

Score

I'd Rather Live On the Water

**Peter Jarvis, Opus 55
(2016)**

I'd Rather Live On the Water
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Performance Notes

General:

- Accidentals apply only to the register in which they appear and are cancelled at the bar line in the traditional manner.

Vibraphone:

- Motor off throughout.
- Mallets according to the articulation and the acoustical environment.
- Pedalings may be treated as suggestions; especially when they are in conflict with clarity of sound because of the acoustical environment.

Program Note

I'd Rather Live On the Water was completed on August 18-19, 2016. The short piece uses an anonymous text from c. 12th Century, which I have been wanting to set for quite some time.

- Peter Jarvis

The Roast Swan

Anonymous – c. 12th Century

Once I lived on a lake, once I was beautiful, when I was a swan.

Misery, misery!

Now I'm black and charred through and through.

Now they turn me on a spit

I feel the searing flame

a mighty funeral pyre.

I'd rather live on the water

always exposed to the open air than immersed under this pepper.

I'll never be snowy white

like a gracefully formed bird

I'll be twisted like a black raven.

Now I lie in the pan unable to fly

I can see the gnashing teeth. Misery, misery!

Now I'm black and charred through and through.

I'd Rather Live On the Water

Anonymous
(c. 12th Century)

Peter Jarvis (2016)
Opus 55

♩ = 60
motor off throughout

Vibraphone

ff
senza pedal

Soprano

ff

Once I lived on a lake,

Detailed description: This system contains the first two staves of music. The top staff is for the Vibraphone, written in 4/4 time with a treble clef. It features a series of chords and single notes, with a dynamic marking of *ff* and the instruction *senza pedal*. The bottom staff is for the Soprano voice, also in 4/4 time with a treble clef. It begins with a dynamic marking of *ff* and contains the lyrics "Once I lived on a lake," with a long note on "on" that spans across the bar line.

Vib.

f
Ped.

S.

f

once I was beau-ti - ful, when I

Detailed description: This system contains the next two staves. The top staff is for the Vibraphone, starting with a triplet of eighth notes and a dynamic marking of *f*. A "Ped." line is drawn below the staff, indicating sustained notes. The bottom staff is for the Soprano voice, with a dynamic marking of *f* and the lyrics "once I was beau-ti - ful, when I".

Vib.

mf
Ped.

S.

mf

was a swan.

Detailed description: This system contains the final two staves. The top staff is for the Vibraphone, featuring a long note with a dynamic marking of *mf* and a "Ped." line. The bottom staff is for the Soprano voice, with a dynamic marking of *mf* and the lyrics "was a swan.".

