

GWYNETH WALKER

The Green Mountains

for Violoncello Solo

1. The Land
2. The Life
3. The Spirit
4. Mountain Music

The Green Mountains

Duration: 15' 30"

The open countryside of a rural New England landscape presents imagery and feelings perhaps well-suited to musical expression by a solo cello. Qualities of solitude and introspection are shared elements. The wide range of the cello captures the breadth of panorama. And, most importantly, there is a beautiful quality of peacefulness associated with solo cello music – the peace of an uncluttered environment.

The Land unfolds slowly as a simple melody. This music is inspired by sparseness and openness. *The Life* may refer to the spark of existence (the birth of life), or creatures (wildlife) or gathering energy (coming to life). All of these ingredients intermingle.

The Spirit is a hymn which speaks of the spiritual presence felt in the quiet fields and forests. The melody is introduced peacefully, then with increasing energy, and finally, triumphantly, rising to heaven.

Mountain Music is rough-hewn. Bowings are mostly tremoli or vigorous back-and-forth motions. Perhaps the composer, cellist and audience are in the woods during this music, tapping, sawing and dancing!

The four movements of this suite are a tribute to the composer's home state of Vermont, the Green Mountain State.



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. She now lives on a dairy farm in Braintree, Vermont.

Gwyneth Walker is a proud resident of Vermont. She is the recipient of the Year 2000 “Lifetime Achievement Award” from the Vermont Arts Council as well as the 2008 “Athenaeum Award for Achievement in the Arts and Humanities” from the St. Johnsbury (VT) Athenaeum.

Walker's catalog includes over 190 commissioned works for orchestra, chamber ensembles, chorus and solo voice. The music of Gwyneth Walker is published by E. C. Schirmer of Boston (choral and vocal music) and Lauren Keiser Music (orchestral and instrumental music).

Further information concerning Gwyneth Walker and her works is available at www.gwynethwalker.com.

The Green Mountains

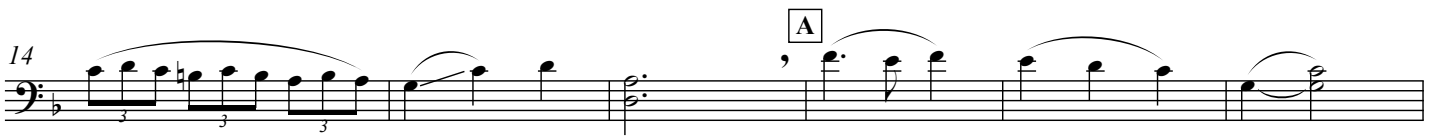
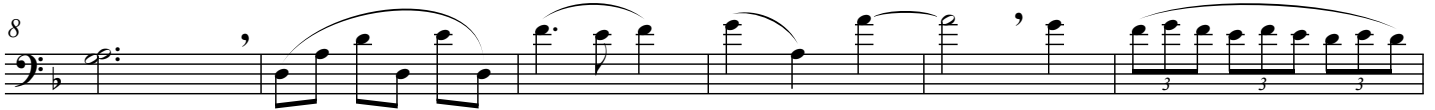
for Violoncello Solo

Gwyneth Walker

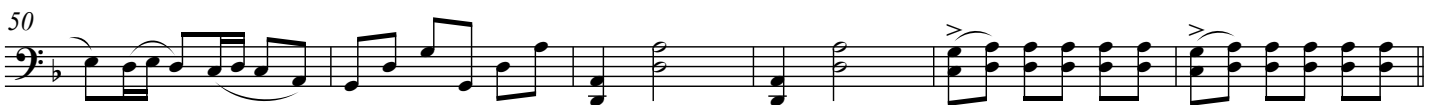
1. The Land

Moderate tempo ♩ = 108

expressing open landscape



33 **B** Quickly ♩ = 132



*Inverted mordent is an ornament with upper neighbor note, to be played on the beat.

C Same tempo ♩ = 132

56 *(f)*

Musical staff 56-61: Bass clef, key signature of one flat. Measure 56 starts with a forte *(f)* dynamic. The music consists of eighth and sixteenth notes with various articulations like accents and slurs.

62 I II I II I

Musical staff 62-67: Continuation of the previous staff. Fingerings I II I II I are indicated above the first six measures. The music continues with eighth and sixteenth notes.

68 1.

Musical staff 68-72: Continuation of the previous staff. A first ending bracket labeled '1.' spans measures 68-72. The music concludes with a whole note chord.

D Slower ♩ = 108 *rubato, reflectively*

73 *rit.* *p*

Musical staff 73-77: Tempo change to 'Slower' with a tempo marking of ♩ = 108. The instruction *rubato, reflectively* is present. The music begins with a *rit.* (ritardando) and a *p* (piano) dynamic. The time signature changes to 4/4.

78

Musical staff 78-82: Continuation of the previous staff. The music features sustained notes with accents and slurs.

83 *poco cresc.*

Musical staff 83-87: Continuation of the previous staff. The instruction *poco cresc.* (poco crescendo) is present. The music continues with sustained notes and slurs.

E

88 *p mf*

Musical staff 88-93: Continuation of the previous staff. A dynamic change from *p* to *mf* (mezzo-forte) is indicated. The music features sustained notes and slurs.

94

Musical staff 94-99: Continuation of the previous staff. The music continues with sustained notes and slurs.

