

concert music

Liber Animalium
for Orchestra

peter gilbert

Liber Animalium (2023) for Orchestra

Flute(s)
Oboe(s)
Bb Clarinet(s)
Bassoon(s)
Horn(s)
Trumpet(s)
Trombone(s)
Tuba
Percussion (Timpani, Bass Drum, Vibraphone, Tam-tam, Large Cymbal, Mark Tree, Wood Block, Temple Blocks, Large Cabaça or Shekere)
Strings

The Poems:

I. The Eagle by Alfred, Lord Tennyson

He clasps the crag with crooked hands;
Close to the sun in lonely lands,
Ring'd with the azure world, he stands.

The wrinkled sea beneath him crawls;
He watches from his mountain walls,
And like a thunderbolt he falls.

II. A Jelly-Fish by Marianne Moore

Visible, invisible,
A fluctuating charm,
An amber-colored amethyst
Inhabits it; your arm
Approaches, and
It opens and
It closes;
You have meant
To catch it,
And it shrivels;
You abandon
Your intent—
It opens, and it
Closes and you
Reach for it—
The blue
Surrounding it
Grows cloudy, and
It floats away
From you

III. The Termites (after Ogden Nash)

A group of termites found a place
All made of wood, and liked the taste.
And this is how your Auntie's bed
Fell through the ceiling overhead

IV. She staked her Feathers By Emily Dickinson

She staked her Feathers — Gained an Arc —
Debated — Rose again —
This time — beyond the estimate
Of Envy, or of Men —

Performance Note:

These movements may be done with or without narration of the poems and can be performed in score order or in any desired constellation, in any order. If done without narration one can leave out the first two measures of “The Eagle.”

Program Note:

Liber Animalium (The Book of Animals) is work that explores different notational strategies for a developing orchestra. The works mostly come line for line from famous animal poems, animating them in sound.

Alfred Lord Tennyson's eagle soars over majestic scenery,
Marianne Moore's jelly-fish floats in luminous beauty,
Lewis Carroll's crocodile grins menacingly,
Ogden Nash's termites cause lots of trouble,

The Eagle

text by Alfred Lord Tennyson

Transposed Score

Peter Gilbert

Hovering (♩ = 138)

*He clasps the crag with crooked hands;
Close to the sun in lonely lands,
Ring'd with the azure world, he stands.*

Majestic (♩ = 138)

The score is divided into two main sections: **Hovering** and **Majestic**, both in 3/4 time with a tempo of 138 beats per minute. The woodwind section includes Flutes, Oboes, Clarinets in Bb, Bassoons, Horns, Trumpet 1 in Bb, Trumpet 2 in Bb, Trombones, and Tuba. The percussion section features a Large Cymbal and Timpani. The string section includes Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, and Contrabass. Dynamics range from *pp* to *f*. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings. A large 'Draft Copy' watermark is visible across the page.

Liber Animalium
The Eagle

8

15

Musical score for woodwinds, brass, and percussion. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl), Oboe (Ob), Clarinet (Cl), Bassoon (Bn), Horn (Hn), Trumpet (Tpt), Trumpet 2 (Tpt 2), Trombone (Tb), Tuba (Tba), Percussion 1 (Pc 1), and Timpani (Timp). The woodwinds and brass parts feature dynamic markings such as *f* (forte) and *mf* (mezzo-forte). The percussion parts include dynamic markings such as *mf*, *p* (piano), and *f*. The score is marked with rehearsal points 8 and 15.

8

15

Musical score for strings, including Violin 1 (Vn 1), Violin 2 (Vn 2), Viola (Va), Violoncello (Vc), and Contrabass (Cb). The string parts feature dynamic markings such as *mp* (mezzo-piano), *f* (forte), and *mp*. The score is marked with rehearsal points 8 and 15.

