

For choir and piano (Score)

Thomas Åberg

# Distant Landscapes

Vocalise version of Åberg's "Toccata No. 20" for organ, here for choir and piano

Duration ca. 6 min.

Some time ago American concert organist Jay Zoller wrote to me about my organ piece Toccata No. 20 "Distant Landscapes":

"I have given much thought to the subtitle "Distant Landscapes". Many people in Maine where I live think of the ocean when they hear this term – the vast distances stretching off as far as you can see. The interesting thing for me is that, having grown up on the prairie in Wyoming, I see in my mind the great distances with its undulating surfaces; I can hear the birds calling from the grasses and even see the antelope grazing a couple miles off across the landscape. There are a multitude of things happening out there which you hear in the music, but cannot see, even the warning rattle of a nearby rattlesnake!"

This statement became the starting point to me to write this vocalise version of my toccata with Jay Zoller's impressions woven in as fragments.

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# Distant Landscapes

Vocalise version of "Toccata No. 20" for organ

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♩ = 100  
*mf*

SOPRANO

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

Piano

*mp*

5

*Ah*

*Ah*

Na-na-na-na-na-na-na - na - na - na na-na-na-na-na- na - na-na-na-na-na-na-na - na-na-na-na-na-na-na-na-

Na-na-na-na-na-na-na-na - na-na-na-na-na-na-na-

9

A musical score for measures 9-12. It features four vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal parts are: Soprano (Ah, Ah, ah, ah, ah), Alto (na-na-na-na-na-na-na-na - na-na-na-na na-na-na-na Ah ah), Tenor (na-na-na-na-na-na-na-na - na-na-na-na-na-na-na-na Ah ah), and Bass (Na-na-na-na-na-na-na-na - na-na-na-na-na-na-na-na). The piano accompaniment consists of a steady eighth-note bass line and a block-chord accompaniment in the right hand.

13

A musical score for measures 13-16. It features four vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal parts are: Soprano (ah ah ah ah ah ah ah), Alto (ah ah ah ah ah ah), Tenor (Ah ah ah ah ah ah), and Bass (rest). The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line and a block-chord accompaniment in the right hand. A 3/4 time signature change is indicated at the start of measure 13.

19

ah ah ah ah

ah ah ah ah

ah ah ah ah

24

Dis-tant land-scapes moun-tains high

28

Musical score for measures 28-31. The score consists of five staves: two vocal staves (Soprano and Alto), a piano accompaniment (Piano), and a grand staff (Treble and Bass clefs). The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are: "Birds are cal-ling from the sky Ah". The vocal lines end with a fermata over the word "Ah". The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a similar pattern in the left hand.

32

Musical score for measures 32-35. The score consists of five staves: two vocal staves (Soprano and Alto), a piano accompaniment (Piano), and a grand staff (Treble and Bass clefs). The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are: "Ah na-na-na-na-na-na-na -". The vocal lines end with a fermata over the word "Ah" and then continue with a melodic line for "na-na-na-na-na-na-na -". The piano accompaniment continues with the same eighth-note pattern as in the previous system.

36

na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na -  
na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na -  
na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na -  
na - na - na - na na - na - na - na - na

Musical score for measures 36-38. It features four vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal parts consist of rhythmic patterns of eighth and sixteenth notes, with lyrics 'na' repeated. The piano accompaniment includes a treble and bass clef with chords and arpeggiated figures.

39

Ah Ah ah  
na-na-na-na-na-na-na-na Ah ah  
na-na-na-na-na-na-na-na Ah ah  
na-na-na-na-na-na-na-na ah

Musical score for measures 39-42. It features four vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal parts include 'Ah' and 'ah' with sustained notes, and rhythmic patterns of eighth notes. The piano accompaniment includes a treble and bass clef with chords and arpeggiated figures.

