

DT0118 | TRUMBORE
MEASURED SANDS | SATB CHORUS, HARP, CELLO & PIANO

MEASURED SANDS

SATB Chorus, Harp, Cello & Piano

FULL SCORE

daletrumbore
c o m p o s e r

MEASURED SANDS

Still afraid to touch down
in murky waters, I return
to the place that reveals me
to myself.

We were children saying
someday we'll be here
with our children.

Our desire to come back
was barnacled with wanting
as the rock by which
we measured the tide.

Younger, we dug for clams
on sandbars, found the sand
was greyer, yielding, darker,
only when we dug deeper.

I imagined, here, I'd hold
a daughter. Now, my brother
swims with his son.

The water level's higher
in the bay, the ocean
hardly covering the rock.

This place holds every tide,
the daughter she lost.
It offers up each empty shell,

each immutable stone,
the memories we buried
in the sand, greyer, yielding,
darker the deeper we dig.

—Dale Trumbore

PERFORMANCE NOTES

All

- sh → ff represents spoken, unpitched white noise. For the full duration of the arrow, transform an unpitched “sh” sound into “ff” gradually over several beats. Visit daletrumbore.com/measured-sands for a reference recording.
- x noteheads indicate unpitched vocables.

Singers

- A dotted line indicated the illusion of a continued line (no audible breath), with a consonant cutoff landing on the rest.
- Parentheses () indicate that a note can be omitted if out of range.

Cello

- o indicates a natural harmonic, notated at pitch.
- + indicates left hand pizzicato.

Piano

- Grey rests indicate duration of beats, not silence.
- Boxed notes should be played first as written, then in any order, rippling quickly, ebbing and flowing gently in speed, approximately between the speed of 16th notes and 8th notes.

Harp

- Boxed notes (bisbigliando) should be played first as written, then in any order.

PROGRAM NOTE

Measured Sands was commissioned by the Green Lake Festival of Music Composer Residency (John C. Hughes, conductor).

Measured Sands

SATB Chorus, Harp, Cello & Piano

Dale Trumbore

Brightly $\text{♩} = 50$

Piano *mf* *pp* *ff*

Cello *mf* *pp* *sub. pp*

A

S. *mf* *pp*
Still a-fraid to touch down, Still a-fraid to touch down in murky waters,

A. *mf* *pp*
Still a-fraid to touch down, Still a-fraid to touch down in murky waters,

T. *pp*
Still a-fraid to touch down in murky waters,

B. *pp*
Still a-fraid to touch down in murky waters,

Pno. *mf* *sub. p* *mf*

Vc. *f* *mf* *mp*

12

S. *f* I re - turn to the place that re - veals me to my - self. *p* **B** *f*

A. *f* I re - turn to the place that re - veals me. *p* *pp* sh

T. *f* I re - turn to the place that re - veals me to my - self. *p* *f*

B. *f* I re - turn re - veals me to my - self. *p* *f*

Hp. *mf* DC#B | EF#GA

Pno. *pp*

Vc. *f* *p* *mf*

18

S. *pp* *mf* *pp* *mf*
sh *ff* sh *ff*

A. *mf* *pp* *mf*
ff sh *ff*

T. *pp* *mf* *pp*
sh *ff* sh

B. *pp* *mf* *pp*
sh *ff* sh

Hp. B \flat

Pno. *pp* until m. 33

Vc. *mp* *pp* *p*

25

S. *pp* *mf*
sh *ff*

A. *mp*
I re - turn to my -

T. *mf* *p*
ff to my -

B. *mf* *pp*
ff *sh*

Hp.

Pno. 25

Vc. *p* *pp*

30

S. *pp* *mf*
sh *ff*

A. *mp* *pp* *mp*
self, I re - turn to my - self,

T. *mp* *pp* *mp*
self, I re - turn to my - self,

B. *mf* *pp* *mf*
ff *sh* *ff*

Hp. *mf* *p*

Pno. 30 *rippling slows* *p*

Vc. *p* *mf* *p*

poco a poco rit. **C Slightly slower; ♩ = ca. 72**

S. *p* We were chil - dren

A. *p* We were chil - dren

T. *p* We were chil - dren

B. *p* We were chil - dren

poco a poco rit. **Slightly slower; ♩ = ca. 72**

Hp. *mf* *bell-like* *mp* Eb C4

Pno. *p* *mf* *mp*

Vc. *mf* *f* *p* *sweetly*

poco accel. ♩ = ca. 44

S. *pp* say - ing some - day we'll be here with our chil - dren. *f*

A. *pp* say - ing some - day we'll be here with our chil - dren. *f*

T. *pp* say - ing some - day we'll be here with our chil - dren. *f*

B. *pp* say - ing some - day we'll be here with our chil - dren. *f*

poco accel. ♩ = ca. 44

Hp. *mf*

Pno. *mf*

Vc. *pp* *f*

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55 *f* *rit.* *♩ = ca. 72* *pp* *mf*

