

CURLEW RIVER

Fluß der Möwen

Libretto by
WILLIAM PLOMER

Music by
BENJAMIN BRITTEN
(1913-1976)

The ABBOT and his company of MONKS, ACOLYTES and INSTRUMENTALISTS walk singing in procession to the acting area.

Der ABT und sein Gefolge von MÖNCHEN, AKOLYTEN und INSTRUMENTALISTEN ziehen singend in Prozession dorthin, wo die Szene bereitet ist.

Slow
Lento

ALL VOICES
ALLE STIMMEN

1 *cresc.*

1. Te lú - cis - an - te tér - mi - num, Ré - rum Cre - á - tor, pó - sci - mus, Ut pro tú - a cle - mén - ti - a,
2. Pro - cul re - cé - dant sóm - ni - a, Et nóc - ti - um phan - tás - ma - ta: Ho - stem - que nós - trum cóm - pri - me,
3. Prae - sta, Pá - ter pi - is - si - me, Pa - tri - que cóm - par U - ni - ce, Cum Spí - ri - tu Pa - rá - cli - to,

dim. and rall. **2** *dim.*

MONKS only (without Basses)
nur MÖNCHE

All Voices

1. Sis práe sul — et cu - stó - di - a. A — — men. — A — — men. —
2. Ne pol - lu — an - tur cór - po - ra.
3. Régnans per — ó - mne sáe - cu - lum.

Tenor Solo

pp

Monks

A — — — — — men. —

1 The ABBOT comes forward to address the congregation.
Der ABT tritt vor, um die Gemeinde anzureden.

measured misurato
(with soft 4')

Organ

Drums with timbles

Perc.

p *no cresc.*

Organ

Perc.

always sustained

always p

* Indicates tremolando with gradual, unmeasured accelerando

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83

Ferryman

- tain us with your sing-ing!
Spaß machst durch dein Sin-gen!

T.

- tain us with your sing-ing!
Spaß machst durch dein Sin-gen!

CHORUS

Traveller & Bt.

cra-zi-ly sing-ing!
irr-sinnig Sin-gen!

Abbot & B.

wo-man!
Frau du!

Organ

Drums

Perc.

repeat cresc. and accel. until

repeat cresc. and accel. until

repeat cresc. and accel. until

repeat cresc. and accel. until

repeat cresc. and accel. until

(12)

ffz

44 broadly *largamente*

84

Ferryman

Show us what you can do!
Zeig uns nun dei-ne Kunst!

Traveller

Show us what you can do!
Zeig uns nun dei-ne Kunst!

Abbot

Show us what you can do!
Zeig uns nun dei-ne Kunst!

T.

Show us what you can do!
Zeig uns nun dei-ne Kunst!

Bt.

Show us what you can do!
Zeig uns nun dei-ne Kunst!

B.

Show us what you can do!
Zeig uns nun dei-ne Kunst!

CHORUS

Mad - wo - man, sing!
Irr - sinn' - ge sing!

Mad - wo - man, sing!
Irr - sinn' - ge sing!

Mad - wo - man, sing!
Irr - sinn' - ge sing!

Mad - wo - man, sing!
Irr - sinn' - ge sing!

Mad - wo - man, sing!
Irr - sinn' - ge sing!

Organ

Drums

Perc.

ff

85

86

87

ffz

ffz

Madwoman *pp*

Not e-ven his mo-ther?
Nicht einmal die Mut-ter?

Ferryman *p*

Not e-ven his mo-ther!
Nicht ein-mal die Mut-ter!

Organ *pp*

Flute *pp*

Horn *pp*

Harp *pp* (156)

Viola *pp*

Db. *pp*

Drums

Perc. *p*

(157)

No won-der no one Came here to look for him!
Kein Wunder niemand Kam hier, ihn zu suchen!

The musical score is arranged in a system with ten staves. The vocal parts (Madwoman and Ferryman) have lyrics in English and German. The instrumental parts (Organ, Flute, Horn, Harp, Viola, Db., Drums, and Percussion) provide accompaniment. The score is divided into three measures. The first measure shows the vocalists entering with their respective lines. The second measure continues the vocal lines and includes a piano (p) dynamic for the Ferryman. The third measure features a piano (pp) dynamic for the vocalists and a piano (p) dynamic for the percussion. The Harp part includes a circled measure number 156, and the Organ part includes a circled measure number 157. The Flute and Horn parts have a piano (pp) dynamic. The Viola and Db. parts have a piano (pp) dynamic. The Drums part has a piano (p) dynamic. The Percussion part has a piano (p) dynamic. The overall mood is somber and reflective, with the vocalists expressing a sense of loss and longing.

89 The MADWOMAN turns from the tomb and gazes into the distance.
 Die IRRE wendet sich von dem Grab und schaut in die Ferne.