This musical score is for the piece "The Eagle" from "Liber Animalium". It is a full orchestral score for measures 17 through 24. The instruments included are Flute (Fl), Oboe (Ob), Clarinet (Cl), Bassoon (Bn), Horn (Hn), Trumpet (Tpt), Trumpet 2 (Tpt 2), Trombone (Tb), Tuba (Tba), Percussion 1 (Pc 1), Timpani (Timp), Violin 1 (Vn 1), Violin 2 (Vn 2), Viola (Va), Violoncello (Vc), and Contrabass (Cb). The score features a variety of dynamic markings such as *f* (forte), *mf* (mezzo-forte), *mp* (mezzo-piano), and *p* (piano), along with crescendos and decrescendos. The percussion part includes complex rhythmic patterns with dynamic changes. The woodwinds and strings play melodic and harmonic lines, with some instruments like the Flute and Oboe having long, sustained notes. The score is marked with a large "PRELIMSAL COPY" watermark.

Liber Animalium
The Eagle

28

35

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bn

Hn

Tpt

Tpt 2

Tb

Tba

Pc 1

Timp

Vn 1

Vn 2

Va

Vc

Cb

f *mf* *ff*

div. (optional)

f *mf* *ff*

f *mf* *ff*

f *mp* *f*

f *mp* *f*

p *f* *mf* *p* *f*

mp *f* *mp* *f* *ff*

f *ff*

f *ff*

f *ff*

Mark Tree

28

35

This musical score is for the piece 'The Eagle' from 'Liber Animalium'. It is a page from a larger score, indicated by the number '41' in a box at the top center. The score is divided into two systems, each starting at measure 36. The first system includes parts for Flute (Fl), Oboe (Ob), Clarinet (Cl), Bassoon (Bn), Horn (Hn), Trumpet (Tpt), Trumpet 2 (Tpt 2), Trombone (Tb), Trombone 2 (Tba), Percussion 1 (Pc 1), and Timpani (Timp). The second system includes parts for Violin 1 (Vn 1), Violin 2 (Vn 2), Viola (Va), Violoncello (Vc), and Contrabass (Cb). The woodwind and brass parts feature various dynamics such as *mf* (mezzo-forte), *mp* (mezzo-piano), and *f* (forte). The string parts include a tremolo effect in the Percussion 1 part. A large, semi-transparent watermark reading 'PRELIMSAL COPY' is overlaid diagonally across the entire page.

53 The wrinkled sea beneath him crawls;
He watches from his mountain walls,
And like a thunderbolt he falls.

46

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bn

Hn

Tpt

Tpt 2

Tb

Tba

Pc 1

Timp

Vn 1

Vn 2

Va

Vc

Cb

Tam-tam

53 The wrinkled sea beneath him crawls;
He watches from his mountain walls,
And like a thunderbolt he falls.

f *p* *mf* *f* *p* *mf* *f* *p* *mf* *f* *p* *mf* *f* *p* *ff* *p* *ff* *p* *ff* *p* *ff* *p* *ff* *p*

56

Fl

mp

f

ff

6

(for empty stems, use any pitch in that area)

Ob

f

ff

6

(for empty stems, use any pitch in that area)

Cl

f

ff

6

(for empty stems, use any pitch in that area)

Bn

ff

Hn

f

Tpt

f

Tpt 2

f

Tb

f

Tba

ff

Pc 1

Mark Tree

mf

Timp

ff

59

56

Vn 1

f

ff

(for empty stems, use any pitch in that area)

Vn 2

f

ff

(for empty stems, use any pitch in that area)

Va

f

ff

(for empty stems, use any pitch in that area)

Vc

f

ff

(for empty stems, use any pitch in that area)

Cb

f

ff

(for empty stems, use any pitch in that area)

A Jelly-Fish

text by Marianne Moore

Peter Gilbert

Transposed Score

Floating and luminescent

(proceeding in your own tempo but changing together each measure, typically about 4-6 seconds per bar)

"Visible," *"invisible,"* *"A fluctuating charm,"*

Flutes *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp*

Oboes *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp*

Clarinets *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp*

Bassoons *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp*

Horn in F *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp*
1. cup mute (throughout) 2. cup mute (throughout) 1.

