

PARTITA FOR 8 VOICES & WIND ENSEMBLE

by Caroline Shaw
transcribed by Kaitlin Bove

26'

I. Allemande (6')

II. Sarabande (5')

III. Courante (9')

IV. Passacaglia (6')

Partita is a simple piece. Born of a love of surface and structure, of the human voice, of dancing and tired ligaments, of music, and of our basic desire to draw a line from one point to another.

notes on the original Partita for 8 Voices

The spoken text pulls from wall drawing directions of Sol Lewitt, square dance calls, found phrases from an urban environment, and original writings by Caroline Shaw.

The familiar tune in the middle of the third movement, *Courante*, is from the 1856 hymn "Shining Shore" by Mr. George F. Root.

The extended techniques in most of the wind and percussion parts are the transcriber's attempt to achieve a facsimile of Shaw's original vocal techniques. These include world and proprietary techniques including Tuvan Throat Singing (xöömei, kargyraa, and sygyt), Inuit Throat Singing, closed-mouth sigh, P'ansori gesture, "eat your sound", yodel break, pitch bend, and timbral modulations.

INSTRUMENTATION

- piccolo (double flute)
- 3 flute (double alto flute, bass flute)
- 2 oboe
- 2 bassoon
 - contrabassoon
- 3 b-flat clarinet (2 on a part)
- 2 bass clarinet
 - contrabass clarinet
- soprano saxophone (double alto saxophone)
- alto saxophone
- tenor saxophone
- baritone saxophone
- 3 c trumpet
- 4 horn
- 2 tenor trombone
 - bass trombone
- 2 euphonium
- 2 tuba
 - timpani
- 4 percussion
 - (vibraphone, marimba, glockenspiel, crotales, chimes, tenor drum, bass drum, suspended cymbal, (4) terracotta plates, (4) terracotta pots, (4) 8"-16" thin splash or crash cymbals, woodblock, cabasa, vibraslap, sizzle cymbal)
- 8 spoken word vocalists (optimally voices 1-4 female and 5-8 male)
 - vocalists can be members of the ensemble (not performing on this piece), student/professional vocalists, or anyone who can speak rhythmically and clearly. Vocalists are not required to sing in this transcription.
 - Vocalists need to be amplified, preferably with their own microphone.
- 8 *optional* jaw harps (2 pitched in G, 4 pitched in B, and 2 pitched in D)
 - *it is somewhat difficult to find pitched harps in these quantities.
 - Please contact Kaitlin Bove to rent the premiere set or purchase your own custom set from Jamie Bebb at www.theharpery.com