

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

MEASURED SANDS

SSA Chorus, Harp, Cello & Piano

CHORUS & PIANO REDUCTION

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” slowly over several beats. Visit daletrumbore.com/measured-sands for a reference recording.
- x noteheads = unpitched vocables

Singers

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

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.

PROGRAM NOTE

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

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John C. Hughes, conductor

Measured Sands

SSA Chorus & Piano Reduction

Dale Trumbore

Brightly; ♩ = 50

PIANO
(For rehearsal only)

mf

3

Pno.

sub. *pp*

ff

ℳ

*Notes within boxes 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.

A

7

mf

pp

S. Still a-fraid to touch down, Still a-fraid to touch

mf

pp

A. Still a-fraid to touch down, Still a-fraid to touch

Pno.

mf

sub. *p*

Λ

Measured Sands

10

S. *f*
down in murk - y wa - ters, I re - turn to the place that re -

A. *f*
down in murk - y wa - ters, I re - turn to the place that re -

Pno. *mf* *p* *f*

B

15

S. *p* *mf* *pp*
veals me to my - self. sh

A. *p* *pp* *mf* *ff*
veals me sh

Pno. *p* *mf* *ff*

19

S. *mf* *pp*
sh

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

Pno. *p* *p* until m. 33

24

S. 1 *mf* *ff* *pp* *sh* *mf* *ff*

S. 2 *mf* *ff* *p* I re - turn to my -

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

Pno.

30

S. 1 *pp* *sh* *mf* *ff*

S. 2 *mp* *self,* *pp* *sh* *mf* *ff*

A. *mf* *ff* *p* I re - turn to my - self, *mp*

Pno.

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Here's the next page:

47 **D** *mp*

S. Our de - sire to come back was as

A. Our de - sire to come back was as

Pno. *mp*

51

S. bar - na-cled with want - ing as the rock by which we

A. bar - na-cled with want - ing as the rock by which we

Pno.

54 *f* rit. *f*

S. meas-ured the tide.

A. meas-ured the tide.

Pno. *mf* 3 3

57 $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 72$

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

S. 2 *pp* *mf*
sh *ff*

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

Pno. *mf* *p*

Spoken:
sh *pp*

E 61

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

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

Pno. *ff* *mf*

66 *mp* *f*

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

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

Pno. *mf*

71 **F**

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

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

Pno. *f* *mp*

76

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

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

Pno. *mp* *mf*

81

Pno. *f*

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96 **H** Slightly slower

S. place holds eve - ry tide, — the daugh - ter she lost.

A. place holds eve - ry tide, — the daugh - ter she lost.

Pno. *pp* *p*

100 $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 44$ **I**

S. *pp* It of-fers up each emp - ty shell,

A. *pp* It of-fers up each emp - ty shell,

Pno. *mf* *p*

104

S. *mp* *pp* each im - mu - ta - ble stone, the mem - o - ries — we

A. *mp* *pp* each im - mu - ta - ble stone, the mem - o - ries — we

Pno. *mf* *p* *mp* *p*

