

Roan Mountain Air

for Reed Quintet

David Vess
February 2023

Duration: 3:30

Program:

I grew up in a small mining town in the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains of NC. If you looked off our porch, you could see the Roan Mountain, looming in the distance. The mountains all have a quiet song that you can hear on the wind. Maybe they are echoes from travelers years and years ago. This short piece explores some of these sounds and songs you might hear in this neck of the woods. Quiet wind chimes, a hymn that's hummed, a quick whistle. After a calm opening, we enter a daydream, where the energy and excitement pick up speed. Climbing upwards, until we reach the peak. From there we sit, enjoying the quiet sounds from the beginning, but from a higher point of view.

About the composer:

The music of David Vess (b. 1991) has been described as everything from "ethereal and unique" to "a real barnburner". Hailing from the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina, Vess' music draws inspiration from his eclectic career as a musician. From playing in a Johnny Cash cover band, to singing in the choir at church, playing in New Orleans style Brass Bands, and conducting contemporary opera, all of these different worlds find a connection in David's music. He is currently pursuing his doctorate in composition at the University of Miami Frost School of Music. He lives in Jacksonville, FL with his wife and cat, Sophie and Obi.

For more information, visit: davidvessmusic.com

Roan Mountain Air

Score is Transposed

David Vess
February 2023
Miami, FL

tranquil ♩ = 80

Musical score for measures 1-4, featuring five instruments: Oboe, Clarinet in B♭, Alto Saxophone, Bass Clarinet in B♭, and Bassoon. The score is in 4/4 time with a tempo of 80 beats per minute. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The Oboe part has rests in measures 1 and 3, with melodic lines in measures 2 and 4 marked *p*. The Clarinet in B♭ plays a continuous eighth-note pattern marked *p*. The Alto Saxophone has a melodic line starting in measure 2, marked *mp*, with a crescendo to *mf* in measure 3 and a decrescendo back to *mp* in measure 4. The Bass Clarinet in B♭ plays a steady eighth-note pattern marked *p*. The Bassoon has a melodic line in measure 4 marked *mp*.

Musical score for measures 5-8, featuring five instruments: Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Alto Saxophone (Alto Sax.), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), and Bassoon (Bsn.). The score continues in 4/4 time with a tempo of 80 beats per minute. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The Oboe part has a melodic line starting in measure 5, marked *pp*, with a decrescendo to *p* in measure 6 and a crescendo back to *mp* in measure 7. The Clarinet in B♭ plays a continuous eighth-note pattern. The Alto Saxophone has a melodic line starting in measure 5, marked *mf*, with a decrescendo to *p* in measure 6 and a crescendo back to *mp* in measure 7. The Bass Clarinet in B♭ plays a steady eighth-note pattern. The Bassoon has a melodic line starting in measure 5, marked *mp*.

9

Ob. *p* *mf* *p* *p*

Cl. *mf*

Alto Sax. *mf* *mf*

B. Cl. *mf*

Bsn. *mf*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 9 through 12. The music is in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The time signature changes to 3/4 for measures 10 and 11, and returns to 4/4 for measures 9 and 12. The Oboe part features a melodic line with dynamics *p*, *mf*, *p*, and *p*. The Clarinet part has a rhythmic pattern with a *mf* dynamic. The Alto Saxophone part has a melodic line with *mf* dynamics. The Bass Clarinet and Bassoon parts have rhythmic patterns with *mf* dynamics. A *mf* dynamic marking is also present below the Bassoon staff in measure 11.

13

Ob. *mf* *f* *p*

Cl. *mp*

Alto Sax. *mp*

B. Cl. *mp*

Bsn. *mf* *f*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 13 through 16. The music is in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The time signature changes to 3/4 for measures 14 and 15, and returns to 4/4 for measures 13 and 16. The Oboe part features a melodic line with dynamics *mf*, *f*, and *p*. It includes a triplet in measure 14 and a quintuplet in measure 15. The Clarinet part has a rhythmic pattern with a *mp* dynamic. The Alto Saxophone part has a rhythmic pattern with a *mp* dynamic. The Bass Clarinet part has a rhythmic pattern with a *mp* dynamic. The Bassoon part has a melodic line with *mf* and *f* dynamics.

G.P.

17

Ob. *mp* *mf* *f*

Cl. *mp* *mf* *f*

Alto Sax. *mp* *mf* *f*

B. Cl. *mp* *mf* *f*

Bsn. *mp* *mf* *f*

22

Ob. *pp* *pp* *n*

Cl. *p* *n*

Alto Sax. *p* *pp* *n*

B. Cl. *p* *pp* *n*

Bsn.

lively ♩ = 112

27

Ob. *mf*

Cl. *p*

Alto Sax. *mf* 3

B. Cl. *p*

Bsn. *p*

31

Ob. *ff* 6 6 3 *f*

Cl. *ff* *mf*

Alto Sax. *ff* 3 3 *f*

B. Cl. *ff* *mf*

Bsn. *ff* *mf*

34

Ob. *ff*

Cl. *mf*

Alto Sax. *ff*

B. Cl. *ff*

Bsn. *ff*

Detailed description: This system covers measures 34 and 35. The Oboe (Ob.) has a long note in measure 34 and a half note in measure 35. The Clarinet (Cl.) plays a rhythmic eighth-note pattern. The Alto Saxophone (Alto Sax.) has a long note in measure 34 and a sixteenth-note run in measure 35. The Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.) and Bassoon (Bsn.) play eighth-note patterns. Dynamics include *ff* for the Oboe, Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, and Bassoon, and *mf* for the Bass Clarinet.

