

STEVEN SNOWDEN

THE LIGHT LIST

STRING QUINTET



THE LIGHT LIST



COMMISSIONED BY HOFF-BARTHELSON MUSIC SCHOOL
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH COPLAND HOUSE

PROGRAM NOTES

The Light list is a detailed record of all light houses, buoys, fog horns, and other coastal signals used to warn ships of potential danger. Maintained by most seafaring nations, this comprehensive document even includes information on any obstructions that might impede the sailors line of sight depending upon their direction of travel. Though I now live in Boston, I've spent the vast majority of my life in landlocked areas. After a year living in New England, I've had a chance to see several lighthouses and have found them to be quite fascinating. While their solitary grandeur stands in stark beauty against the coastal landscape, their purpose is largely utilitarian. They stand as a reminder that the sea is truly a dangerous place and, regardless of the breadth of our technological advances, we must respect the vast power of our oceans and waterways.

PERFORMANCE NOTES

You can find detailed performance notes and example videos on the following webpage.

<http://www.stevensnowden.com/performance-notes-for-the-light-list/>

THE LIGHT LIST

STEVEN SNOWDEN

Serene, translucent ♩ = 63

Field recording plays by itself for 17 seconds

↓ Cue - first high fog horn

Musical score for measures 1-8. The score is in 3/4 time. It features five staves: Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, and Bass. All staves are mostly empty, with a few rests. The Viola part has a section of 'Harmonic Gliss. III (always)' starting in measure 7, indicated by a treble clef and a series of diamond-shaped notes connected by lines. The Bass staff has an 8-measure rest symbol at the beginning.

Musical score for measures 9-12. The score is in 3/4 time. It features five staves: Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, and Bass. Measure 9 is marked with a double bar line and the number 9. A cue '↓ Cue - second high fog horn' is above measure 10. The Violin 2 part starts in measure 10 with a note marked 'with mute' and 'pp'. The Viola part has a section of 'Harmonic Gliss. III (always)' starting in measure 10, indicated by a treble clef and a series of diamond-shaped notes connected by lines. The Bass part has a note in measure 12 marked 'pp'. The Viola part has a 'p' dynamic marking at the end of measure 12.

15 ↓ Cue - first low fog horn

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Cello

Bass

Harmonic Gliss.
IV (always)

p



20

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Cello

Bass

p

no vib.

cantabile
with mute

24

Vln. 1
pp mp pp mp

Vln. 2
0

Vla.
4 p

Cello
4 8

Bass
p



30

Vln. 1
pp mp pp p

Vln. 2
0

Vla.
4 p

Cello
12

Bass

4/4

35

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Cello

Bass

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

p

16



40 Coming into focus

38

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Cello

Bass

mp *p*

pp

41

without mute

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Cello

Bass

pp *p* *mf* *pp*

pp *p* *mf* *pp*

pp *p* *mf* *pp*

pp

seagull effect

46

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Cello

Bass

pp *f* *pizz.* *mp*

f *mp*

f *p*

f *mp*

f

50

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Cello

Bass

pp *ppp* *p* *arco* *f* *fp* *f* *p*



57

54

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Cello

Bass

f *ff* *p* *f* *ff* *flautando* *pp* *ff* *flautando* *pp*

59 flautando * like a remote and indistinct haze

Vln. 1 *pp*

Vln. 2 *pp*

Vla.

Cello *

Bass *mp*

==

*Continuously Repeat Phrase.
The tempo for each individual should independent
creating a homogeneous "wash" of sound.

64

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Cello

Bass *Cantabile* *mp* *pp* *mp*

70

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Cello

Bass

ord.

ord.

ord.

mf

mp

mp

mf

pp

mf



76 With growing determination

ord.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Cello

Bass

mf

mf

mf

8va

80

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Cello

Bass

ff

ff

ff

ff

(8)

ff

ff

Detailed description: This system contains measures 80, 81, and 82. It features five staves: Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, and Bass. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. Measures 80 and 81 are in 3/4 time, while measure 82 changes to 4/4. Dynamics include *ff* (fortissimo) and a dynamic marking of (8) in the bass staff. The music consists of melodic lines with various articulations and slurs.

83

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Cello

Bass

ff

f

f

f

f

mp

ppp

f

f

Detailed description: This system contains measures 83, 84, 85, and 86. It features five staves: Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, and Bass. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. Measures 83 and 84 are in 3/4 time, while measures 85 and 86 change to 4/4. Dynamics include *ff* (fortissimo), *f* (forte), *mp* (mezzo-piano), and *ppp* (pianissimo). The music features complex phrasing with slurs and dynamic markings.

101

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Cello

Bass

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

pp mf *pp mf* *pp mf* *pp mf* *pp mf* *pp mf*

16

pp mf *pp mf* *pp mf* *pp*

pp *mf* *pp* *mf* *pp* *mf* *pp*



107

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Cello

Bass

pp *mf* *pp* *mf* *pp* *mf* *pp* *mf*

pp mf *pp mf* *pp mf* *pp mf* *pp mf* *pp mf*

20

mf *pp* *mf* *pp* *mf* *pp*

mp

III

bow body of instrument

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

24

Vla.

Cello

Bass

mf pp mf pp mf

The image shows a musical score for five string instruments: Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Cello, and Bass. The score is divided into two systems. The first system (measures 1-2) shows Vln. 1 with a whole rest, Vln. 2 with a half note, Vla. with a whole rest, Cello with a half note, and Bass with a dotted half note. The second system (measures 3-8) shows all instruments playing a half note. Above the first system, the text 'III' is written. Above the second system, the text 'bow body of instrument' is written. Dynamics are indicated by 'mf' (mezzo-forte) and 'pp' (pianissimo) with hairpins. The number '24' is written above the Viola staff in the first measure of the second system. The score ends with a double bar line.