44

Ah ah Ah ah  
 Ah ah Ah ah  
 Ah ah Ah ah  
 ah  
 Ah ah Ah ah

49

na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na  
 na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na  
 na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na  
 ah Moun - tains high  
 na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na







63

Dis - tant land - scapes Dis - tant land - scapes Dis - tant land - scapes Dis - tant land - scapes

Dis - tant land - scapes Dis - tant land - scapes Dis - tant land - scapes Dis - tant land - scapes

na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na -

na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na

65

Dis - tant land - scapes Dis - tant land - scapes Dis - tant land - scapes Dis - tant land - scapes

ah ah ah ah

ah ah ah ah

ah ah ah ah



71

na - na - na - na - na - na - na - na Na na na na

ah ah ah ah

73

Na na na na

Ah ah ah ah

75

Musical score for measures 75-77. The score consists of five staves. The first four staves are vocal parts: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass. The fifth staff is the piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Dis-tant land-scapes dis-tant land-scapes". The Tenor part includes the vocalizations "Ah ah ah ah". The piano accompaniment features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in the right hand and chords in the left hand.

78

Musical score for measures 78-80. The score consists of five staves. The first four staves are vocal parts: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass. The fifth staff is the piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Dis-tant land-scapes dis-tant land-scapes Dis-tant land-scapes dis-tant land-scapes". The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic pattern as in the previous system.

81

*Dis-tant land-scapes dis-tant land-scapes*

*Dis-tant land-scapes dis-tant land-scapes*

*Dis-tant land-scapes dis-tant land-scapes* Ah ah

*Dis-tant land-scapes dis-tant land-scapes* Ah ah

84

Empty vocal staves

86

Musical score for measures 86-87. The score includes vocal staves and piano accompaniment. The vocal parts have lyrics "Ah ah" in both treble and bass clefs. The piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. A double bar line with repeat dots is present at the end of measure 87.

88

Musical score for measures 88-90. The score includes vocal staves and piano accompaniment. The vocal parts have lyrics "Ah ah ah ah" in both treble and bass clefs. The piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. A double bar line with repeat dots is present at the end of measure 90.



91

I can see ante-lopes gra-zing

I can see ante-lopes gra-zing

96

ah ah

ah ah

98

Musical score for measures 98-99. The score consists of five staves. The top two staves are vocal staves in treble clef, both containing whole rests. The third staff is a vocal staff in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C), containing a whole note with the vocalization "ah". The fourth staff is a vocal staff in bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C), containing a whole note with the vocalization "ah". The fifth staff is a piano accompaniment in G-flat major (two flats) and common time, featuring a repeating eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a similar pattern in the left hand.

100

Musical score for measures 100-101. The score consists of five staves. The top two staves are vocal staves in treble clef. In measure 100, they contain whole rests. In measure 101, they contain quarter notes with the vocalization "ah". The third staff is a vocal staff in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C), containing a whole note with the vocalization "ah". The fourth staff is a vocal staff in bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C), containing a whole note with the vocalization "ah". The fifth staff is a piano accompaniment in G-flat major (two flats) and common time, featuring a repeating eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a similar pattern in the left hand.

102 **rit.** **A tempo**

ah ah ah ah

ah ah ah ah

**rit.** **A tempo**

105

Wy - o - o - o - ming

Wy - o -

Wy - o - o - o - ming

Wy - o -

4

4

111

Wy - o - o - o - ming

o - o - ming Wy - o - o - o - ming

o - o - ming Wy - o - o - o - ming

o - o - ming Wy - o - o - o - ming

4 4

117

Ah ah

Ah ah

Ah ah

Ah ah

4 4

**rit.**

121

Wy - o - o - o - ming Ah ah ah ah ah Why\_\_\_\_\_

Wy - o - o - o - ming Ah ah ah ah ah Why\_\_\_\_\_

Wy - o - o - o - ming Ah ah ah ah ah Why\_\_\_\_\_

Wy - o - o - o - ming Ah ah ah ah ah Why\_\_\_\_\_

**rit.**

4 8

4 8

130

**A tempo**

Oh oh oh

**A tempo**

132

The image shows a musical score for a vocal and piano piece, measures 132-135. The score is written on five staves. The first four staves are for the vocal line, and the fifth is for the piano accompaniment. The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The vocal line consists of two measures, each with the syllable "oh" written below the notes. The piano accompaniment consists of four measures, each with a chord in the right hand and a bass note in the left hand. The chords are: B-flat major (B-flat, D-flat, F), B-flat major (B-flat, D-flat, F), B-flat major (B-flat, D-flat, F), and B-flat major (B-flat, D-flat, F). The bass notes are: B-flat, B-flat, B-flat, and B-flat.