100 *rit.* *f* *pizz.* *Slower arco*

Musical staff 100-104: Continuation of the previous staff. The music includes a *rit.* (ritardando), a *f* (forte) dynamic, a *pizz.* (pizzicato) section, and a *Slower arco* section.

105 *rit.* *Quickly* ♩ = 132 *p* *f*

Musical staff 105-109: Tempo change to 'Quickly' with a tempo marking of ♩ = 132. The music begins with a *rit.* (ritardando) and a *p* (piano) dynamic, then changes to a *f* (forte) dynamic. The time signature changes to 3/4.

110 2. *(f)* *rit.*

Musical staff 110-114: Continuation of the previous staff. A second ending bracket labeled '2.' spans measures 110-114. The music starts with a *(f)* (forte) dynamic and ends with a *rit.* (ritardando).

2. The Life

Moderate tempo ♩ = 108

sul tasto (subdued tone, silvery)*p* gently

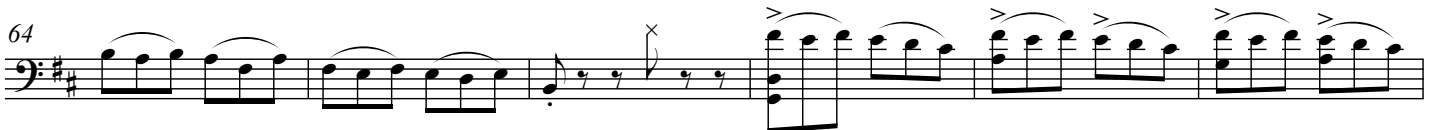
A Quickly ♩ = 132, or faster

*f* with energy and life!

B Same tempo



C a tempo (♩ = 132)



*Tap instrument with side of thumb.

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76 *(rit.)* **D** ♩ = ♩ = 108 **Quickly** ♩ = 132 *(as a contrast)*
sul pont.
 mf cantabile *p* 3 3 3

81 *ord.* ♩ = 108 *sul pont.* ♩ = 132 *ord.* ♩ = 108
 mf *p* mf

86 *finger tremolo* [on instrument] *tap* +

92 *rit.* **E** ♩ = ♩ = 108 *gradual accel.* (to m. 102)
p gradual cresc. (to m. 102)

96

100 **Faster** ♩ = 132 *f*

104

108 *rit.* **F** Original tempo ♩ = 108 *sul pont.*
p

113 *freely, rubato (as a contrast)* ♩ = 108

118 *freely, rubato* ♩ = 108
freely, rubato

121

124 ♩ = 108 *rolled pizz., ord.* *rit.* **Slowly** *arco* *gentle tap*
(p)

3. The Spirit

*Slowly, as an introduction
free tempo*

p

7

pp from afar **A** Peacefully ♩ = 88 *mf cantabile*

12

p (from afar) *mf* *p* *mf*

16

p *mf*

20

p *mf* *p* *mf*

24

rit. **B** With more energy ♩ = 100

rit. *p* *mf*

28

f

32

poco accel. **C** Slightly faster ♩ = 108

poco accel. *f* *p* *f*

36

p *f* *p* *f*

40

a tempo (♩ = 108)

poco rit.

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D Quickly flowing ♩ = 120
and gaining energy

44 *rit.* **Slowly** *p* *(p)* 3

48 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

51 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

54 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3
gradual cresc. (to E)

57 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

60 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 *rit.*

E Triumphantly ♩ = 100

63 *f* (f) *pizz., strum* *arco* *rit.*

67 *pizz., strum* *arco* 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

71 *pizz., strum* *arco* 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

75 *rit.* **Slightly slower** 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

79 *rit. to end* *dim. to end* *pp*

4. Mountain Music

With strength and energy $\text{♩} = 100$

Musical score for "4. Mountain Music" in bass clef, 3/2 time, key of B-flat major. The score consists of ten staves of music with various dynamics and articulations.

Staff 1: f p

Staff 2: pp f **A**

Staff 3: p pp f

Staff 4: p pp f *pizz.*

Staff 5: *arco* p

Staff 6: *poco rit.* pp f **B** *a tempo*

Staff 7: p

Staff 8: p

Staff 9: p **C**

Staff 10: f

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

66

71 *rit.*

D Lightly, playfully ♩ = 132
 (enjoying the double-stop dissonances)
 77 *p*

85 *mf* *rit.* *p*

93 **E** *a tempo* (♩ = 100) *pizz.* *f*

99 *p* *tap instrument* *repeat taps**
 (while placing bow on stand)

F *pizz.* *flick with back of fingers* *strum*
 105 (*p*) *mf*

112 *pizz.* *flick* *strum* *mf*

119 *pizz.* *tap* *pat strings near bridge*
 (*mf*) *p* *mf*

125 *pizz.* *p*

*or tap foot

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129 (pizz.) *flick* U U U U U U U U *strum*

135 *mf* *tap* *foot taps* *repeat foot taps (while taking bow from stand)* *p* **H**

140 *pizz.* *arco* *mf* *f*

145

150 **I**

155 *p* 6 6 6 6

159 *f*

164 *p* **J** *f* *pizz.*

168 *arco* *p* 6 6 6 6

172 *f* *rit.*

177 (rit.) *a tempo* (♩ = 100) *accel. to end* *gradual cresc. to end* *p*

182 (accel.) (cresc.) 6 6 6 6 *tremolo, gliss.* *v*

4'00"

Total: 15'30"

March 3, 2010

Braintree, Vermont