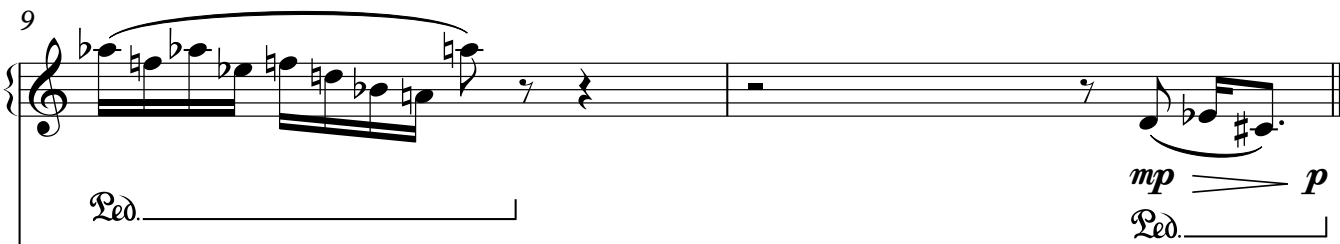
I'd Rather Live On the Water


7

Vib.  *mf espress.*
Ped. _____ Ped. _____

S.  *ff*
MIS - E - RY, MIS-E - RY!

9

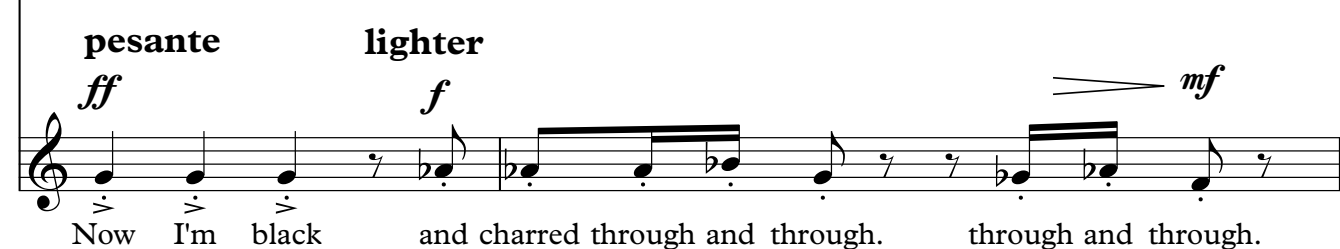
Vib.  *mp* *p*
Ped. _____ Ped. _____

S.  *f* *mf*
mis-e - ry, MIS-ER - RY! mis-e - ry

poco rit.

11

Vib.  *ff* *mf*
senza pedal

S.  *ff* *f* *mf*
Now I'm black and charred through and through. through and through.

a tempo
pesante **lighter**

13 **pesante**

Vib. *mp espress.* *ff*

Ped. *Ped.*

S. **pesante** *ff*

mis - e - ry Now

15 **lighter** **pesante**

Vib. *f* *ff*

lighter **pesante**

S. *f* *ff*

they turn me on a spit I feel the

17 **lighter**

Vib. *mf espress.* *Ped.* *Ped.*

lighter *f* *p* **like an echo** **like an echo**

S. *f* *p* **like an echo**

sear-ing flame mis - er - y mis - e - ry

I'd Rather Live On the Water

19 **pesante** **lighter**

Vib. *ff* *f espress.*

S. **pesante** **lighter** *Ped.*

ff *f*

a migh - ty fun - er - al py - re. —

21

Vib. *ff* pedal freely *Ped.*

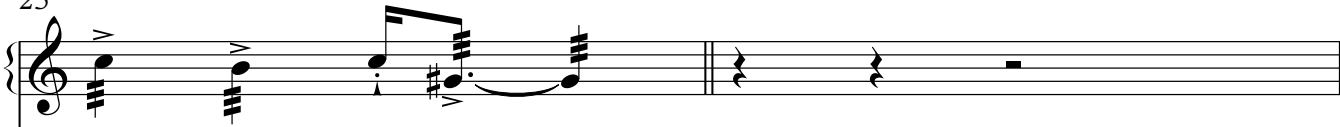
S. MIS-E-RY MIS-E-RY!

23


Vib. *f* *3* *5* *3* pedal freely *Ped.*

S.

25

Vib. 

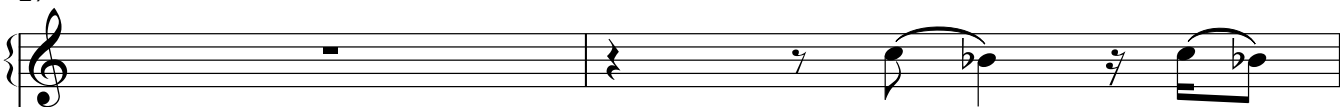
Ped. Ped. Ped.

S. 

mf

I'd rath - er live


27

Vib. 

like an echo


mf

Ped. Ped.

S. 


on the wa - ter

29

Vib. 

like an echo

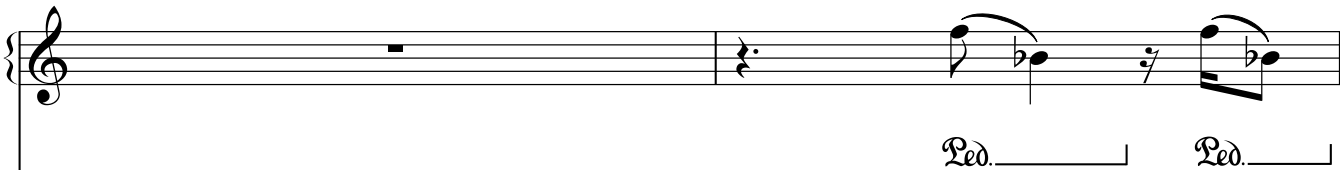
Ped.


