

Manifold Continuation

organ solo

Neil Thornock

Program note

The title comes from Wallace Stevens's poem "The Place of the Solitaires:"

Let the place of the solitaires
Be a place of perpetual undulation.

Whether it be in mid-sea
On the dark, green water-wheel,
Or on the beaches,
There must be no cessation
Of motion, or of the noise of motion,
The renewal of noise
And manifold continuation;

And, most, of the motion of thought
And its restless iteration,

In the place of the solitaires,
Which is to be a place of perpetual undulation.

Although, on the surface, the poem is about birds on a beach, the real subject matter is motion. Stevens captures the abstract quality of motion in the text itself. I attempted to do the same in a musical sense. Thus, the music is about motion -- motion within a section, motion from one section to the next, and the overall motion from the beginning of the work to the end.

Manifold Continuation was written for Dr. Don Cook.

Performance notes

This piece is performable on a two-manual organ, although a larger instrument with broad chorus possibilities is preferred.

Registration indications are given primarily in terms of dynamics. Specific indications are aids only in selecting particular registrations for the given instrument. Generally, registrations should be pyramidal, i.e., with a broad base of 8' stops. The performer is allowed great flexibility in selecting colors and combinations.

Performance in a reverberant hall is most desirable, allowing the music to undulate.

I, II: Broad, full, mellow (fl., str. 8)
no coupling!

Ped.: Matching I and II (fl., str. 16, 8)

Manifold Continuation

for Dr. Don Cook

Neil Thornock

Spring 2004

Very fast, mysteriously ♩ = 144

II.

Organ

p legato

I.

6

12

18

24

30

Musical score for measures 30-34. The system consists of three staves: a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a separate bass clef staff. The music is in a minor key with a key signature of one flat. The grand staff features a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes in the bass and chords in the treble. The separate bass staff contains a melodic line with a long slur over measures 33 and 34.

Gradually expanding, more joyful

35

Musical score for measures 35-39. The system consists of three staves. The grand staff (treble and bass clefs) has a melodic line in the treble starting at measure 35 with a first ending bracket labeled '1.' and a rhythmic accompaniment in the bass. The separate bass staff continues the melodic line from the previous system with a long slur.

40

Musical score for measures 40-44. The system consists of three staves. The grand staff (treble and bass clefs) has a melodic line in the treble and a rhythmic accompaniment in the bass. The separate bass staff continues the melodic line with a long slur.

45

Musical score for measures 45-49. The system consists of three staves. The grand staff (treble and bass clefs) has a melodic line in the treble and a rhythmic accompaniment in the bass. The separate bass staff continues the melodic line with a long slur.

50

Musical score for measures 50-54. The system consists of three staves. The top staff is in treble clef, the middle and bottom staves are in bass clef. The music features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the bass and a more melodic line in the treble with some rests and accidentals.

55

Musical score for measures 55-59. The system consists of three staves. The top staff is in treble clef, the middle and bottom staves are in bass clef. The bass line continues with eighth notes, while the treble line has more complex rhythmic patterns and some slurs.

60

Musical score for measures 60-64. The system consists of three staves. The top staff is in treble clef, the middle and bottom staves are in bass clef. The bass line features a prominent melodic line with slurs, while the treble line has a steady eighth-note accompaniment.

65

Musical score for measures 65-69. The system consists of three staves. The top staff is in treble clef, the middle and bottom staves are in bass clef. The bass line continues with a melodic line, and the treble line has a steady eighth-note accompaniment.

70

75

suddenly explosive

6 3

Calm, melodic

p

Ped: -16, +solo stop (Krummhorn) or combination

mp

79

I: Solo stop or combination

Fluid, singing

mp

84

89

Musical score for measures 89-93. The system consists of three staves: a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a separate treble clef staff. The music is in a key with one flat (B-flat major or D minor) and a 3/4 time signature. Measure 89 starts with a treble clef staff containing a half note B-flat, followed by a quarter note G, a quarter note F, and a half note E. The grand staff continues with a similar melodic line. The bass clef staff has a half note B-flat, a quarter rest, and a quarter note G. The system concludes with a quarter rest in the treble clef staff and a quarter note G in the bass clef staff.

94

Musical score for measures 94-98. The system consists of three staves: a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a separate treble clef staff. The music continues in the same key and time signature. Measure 94 begins with a treble clef staff containing a quarter note G, a quarter note F, and a half note E. The grand staff continues with a similar melodic line. The bass clef staff has a half note B-flat, a quarter rest, and a quarter note G. The system concludes with a quarter rest in the treble clef staff and a quarter note G in the bass clef staff.

99

Musical score for measures 99-103. The system consists of three staves: a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a separate treble clef staff. The music continues in the same key and time signature. Measure 99 begins with a treble clef staff containing a quarter note G, a quarter note F, and a half note E. The grand staff continues with a similar melodic line. The bass clef staff has a half note B-flat, a quarter rest, and a quarter note G. The system concludes with a quarter rest in the treble clef staff and a quarter note G in the bass clef staff.

104

Musical score for measures 104-108. The system consists of three staves: a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a separate treble clef staff. The music continues in the same key and time signature. Measure 104 begins with a treble clef staff containing a quarter note G, a quarter note F, and a half note E. The grand staff continues with a similar melodic line. The bass clef staff has a half note B-flat, a quarter rest, and a quarter note G. The system concludes with a quarter rest in the treble clef staff and a quarter note G in the bass clef staff.

109

113

I: 16, 8, 4, 2-2/3, 2, Trumpet 8
 II: 16, 8, 4, 2-2/3, 2, Oboe
 Ped.: 16, 8, 4, Bombarde 16
 I/Ped.

117

f Bold, angular, driving
 I. *ff*

fff

122

126 I: 8, 4, soft reed

poco f

131

fff

136

141

I and II: 16, 8, 4, 2, mix,
reeds 8, 4

III/

impatently

fff

3

3

3

145

angrily

ff

149

I: Full
II: Flute 8

Slowly, relenting ♩ = 96

p

153

160

I: Flute 8, 2-2/3

pp

ppp II: Celeste 8

I: 16, 8, 4, 2-2/3, 2, Trumpet 8

II: 16, 8, 4, 2-2/3, 2, Oboe

Ped.: 16, 8, 4, Bombarde 16

I/Ped.

Tempo I ♩ = 144

166 II.

f *ff* *fff*

171

fff

176

fff

180

fff

184

184

poco accel. -----

188 (II.)

188 (II.)

+II/I

fff

I.

Ped: Add stops

Slightly faster $\text{♩} = 152$

Increasingly majestic and joyful!

192

192

Ped: Add stops *ffff*

197

197

201 *8va*

205 *(8va)*

Ped: Add stops

209 *(8va)*

213 *(8va)*

(8^{va})
216

Tutti!

(8^{va})
219

(8^{va})
222

(8^{va})
225

Kick it!!

(8va)

228

(8va)

231

(8va)

234

(8va)

Don't slow down!

237