizz.*

p

9 **A** *arco*

mp cantabile

A

The musical score is for a piece in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of three systems of piano accompaniment. The first system (measures 1-4) features a bass line with a steady eighth-note accompaniment and a treble line with a melody that includes a triplet. The second system (measures 5-8) continues the accompaniment with a 'rolled pizz.' effect in the bass and triplets in the treble. The third system (measures 9-12) is marked 'arco' and 'cantabile', with a long melodic line in the bass and a treble line featuring a series of triplets.

13

Musical score for measures 13-16. The system includes a bass line and a grand staff (treble and bass). The bass line features a melodic line with slurs. The grand staff contains piano accompaniment with triplets in the right hand and chords in the left hand. Measure 16 ends with a fermata.

17

Musical score for measures 17-20. The system includes a bass line and a grand staff. The bass line continues with a melodic line. The grand staff features piano accompaniment with triplets in the right hand and chords in the left hand. Measure 20 ends with a fermata.

21

Musical score for measures 21-24. The system includes a bass line and a grand staff. The bass line continues with a melodic line. The grand staff features piano accompaniment with triplets in the right hand and chords in the left hand. Measure 24 ends with a fermata.

25 **B**

poco cresc.

Musical score for measures 25-28. The system includes a bass line and a grand staff. The bass line starts with a fermata and then continues with a melodic line. The grand staff features piano accompaniment with chords in the left hand and a melodic line in the right hand. Measure 28 ends with a fermata.

B

cresc.

29

f

f

3

32

poco rit.

tr

C Slightly slower

p

delicately

poco rit.

C Slightly slower

p delicately

36

gradual accel.

pizz.

arco

gradual accel.

40

(accel.)

D Faster, with motion ♩ = 120

f

D Faster, with motion ♩ = 120

(accel.)

f

Leg.

43

f

Ped.

simile

46

49 **E**

E

E

52

55

Musical score for measures 55-57. The system includes a bass line, a grand staff (treble and bass), and a right-hand solo line. The bass line features a melodic line with slurs. The grand staff contains a complex texture with triplets in both hands and block chords. The right-hand solo line features a melodic line with slurs and triplets. Measure 57 ends with a fermata over a chord.

58

Musical score for measures 58-60. The system includes a bass line, a grand staff, and a right-hand solo line. The bass line continues with a melodic line. The grand staff features a dense texture of block chords and triplets. The right-hand solo line has a melodic line with triplets. Measure 60 ends with a fermata over a chord.

61

Musical score for measures 61-63. The system includes a bass line, a grand staff, and a right-hand solo line. The bass line continues with a melodic line. The grand staff features a dense texture of block chords and triplets. The right-hand solo line has a melodic line with triplets. Measure 63 ends with a fermata over a chord.

64

Musical score for measures 64-66. The system includes a bass line, a grand staff, and a right-hand solo line. The bass line continues with a melodic line. The grand staff features a dense texture of block chords and triplets. The right-hand solo line has a melodic line with triplets. Measure 64 includes a first ending bracket labeled 'F'. Measure 66 ends with a fermata over a chord.

67

Ped.

70

(Ped.) Ped. Ped.

73

f *rit.*

f *rit.*

77 **G** Original tempo ♩ = 100

volo *rolled pizz.* *mf*

G Original tempo ♩ = 100

mf

81 *arco*

mp *p*

mp *p*

Ped.

85

rit. to end

rit. to end

8^{va}

(Ped.)

88

(rit.)

pp

(8^{va})

(rit.)

3 (let ring) 3 3

pp

(Ped.)

II. Journeys

1. The Far Coast

Flowing ♩ = 120

at the tip

pp ————— *p* ————— *pp*

Flowing ♩ = 120

p gently

with pedal

5

p ————— *pp* ————— *p* ————— *mf cantabile*

ord.

9 **A**

A

13

Musical score for measures 13-16. The system includes a bass line with a grace note and a triplet, and a piano accompaniment with chords and a bass line.

17

Musical score for measures 17-20. The system includes a bass line with a grace note and a piano accompaniment with chords and a bass line.

21

Musical score for measures 21-24. The system includes a bass line with a grace note and a piano accompaniment with chords and a bass line. Dynamics include *mf* and *p*.

25

Musical score for measures 25-28. The system includes a bass line with a grace note and a piano accompaniment with chords and a bass line. Dynamics include *p*.

*grace notes precede the beat

29

B

mf

p

p.

with pedal

33

mf

p

p.

37

mf

p.

41

p

mf

p.

45

p

49

p

53 C

p

57

f

cresc.

61 **D**

f
Ped.
Ped.

64

p
Ped.
Ped.

67

p
Ped.
Ped.

70 **E**

p
Ped.
Ped.

74

(with pedal)

79

mf

83

poco rit. **F** *a tempo* (♩ = 120)

poco rit. **F** *a tempo* (♩ = 120)

p *p* *p*

87

pp

And.

91

(p) *mp*

(Leo.)

95

p mp p cresc. poco a poco (to G)

cresc. poco a poco (to m. 104)

(Leo.)

99

(cresc.)

(cresc.)

(Leo.)

102

(cresc.) *f*

(cresc.) *f*

(Leo.)

106

(Ped.) Ped. Ped.

110

(Ped.) Ped.

115

H H

Ped. Ped. Ped.

120

poco rit. Slightly slower, more freely

poco rit. Slightly slower, more freely

Ped. Ped.