S. *f* *rit.* *♩ = ca. 72* *pp* *mf*

A. *f* *rit.* *♩ = ca. 72* *pp* *mf*

T. *f* *rit.* *♩ = ca. 72* *pp* *mf*

B. *f* *rit.* *♩ = ca. 72* *pp* *mf*

Hp. *f* *rit.* *♩ = ca. 72* *pp* *mf*

Pno. *mf* *rit.* *♩ = ca. 72* *f*

Vc. *arco* *mf* *mp*

sh *ff* *sh* *ff* *sh* *ff* *sh* *ff*

61 **E** *mp*

S. *mp* Young - er, we dug for clams on sand - bars,

A. *mp* Young - er, we dug for clams on sand - bars, *pp* found the sand was grey - er,

T. *mf* *ff* we dug for clams on sand - bars, *pp* found the sand was grey - er,

B. *mp* Young - er, we dug for clams on sand - bars, *pp* found the sand was grey - er,

Hp. *Spoken:* *pp* *mf* *pp* *mf*

Pno. *Spoken:* *pp* *mf* *pp* *mf* *pp*

Vc. *mp*

sh *ff* *sh* *ff* *sh* *ff* *sh* *ff*

66 *mp* *f*

S. yield - ing, dark - er, on - ly when we dug deep - er.

A. yield - ing, dark - er, on - ly when we dug deep - er.

T. yield - ing, dark - er, on - ly when we dug deep - er.

B. yield - ing, dark - er, on - ly when we dug deep - er.

Harp: *pp* *mf* *pp* *mf* *f*

Piano: *mf* *pp* *mf* *mf* *f*

Vc. *mf* *f*

DC#Bb | EF#GA

72 **F** *mp*

S. I im - ag - ined, here, I'd hold a daugh - ter.

A. I im - ag - ined, here, I'd hold a daugh - ter.

T. I im - ag - ined, here, I'd hold a daugh - ter.

B. I im - ag - ined, here, I'd hold a daugh - ter.

Harp: *mf* *bell-like* *DCBb | EF#GA*

Piano: *p*

Vc. *p* *sweetly*

77 *mf*

S. Now, my bro - ther swims with his son.

A. Now, my bro - ther swims with his son.

T. Now, my bro - ther swims with his son.

B. Now, my bro - ther swims with his son.

Hp. *f*

77 *mf*

Pno.

Vc. *mf*



81 *mf*

Hp.

81

Pno.

Vc. *f*



84 **G** Pushing forward

S. *pp* *mf* *pp* *mf* *pp*
sh *ff* sh *ff* the

A. *mp* The wa - ter lev - el's high - er in the bay, *pp* the

T. *mp* The wa - ter lev - el's high - er in the bay, *pp* the

B. *pp* *mf* *pp*
sh *ff* the

Hp. *pp* *sh*

84 **G** Pushing forward

Pno. *pp*

Vc. *p*

FOR PAPERUSAL ONLY

Spoken:
pp

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101 $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 44$ **I**

S. *pp* It of-fers up each emp - ty shell, each im - mu - ta - ble stone, *mp*

A. *pp* It of-fers up each emp - ty shell, each im - mu - ta - ble stone, *mp*

T. *pp* It of-fers up each emp - ty shell, each im - mu - ta - ble stone, *mp*

B. *pp* It of-fers up each emp - ty shell, each im - mu - ta - ble stone, *mp*

Hp. DC#Bb | EF#GA *p*

101 $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 44$ **I**

Pno. *p* *mf* *p*

Vc. *p* *p* *mp*

107 *pp* the mem - o - ries we bur - ied in the sand, *rit.* *mf*

A. *pp* the mem - o - ries we bur - ied in the sand, *mf*

T. *pp* the mem - o - ries we bur - ied in the sand, *mf*

B. *pp* the mem - o - ries we bur - ied in the sand, *mf*

Hp. *pp* *mf* *sh* *ff*

107 *Spoken: pp* *sh*

Vc. *p*

112 In time (♩ = ca. 44) **J** poco a poco rit. *mp* Slow *pp*

S. yield - ing, dark - er the deep - er we

A. yield - ing, dark - er the deep - er we

T. grey - er, dark - er the deep - er we

B. grey - er, dark - er the deep - er we

Hp. In time (♩ = ca. 44) *Spoken: pp* poco a poco rit. *mf* Slow

sh *ff* *mf*

112 *mf* *ff* **J** *ppp* *mf*

Pno.

Vc. *Spoken: pp* *mf* *sh* *ff* *mf* sul C, G

118 *mf* *ppp* barely perceptible *rit.* *p*

S. dig. sh *ff*

A. dig. sh *ff*

T. dig. sh *ff*

B. dig. sh *ff*

Hp. *mf* *p* *bisbigl.* *8va*

118 *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *pp* *rit.*

Pno.

Vc. *f* *mf* *f* *p*