Trumpets in B \flat *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp*

Trombones *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp*

Tuba *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp*

Vibraphone *pp*
motor on: slow

Percussion 1 *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp*
Rea. ----- (continue to hold)

Large Cymbal *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp*

Floating and luminescent

(proceeding in your own tempo but changing together each measure, typically about 4-6 seconds per bar)

"Visible," *"invisible,"* *"A fluctuating charm,"*

Violin 1 *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp*

Violin 2 *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp*

Viola *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp*

Cello *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp*

Contrabass *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp*

Liber Animalium
A Jelly-Fish

"An amber-colored amethyst" "Inhabits it;" 6 "your arm approaches"

Fl
p *mf* *p* *mp* *p*

Ob
p *mf* *p* *mp* *p*

Cl
p *mf* *p* *mp* *p*

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

Hn.
pp *mp* *pp* *mf* *p*

B^b Tpt.
pp *mp* *pp* *mf* *p*

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

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

Pc 1
p *mf* *p* *mp* *p*

Pc 2
pp *mp* *p* *p* *pp*
Tam-tam (let ring) Large Cymbal

Vn 1
p *mf* *p* *mp* *p*

Vn 2
p *mf* *p* *mp* *p*

Va
p *mf* *p* *mp* *p*

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

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

Liber Animalium
A Jelly-Fish

7

"and it opens" "and it closes;" "You have meant to catch it" "And it shrivels;"

Fl *p*

Ob *p*

Cl *p*

Bn *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

Hn. *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

B \flat Tpt. 2. 1. 1. 2. *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

Tb *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

Tba *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

Pc 1 *p* *p* *p* *p*

Pc 2 *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *p* **Tam-tam**

Vn 1 "and it opens" "and it closes;" "You have meant to catch it" "And it shrivels;" *p* *p* *p* *p*

Vn 2 *p* *p* *p* *p*

Va *p* *p* *p* *p*

Vc *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

Cb *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

Liber Animalium
A Jelly-Fish

11 "You abandon your intent—" "It opens," "and it closes" "and you reach for it—"

Fl *mp* *mp* *mp* *mf*

Ob *mp* *mp* *mp* *mf*

Cl *mp* *mp* *mp* *mf*

Bn *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp*

Hn. *mp* *mp* *mp* *mf*

B^b Tpt. *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp*

Tb *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp*

Tba *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp*

Pc 1 *mp* *mp* *mf*

Pc 2 (let ring) *p* **Large Cymbal** *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp*

Vn 1 *mp* *mp* *mp* *mf*

Vn 2 *mp* *mp* *mp* *mf*

Va *mp* *mp* *mp* *mf*

Vc *mp* *mp* *mp* *mf*

Cb *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp*

15 "The blue surrounding it"

"Grows cloudy,"

"and It Floats away from you"

Fl
mf
mp
mp p pp

Ob
mf
mp
mp p pp

Cl
mf
mp
mp p pp

Bn
mf p mp p

Hn.
mf p mp p

B \flat Tpt.
mf pp mp p

Tb
mf p mp p

Tba
mf p mp p

Pc 1
mf mp p pp

Pc 2
pp mp Tam-tam (let ring) mp pp

Vn 1
mf mp mp p pp

Vn 2
mf mp mp p pp

Va
mf mp mp p pp

Vc
mf p mp p

Cb
mf p mp p

The Termites

Peter Gilbert

text in the style of Ogden Nash

Biting (♩=144)

"A group of termites found a place" **"all made of wood"** **"and liked the taste."**

tongue slap: make a short unpitched noise with the tongue and a little bit of air into the instrument

Flutes

Oboes

Clarinets

Bassoons

Horns

Trumpets

Trombones and Tuba

Wood Block

Percussion 1

Temple Blocks

Percussion 2

Bass Drum

crini battuto: strike with the hair of the bow.
(use full left-hand palm sliding up and down on all four strings)

Violin 1

Violin 2

Viola

Cello

Contrabass

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7 "And this is how..."

12 "A group of termites found a place"

"all made of wood"

Fl *mf* *f* tongue slap

Ob *mf* *f* tongue slap

Cl *mf* *f* tongue slap

Bn *mf* *f* tongue slap

Hn *mf* *f* tongue slap

Tpt *mf* *f* tongue slap

Tbn/Tba *mf* *f* tongue slap

Pc 1 *f* *mp*

Pc 2 *p* *f* **Temple Blocks** *mp*

Vn 1 *f* crini battuto *f*

Vn 2 *f* crini battuto *f*

Va *f* crini battuto *f*

Vc *f* crini battuto *f*

Cb *f* crini battuto *f*

dampen strings: place left-hand palm over all four strings
overpressure: make a very scratchy sound by pulling the bow too slowly with enough pressure to make a creaking sound.