I a tempo (♩ = 120)

125

pizz.
mf

pizz. tap (thumb against Cello)
p

(Leo.)

p

(Leo.)

I a tempo (♩ = 120)

131

pizz. (tap)

pizz. (tap)

(Leo.)

pp

(Leo.)

J rit. to end

135

arco
pp

J rit. to end

(rit.)

141

(rit.)

tap all strings
p

(tap thumb against Cello)

arco
pp

(rit.)

pp

2. Salty Spray

Lively ♩ = 132
pizz.
p

Lively ♩ = 132
tap piano lid (LH)
p

5

p playfully

9 **A** *f* *arco* *p* *f* *pizz.*

A *f*

The musical score is for a piece titled "2. Salty Spray". It is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The tempo is marked "Lively" with a quarter note equal to 132 beats per minute. The score is divided into three systems. The first system (measures 1-4) features a bass line with a pizzicato pattern and a piano lid tapping in the left hand. The second system (measures 5-8) shows a more complex piano part with grace notes and a "playfully" dynamic. The third system (measures 9-12) includes a first ending marked "A" and dynamic markings ranging from forte to piano.

*grace notes precede the beat

II. Journeys: 2. *Salty Spray*

12

arco
pizz.
p *f* *p* *f*

15

p
B
p
poco ped.

18

f
f
no pedal

21

p *f*
p *f*
poco ped. *no pedal*

25 C

28

31

35

39

pizz. *arco*

43

pizz.

46

arco
(p) cresc. poco a poco (to F)
E
(p) cresc. poco a poco (to F)
Red.

50

(cresc.)
(cresc.)
Red.

54 **F**

f

with pedal

no pedal

pizz.

58 *arco*

pizz.

61 *arco*

pizz.

64 *arco* **G**

pizz.

68

71 **H**

pizz.

mf

H

tap piano lid (LH)

mf

arco

p

(p)

p

mp

f

8va

p

75

p

(p)

p

mp

f

8va

p

78

mp

f

8va

p

3. Singing Waves

Gently flowing ♩ = 108

p

Gently flowing ♩ = 108

p *let ring*

ped.

7

poco *mp*

let ring *mp*

ped. *ped.*

12

sva *let ring*

(ped.)

17

rit. **A** *a tempo*

p *rit.* **A** *a tempo*

p *gently trembling*

ped. *with pedal*

The musical score is written for bass and piano. It consists of four systems of music. The first system (measures 1-6) is marked 'Gently flowing ♩ = 108' and 'p'. The piano part features a steady eighth-note accompaniment. The second system (measures 7-11) includes dynamics 'poco' and 'mp', and the instruction 'let ring'. The third system (measures 12-16) features a 'sva' (sustained) note in the piano part and 'let ring'. The fourth system (measures 17-21) includes 'rit.' (ritardando) markings, a first ending bracket 'A' with 'a tempo' instructions, and 'p gently trembling' in the piano part. The score concludes with 'ped.' and 'with pedal'.

*grace notes precede the beat

22

mp

This system covers measures 22 to 26. The bass line begins with a whole rest, followed by a melodic phrase starting on a half note. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a similar eighth-note pattern in the left hand. A dynamic marking of *mp* is placed above the piano part in measure 25.

27

mp

mf

This system covers measures 27 to 31. The bass line starts with a melodic phrase marked *mp*, followed by a half note and a whole note. The piano accompaniment continues with eighth-note patterns. A dynamic marking of *mf* is placed above the piano part in measure 30.

32

mf

This system covers measures 32 to 35. The bass line begins with a whole rest, followed by a melodic phrase marked *mf* that includes a fermata over a half note. The piano accompaniment features eighth-note patterns, with a more active eighth-note figure in the right hand starting in measure 34.

36

(mf)

This system covers measures 36 to 40. The bass line has a whole rest for the first three measures, followed by a melodic phrase marked *(mf)*. The piano accompaniment features eighth-note patterns, with a more active eighth-note figure in the right hand starting in measure 36.

56

p

p

no pedal slight pedal

Ped.

61

D *accel. poco a poco (to E)*

p cresc. poco a poco (to E)

(echo)

D *accel. poco a poco (to E)*

p cresc. poco a poco (to E)

with pedal

65

(accel.)

(cresc.)

(echo)

(accel.)

(cresc.)

69

(accel.)

(cresc.)

E *Faster* ♩ = 120

f

E *Faster* ♩ = 120

(accel.)

(cresc.)

f

Ped.

42

73

(*And.*)

77

(*And.*)

81

(*And.*)

85

rit. *Slower, intensely*
cresc. *ff*

rit. *Slower, intensely*
cresc. *let ring* *ff*

(*And.*)

88

rit.

rit.

(*Leo.*)

93 **G** *Tempo primo* ♩ = 108

p sub.

G *Tempo primo* ♩ = 108

p

Leo. *Leo.*

97

p

Leo. *Leo.* *Leo.*

101

p

Leo. *Leo.* *Leo.*

105

105

mp

mp

ped.

109

mp

p

with pedal

113 H

p cresc. poco a poco (to I)

H

p cresc. poco a poco (to I)

117

(cresc.)

rit.

(cresc.)

rit.

121 **I** *Slower, intensely, rubato*

f *p* *echo*

I *Slower, intensely, rubato*

8va *f*

Ped.

125

(p) *cresc.*

(Ped.)

128

f *rit.*

rit.

132 **J** *a tempo* (♩ = 108)

mf *gliss. up and down string*

J *a tempo* (♩ = 108)

mf

