

PIERCE GRADONE

IN THE DEPTHS

for mezzo-soprano and piano

JAMESCREST MUSIC

PIERCE GRADONE

IN THE DEPTHS

for mezzo-soprano and piano

I'm standing in the depths of black turmoil awaiting my prison sentence determination

Length unfair, time unknown and undecided

Fighting to stay sane but underneath

Piles of I don't knows

Anxiety as high as the sky

I'm afraid and overwhelmed

I wish I knew more

Can't God heal everyone right now?

Dirty

Coronavirus 2020

Benjamin Smidt

Score in C

Duration: c. 6 minutes

Commissioned by the Lynx Project

Commissioned by LYNX
for their 2020-21 Amplify Series

IN THE DEPTHS

for mezzo-soprano and piano

BENJAMIN SMIDT

PIERCE GRADONE
(2020)

Resonant and ponderous ♩ = 60

Mezzo-Soprano

Piano

f *pp* *mp* *p*

con Ped. sempre
change pedal with chords, but maintain a sustained sound
release pedal when instructed

F# E_b *

D_b

6

pp *p* *pp* *mf* *mp* *pp* *pp* *mp*

Sub *

Ped. *

11 $3 \text{ ♩} + 2 \text{ ♩}$ $2 \text{ ♩} + 3 \text{ ♩}$ $2 \text{ ♩} + 3 \text{ ♩}$

pp *mp* *p* *mp* *pp*

con Red. sempre *Red.*

A *p* melancholy, like a ballad or jazz standard *mp*

I'm stand - ing stand - ing in the

p *mp*

con Red. sempre *

19 $2 \text{ ♩} + 3 \text{ ♩}$ *p* *mf* *p*

Stand - ing in the depths of black turn - oi - l A -

p *mf* *p*

con Red. sempre *

D \flat E \flat C

23 *mf* *p*

wait - ing my pri - son sen - tence de - ter - mi - na - tion

mp *p* *pp*

8vb

28 **B** *mf* *p* *mf*

Length un - fair Time un -

mf *p* *mf*

mp freely vary speed of tremolo
maintain *mp* dynamic of tremolo in left hand

m.d. *pp* *m.d.*

Red.

32

known and un - de cid - ed

f

m.d.

Red.

C Sustained and steady ♩ = 60

p with aggression

Fight - ing to stay

pp

8va-----

(Red.)

accel. poco a poco

3 ♩ + 2 ♩ 2 ♩ + 3 ♩ 2 ♩ + 2 ♩ + 3 ♩

Fight - ing to stay Fight - ing to stay

mf *mp*

8va-----

p *mp*

(Red.)

With growing urgency ♩ = 70 accel. poco a poco

3 ♩ + 2 ♩ 2 ♩ + 3 ♩ 2 ♩ + 2 ♩ + 3 ♩

Fight - ing to stay Fight - ing to stay

mf *f* *mp*

8va-----

8vb-----

(Red.)

Articulate, urgent, rhythmic ♩ = 80

D 3 ♩ + 2 ♩ *f* *unhinged, anxious* 2 ♩ + 3 ♩ + 2 ♩

Fight - ing to stay Fight - ing to stay sane fight - ing to stay

8vb - - - 8vb - - - 8vb - - -

49 3 ♩ + 2 ♩ + 2 ♩ 3 ♩ + 2 ♩

sane but un - der - neath Fight - ing to stay Fight - ing to stay

(8vb) - - - 8vb - - - 8vb - - -

52 2 ♩ + 3 ♩ + 2 ♩ 3 ♩ + 2 ♩ + 2 ♩ 3 ♩ + 2 ♩

sane fight - ing to stay sane but un - der - neath fight - ing to stay

(8vb) - - -

55 3 ♪ + 2 ♪ + 2 ♪

sane but un - der - neath Pi - les of I don't knows Pi - les of

E

I don't knows An -

xi - e - ty as high as the sky

♩ = 100

63

(Red.)

F ♩ = 66

♩. - ♩

66

let piano resonance fade slightly before singing I'm a -
Sua - - -

non rit. (keep up the rhythmic intensity!)

mp *p*

(Red.)

70

fraid — A - afraid and O - - - ver -

mf

pp

Sua - - -

(Red.)

G Steady, with a slight groove ♩ = 100

2 ♩ + 2 ♩ + 3 ♩

accel. poco a poco -----

whelmed _____

pp *p*

D4 should always be the quietest note; attack should be barely audible

Red. _____

H ♩ = 106

mp

I'm a - fraid _____

mp

(Red.) _____

accel. poco a poco -----

♩ = 112

O - ver - whelmed A - fraid and - o - ver - whelmed I _____

mf *mf*

(Red.) _____

I

92

wish _____ I _____

like a bell

(Red.)

2 ♪ + 2 ♪ + 3 ♪

97

knew _____ more _____

subito *p*

(Red.)

102

mp

Knew _____ more _____

mf

(Red.) _____ Red.

J

mf

f

Can't God _____ heal _____ ev - 'ry - one now _____ now

Spa ----- *Spa* -----

(Red.)

K

pp sotto voce

113

now _____ Dirt - y

f

(Red.)

116

mp increasingly agitated

mf

ff

Dirt - y - - - - - Dirt - y Dirt - y

f

(Red.)

L Resonant and ponderous $\text{♩} = 64$ *mp* p

p melancholy, like a ballad or jazz standard

Stand - ing _____ Stand - ing in the _____ Stand - ing

pp *mp* *p* *pp*

Sub - - - - - *

change pedal with chords, but maintain a sustained sound
release pedal when instructed

125 *mp* *mf* *p*

in the depths of black tur - moi - l

p *mf* *mp* *pp* *p*

(Sub) * Ped.

129 *mp* *p* *pp*

rit. -----

(Ped.)