S. 

al - ways ex - posed to the op - en air


I'd Rather Live On the Water


31 like an echo

Vib.  Ped. _____ Ped. _____


S.  than im-mersed un-der this pep-er.


33 like an echo

Vib.  *mp* Ped. _____

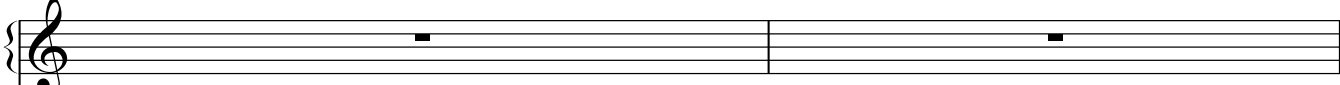
S.  *mp* I'll nev-er be snow-y white *p* like a grace-ful-ly *3*

35 like an echo

Vib.  *p* *f* Ped. _____ Ped. _____

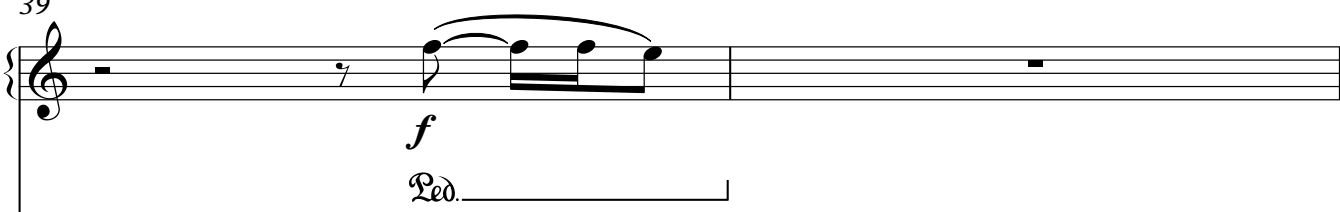
S.  *f* (in a coarse voice) formed bird I'll be twis-ted

37

Vib. 

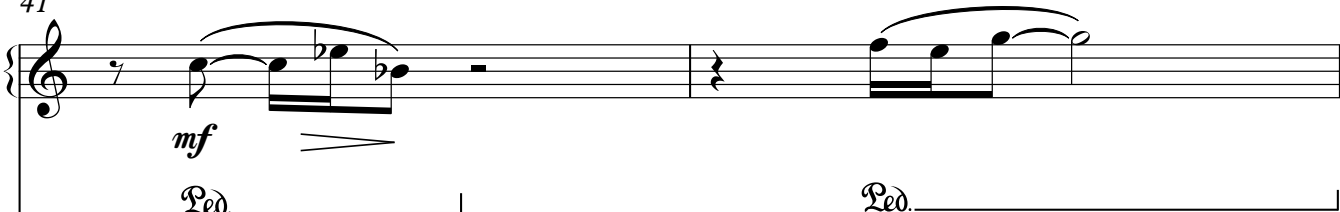
S. *ff* like a black rav - en. *mf* ord. Now I lie

39

Vib. like an echo *f* 

S. in the pan un - a - ble to fly

41

Vib. like an echo *mf* 

S. I can see the gnash - ing

I'd Rather Live On the Water

43 ord.

Vib. *f* *espress.*
pedal freely

S. teeth. *f* *ff*
mis - e - ry MIS-E- RY!_

45

Vib. **pesante** **moto rit.**
ff
senza pedal

S. **pesante** **moto rit.**
(in a coarse voice, half spoken)
ff
Now I'm black and charred through and through.