Liber Animalium
The Termites

"and liked the taste."

17 "And this is how your grandma's bed..."

22 "A group of termites found a place"

15

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bn

Hn

Tpt

Tbn/
Tba

Pc 1

f *sub.* *p*

f — *mf*

Bass Drum

Temple Blocks

Vn 1

dampen strings and overpressure

f

ff

crini battuto

Vn 2

dampen strings and overpressure

f

ff

crini battuto

Va

dampen strings and overpressure

f

ff

crini battuto

Vc

dampen strings and overpressure

f

ff

crini battuto

Cb

dampen strings and overpressure

f

ff

crini battuto

Liber Animalium
The Termites

"all made of wood"

"and liked the taste."

27

"And this is how your grandma's bed..."

"fell through the ceiling overhead!"

24

Fl
Ob
Cl
Bn
Hn
Tpt
Tbn/Tba

Pc 1
Pc 2

Vn 1
Vn 2
Va
Vc
Cb

f (sempre)

Bass Drum

dampen strings and overpressure

Make crazy noise(s)!!

Hitting various different things

f

ff

p

f

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

She Staked Her Feathers

Peter Gilbert

text by Emily Dickinson

Determined (♩ = 100)
"She staked her feathers—" "Gained an arc—" "Debated—" 8 "Rose again—"

Flutes
Oboes
Clarinets
Bassoons
Horn
Trumpets
Trombones and Tuba
Percussion 1
Percussion 2
Percussion 3
Violin 1
Violin 2
Viola
Cello
Contrabass

blowing air
mp
pp
drag brush
scrape with brushes
Large Cymbal
Large Cabaça or Shekere
Bass Drum
p
harmonic gliss. (freely in time)
sul g
pp
p

Liber Animalium
She Staked Her Feathers

"This time—beyond the estimate"

"Of Envy,"

16 "or of Men"

Musical score for woodwinds, percussion, and strings. The score is divided into three sections: "This time—beyond the estimate", "Of Envy," and "16 or of Men".

Woodwinds:

- Flute (Fl): *mf*, *p*, *mp*, *ff*
- Oboe (Ob): *mf*, *f*, *ff*
- Clarinet (Cl): *pp*, *p*, *mp*
- Bassoon (Bn): *pp*, *p*, *mp*, *mf*
- Horn (Hn): *mf*, *f*, *f*
- Trumpet (Tp): *mf*, *f*, *f*
- Tuba/Euphonium (Tbn/Tba): *mf*, *p*, *mp*

Percussion:

- Pc 1: *mf*, drag brush
- Pc 2: *mp*, Mark Tree
- Pc 3: *mf*

Strings:

- Vn 1: *mp*, *f*, *f*, *sul d*, *sul a*
- Vn 2: *mp*, *mf*, *f*, *sul d*
- Va: *mp*, *mf*, *f*, *sul d*
- Vc: *mp*, *mf*, *f*
- Cb: *mp*, *mf*, *f*

Liber Animalium
She Staked Her Feathers

18

Fl *mf* *p*

Ob *mf*

Cl *mf*

Bn

Hn *mf*

18
Tp *mf*

Tbn / Tba *mf*

Pc 1

18
Pc 2 *f* *p*

Pc 3

Vn 1 *ff*

Vn 2 *ff* *f*

Va *ff* *f*

Vc *ff* *f*

Cb *f*

sul a

sul a

sul a

sul a

sul a

25

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bn

Hn

25

Tp

Tbn / Tba

Pc 1

Pc 2

Pc 3

28

25

Vn 1

Vn 2

Va

Vc

Cb

p *f*

p *f*

p *f*

p *f*

p *f*

p *f*

p *mf*

p *f* *pp*

p *f* *pp*

p *f* *pp*

p *f* *pp*

p *f* *pp*

p *f* *pp*

p *f* *pp*