Madwoman *f*
 From the ri - ver, I hear voi - ces, Like souls a - ban -
 Von dem Flusse Hör'ich Stimmen, Ver-lass' - - - ne See-

Flute *p*
f

Ferryman *pp*
 Huc cú - stos í - gi - tur pēr - vi - gil ád - vo - la,

Traveller *pp*
 Huc cú - stos í - gi - tur pēr - vi - gil ád - vo - la,

Abbot & Chorus (in unison) *pp*
 Huc cú - stos í - gi - tur pēr - vi - gil ád - vo - la,

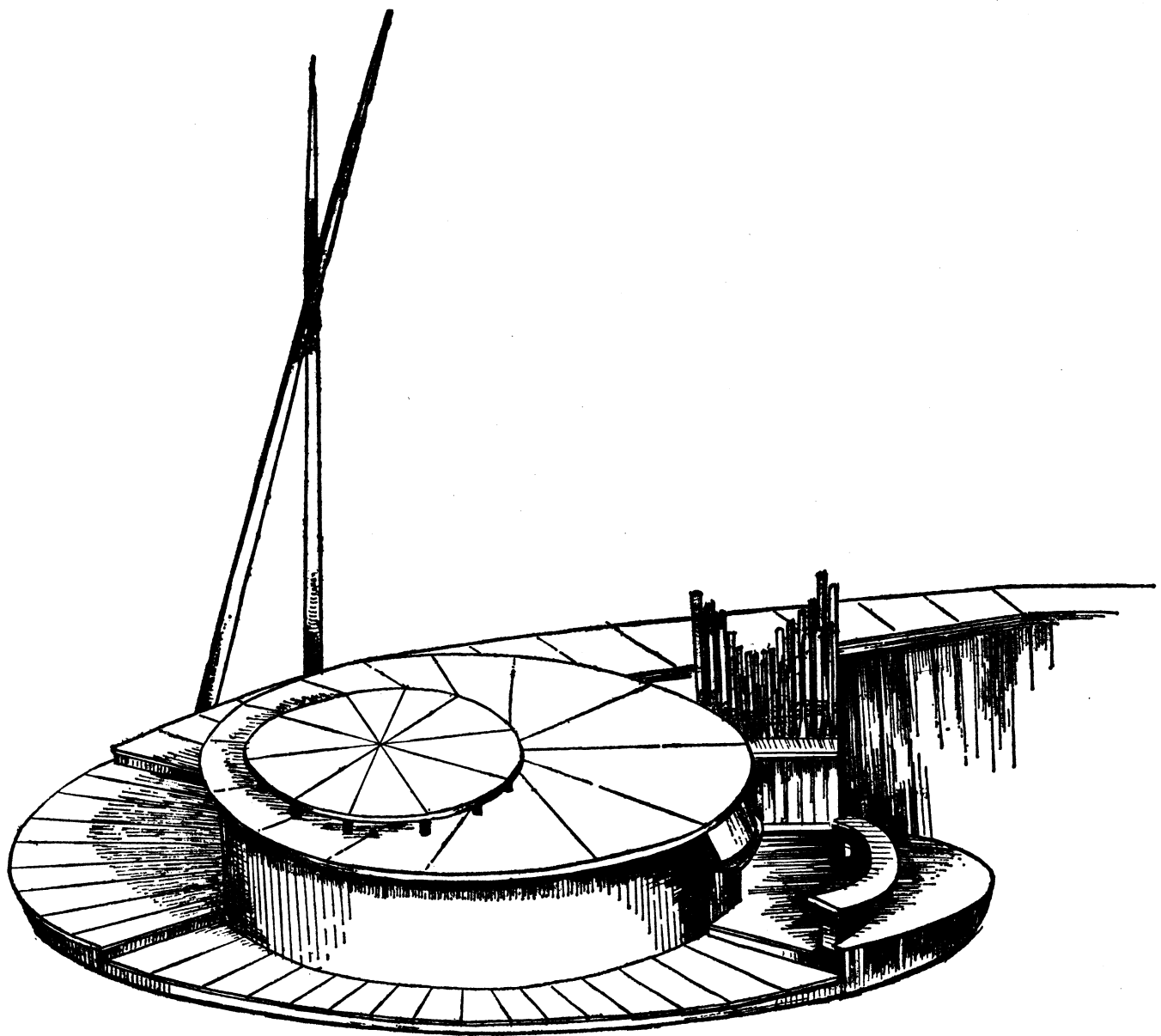
Organ *pp*

Horn *pp*

Harp *pp*

Viola *pp*

Db. *pp*
 pizz.



Drawing by Alix Stone of Colin Graham's stage set
for *Curlew River*

The Costumes for the original production of *Curlew River*, on which
Miss Stone's drawings are based, were designed by Annena Stubbs.