36

Ob. *ff* *f*

Cl. *ff* *mf*

Alto Sax. *ff* *mf*

B. Cl. *ff* *mf*

Bsn. *ff* *f*

Detailed description: This system covers measures 36, 37, and 38. Measure 36 features a complex sixteenth-note run for the Oboe with sixteenth-note triplets and a triplet of eighth notes. The Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Bass Clarinet, and Bassoon play eighth-note patterns. Dynamics are *ff* for the Oboe, Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, and Bassoon, and *f* for the Bassoon. Measure 37 has dynamics of *ff* for the Clarinet and Alto Saxophone, and *mf* for the Bass Clarinet. Measure 38 has dynamics of *f* for the Oboe and Bassoon.

39

Ob.

Cl.

Alto Sax.

B. Cl.

Bsn.

mp

6

6

6

41

Ob.

Cl.

Alto Sax.

B. Cl.

Bsn.

mf

f

f

f

mf

mp

mp

mp

3

molto rall.

43

Ob. *f* *ff* *ff*

Cl. *f* *ff* *p* *ff*

Alto Sax. *f* *ff* *ff*

B. Cl. *f* *ff* *ff*

Bsn. *f* *ff* *p* *ff*

calm ♩ = 72

G.P.

46

Ob. *fff* *mp* *mf*

Cl. *fff* *p* *p* *mf*

Alto Sax. *fff* *p* *p* *mf*

B. Cl. *fff* *mf* *mf*

Bsn. *fff* *p* *mf*

52

Ob. *mp* *mf* *mp*

Cl. *p* *p* *mf* *p*

Alto Sax. *p* *p* *mf* *p*

B. Cl. *mf*

Bsn. *p* *mf*

57

Ob. *mf* *p* *mf*

Cl. *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

Alto Sax. *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

B. Cl. *mf* *mf*

Bsn. *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

62

Ob. *mf*

Cl. *mf* *p* *p < mf* *p < mf*

Alto Sax.

B. Cl. *mf* *p* *p* *p < mf*

Bsn. *mf* *p* *p* *p < mf*

Detailed description: This system contains five staves for woodwinds. The Ob. staff has a whole note G4 with a fermata. The Cl. staff has eighth notes in 3/4 and 4/4, with dynamics *mf*, *p*, and *p < mf*. The Alto Sax. staff is mostly silent. The B. Cl. staff has eighth notes in 3/4 and 4/4, with dynamics *mf*, *p*, and *p < mf*. The Bsn. staff has eighth notes in 3/4 and 4/4, with dynamics *mf*, *p*, and *p < mf*. Time signatures change from 3/4 to 4/4 and back to 3/4.

67

Ob. *f* *mf* *p*

Cl. *p* *f* *pp*

Alto Sax. *p* *mf* *f* *mf*

B. Cl. *p* *f* *pp*

Bsn. *p* *f* *pp*

Detailed description: This system contains five staves for woodwinds. The Ob. staff has a half note G4 with a fermata, with dynamics *f*, *mf*, and *p*. The Cl. staff has eighth notes in 3/4 and 4/4, with dynamics *p*, *f*, and *pp*. The Alto Sax. staff has a sixteenth-note run in 3/4, then a half note G4 with a fermata, with dynamics *p*, *mf*, *f*, and *mf*. The B. Cl. staff has eighth notes in 3/4 and 4/4, with dynamics *p*, *f*, and *pp*. The Bsn. staff has eighth notes in 3/4 and 4/4, with dynamics *p*, *f*, and *pp*. Time signatures change from 3/4 to 4/4 and back to 3/4.

71

Ob. *pp* *p* *pp*

Cl. *pp* *p* *n*

Alto Sax. *p* *pp*

B. Cl.

Bsn.

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for woodwinds, numbered 71. It features five staves: Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Alto Saxophone (Alto Sax.), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), and Bassoon (Bsn.). The music is in 4/4 time and consists of five measures. The Oboe part begins with a *pp* dynamic, followed by a *p* dynamic in the second measure, and a *pp* dynamic in the third measure. The Clarinet part starts with a *pp* dynamic, moves to *p* in the second measure, and ends with a *n* (normal) dynamic in the fifth measure. The Alto Saxophone part has a *p* dynamic in the second measure and a *pp* dynamic in the third measure. The Bass Clarinet and Bassoon parts are mostly silent, with a final note in the fifth measure. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings.