

Christopher Beardsley

So Travels the Moon
for nine solo strings

So Travels The Moon

So travels the Moon was commissioned by the spnm for a project during the 2006/7 season as part of the Cheltenham Festival. The first performance was given on Monday 9 July 2007 by the Soloists of the Wells Cathedral School conducted by Philip Dukes in the Pittville Pumproom, Cheltenham.

The title "So travels the Moon" is a translation of the Latin inscription, *Sic peragrat Phoebe* that appears on the face of the famous 14th century clock in Wells Cathedral. The work is my reaction to that motto.

Duration: c10 minutes

Instruments

4 Violins

2 Violas

2 Cellos

1 Double Bass

So travels the Moon

CHRISTOPHER BEARDSLEY³

Slow, calm (♩=c48)

Musical score for the first section of "So travels the Moon". The score is in 4/4 time and consists of 10 staves. The instruments are Violin 1, Violin 2, Violin 3, Violin 4, Viola 1, Viola 2, Violoncello 1, Violoncello 2, and Double Bass. The tempo is "Slow, calm" with a quarter note equal to c48. The music features a series of long, sustained notes with trills (tr) and tremolos (tr) over them. The dynamics are marked *ppp* (pianississimo) and *p* (piano). The key signature has one sharp (F#). The score includes performance instructions such as "sul tasto" and "Solo".

Musical score for the second section of "So travels the Moon". The score is in 4/4 time and consists of 10 staves. The instruments are Violin 1, Violin 2, Violin 3, Violin 4, Viola 1, Viola 2, Violoncello 1, Violoncello 2, and Double Bass. The tempo is "Faster" with a quarter note equal to 72. The music is marked "nat." (natural) and "mf volante" (mezzo-forte, with a flourish). The dynamics are marked *p* (piano). The key signature has one sharp (F#). The score includes performance instructions such as "nat." and "mf volante".

9

Vln. 1 *mf* *p*

Vln. 2 *mf* *p*

Vln. 3 *mf* *p*

Vln. 4 *mf* *p*

Vla. 1 *mf* *p*

Vla. 2 *mf* *p*

Vc. 1 *mf* *p*

Vc. 2 *mf* *p*

Db. *mf* *p*



11 Slightly slower, calm (♩=c60)

Vln. 1 *p*

Vln. 2 *p*

Vln. 3 *p*

Vln. 4 *p*

Vla. 1 *pizz.* *p*

Vla. 2 *pizz.* *p*

Vc. 1 *p*

Vc. 2 *p*

Db. *p*

17

Musical score for measures 17-22. The score includes staves for Violins 1-4, Violas 1-2, Violas 1-2, Cellos 1-2, and Double Bass. The music features a variety of rhythmic patterns and melodic lines across the instruments.

23

Musical score for measures 23-28. This section is characterized by extensive glissando markings (*gliss.*) and dynamic markings (*mf*). The score includes staves for Violins 1-4, Violas 1-2, Cellos 1-2, and Double Bass. Specific performance instructions include *pizz.* (pizzicato), *arco* (arco), and *gliss.* (glissando).

28

Vln. 1 *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *p* *sub f* non vib.

Vln. 2 *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *p* *sub f* non vib.

Vln. 3 *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *p* *sub f* non vib.

Vln. 4 *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *p* *sub f* arco non vib.

Vla. 1 *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *p* *sub f* arco non vib.

Vla. 2 *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *p* *sub f* non vib.

Vc. 1 *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *p* pizz. *sub f* non vib.

Vc. 2 *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *p* pizz. *sub f* non vib.

Db. *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *p* *sub f* non vib.



33

Vln. 1 vib. non vib. *mf* *p* vib.

Vln. 2 vib. non vib. *mf* *p* vib.

Vln. 3 vib. non vib. *mf* *p* vib.

Vln. 4 vib. non vib. *mf* *p* vib.

Vla. 1 vib. non vib. *mf* *p* vib.

Vla. 2 vib. non vib. *mf* *p* vib.

Vc. 1 *mf* *p*

Vc. 2 *mf* *p*

Db. vib. non vib. *mf* *p* vib.

39

Violin 1: *mf* *p* *mp* *p*
Violin 2: *mf* *p* *mp* *p*
Violin 3: *mf* *p* *mp* *p*
Violin 4: *mf* *p* *mp* *p*
Viola 1: *mf* *pizz.* *p* *mp*
Viola 2: *mf* *p* *mp*
Cello 1: *mf* *p* *mp*
Cello 2: *mf* *p* *mp*
Double Bass: *mf* *p* *mp*

44

Violin 1: *p*
Violin 2: *p*
Violin 3: *p*
Violin 4: *p*
Viola 1: *p*
Viola 2: *p*
Cello 1: *p* *mp* *Solo*
Cello 2: *p*
Double Bass: *p* *mp* *Solo*

With energy (♩=c104)

Same speed, tranquil

This musical score page contains parts for Violins 1-4, Violas 1-2, Violas 1-2, Violas 1-2, Violas 1-2, Violas 1-2, Violas 1-2, and Double Basses. The score is divided into three measures, with measure numbers 50, 51, and 52 indicated at the beginning of each staff. The first measure (50) is marked 'With energy (♩=c104)' and features dynamic markings of *ff con forza* and *f*. The second measure (51) is marked 'Same speed, tranquil' and features dynamic markings of *pp distant* and *mf*. The third measure (52) is marked 'Same speed, tranquil' and features dynamic markings of *pp distant* and *p*. The score includes various performance instructions such as 'sul E', 'sul A', 'sul D', and 'sul G', along with 'Play highest trill possible' and 'tr'. The woodwind parts (Vla. 1, Vla. 2, Vc. 1, Vc. 2, Db.) include 'snap pizz.' and 'arco' markings. The string parts (Vln. 1-4, Vc. 1, Vc. 2, Db.) include dynamic markings and phrasing slurs.

54

Vln. 1 *gliss.* *mp*

Vln. 2 *gliss.*

Vln. 3 *gliss.* (no trill)

Vln. 4 *gliss.* (no trill)

Vla. 1 *gliss.* (no trill) *p poco p*

Vla. 2 *gliss.* (no trill) *poco p*

Vc. 1 *pp poco p*

Vc. 2 *pp poco p*

Db. *pp poco p*

61

Vln. 1 *leggiere*

Vln. 2 *mp poco*

Vln. 3 *p leggiere poco p*

Vln. 4 *p leggiere poco p*

Vla. 1 *p*

Vla. 2 *p*

Vc. 1 *p*

Vc. 2 *p*

Db. *p*

63

Score for measures 63-64. The score includes staves for Violins 1-4, Violas 1-2, Cellos 1-2, and Double Bass. Measure 63 features a melodic line in Vln. 1 and Vln. 2, with Vln. 2 marked *leggiero*. Measure 64 continues with various instruments playing *p* (piano). The key signature has one flat, and the time signature is 3/4.



65

Score for measures 65-67. The score includes staves for Violins 1-4, Violas 1-2, Cellos 1-2, and Double Bass. Measure 65 features a melodic line in Vln. 1 and Vln. 2. Measure 66 continues with various instruments playing *p*. Measure 67 includes glissando markings (*gliss.*) in Vln. 1 and Vln. 2. The key signature has one flat, and the time signature is 3/4.

68

Score for measures 68-70. The score includes staves for Violins 1-4, Violas 1-2, Cellos 1-2, and Double Bass. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). Measure 68 features a glissando in the strings, marked *p*. Measures 69-70 continue with various melodic lines, including a prominent one in the first violin.

Vln. 1 *p* *gliss.*

Vln. 2 *p* *gliss.*

Vln. 3 *p*

Vln. 4 *p*

Vla. 1 *p*

Vla. 2 *p*

Vc. 1 *p*

Vc. 2 *p*

Db. *p*

71

Score for measures 71-73. The score includes staves for Violins 1-4, Violas 1-2, Cellos 1-2, and Double Bass. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). Measure 71 features a glissando in the strings, marked *mf*. Measure 72 features a *f energico* section. Measure 73 continues with various melodic lines, including a prominent one in the first violin.

Vln. 1 *f energico*

Vln. 2 *mf* *gliss.* *f energico*

Vln. 3 *mf* *gliss.* *f energico*

Vln. 4 *mf* *gliss.* *f energico*

Vla. 1 *mf* *f energico*

Vla. 2 *mf*

Vc. 1 *mf* *f energico*

Vc. 2 *mf* *f energico*

Db. *mf* *f energico*

73

Score for measures 73-74. The score includes staves for Violins 1-4, Violas 1-2, Cellos 1-2, and Double Bass. The key signature has one sharp (F#). Measure 73 features a melodic line in Vln. 1 and a rhythmic accompaniment in the lower strings. Measure 74 includes a *sul pont.* instruction for the strings, with dynamic markings of *fp* for Vln. 1, *p* for Vln. 2-4, and *p* for the lower strings.

75

Score for measures 75-78. The score includes staves for Violins 1-4, Violas 1-2, Cellos 1-2, and Double Bass. The key signature has one sharp (F#). Measure 75 features a melodic line in Vln. 1 and 2 with *sul A* and *gliss.* markings, and a trill in Vln. 3 and 4. Measure 76 continues the melodic lines with *gliss.* markings. Measure 77 includes a *nat.* marking for the lower strings. Measure 78 features a *ff* dynamic for Vln. 1 and 2, and a *p* dynamic for the lower strings.

82

Vln. 1 *p* *sempre p*

Vln. 2 *p* *rhythmic*

Vln. 3 *p* *rhythmic*

Vln. 4 *p* *rhythmic*

Vla. 1 *p* *rhythmic*

Vla. 2 *p* *rhythmic*

Vc. 1 *p* *rhythmic*

Vc. 2 *p* *pizz.* *sempre p*

Db. *p*

85

Vln. 1 *(sempre p)*

Vln. 2 *ff* *f marcato*

Vln. 3 *ff* *f marcato*

Vln. 4 *ff* *f marcato*

Vla. 1 *ff* *f marcato*

Vla. 2 *ff* *f marcato*

Vc. 1 *ff* *f marcato*

Vc. 2 *(sempre p)*

Db. *ff*

accel.

Suddenly slower, calm (♩=60)

90

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

Vln. 4

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Db.

f marcato *p*

p *p* *p* *p* *p* *p*

gliss. gliss. gliss. gliss. gliss. gliss.



A tempo (♩=104)

96

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

Vln. 4

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Db.

p *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *p*

p rhythmic *p* rhythmic *p* rhythmic *p* rhythmic *p* rhythmic *p* rhythmic *p* pizz. *p* pizz.

gliss. gliss. gliss. gliss.

5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5

3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

99 *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *accel.*

Vln. 1 *ff marcato* *f*

Vln. 2 *ff* *ff marcato* *f*

Vln. 3 *ff* *f marcato*

Vln. 4 *ff* *f marcato*

Vla. 1 *ff* *f marcato*

Vla. 2 *ff* *f marcato*

Vc. 1 *ff*

Vc. 2 *ff* *arco* *f marcato* *arco*

Db. *ff* *f marcato*

102

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

Vln. 4

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vc. 1 *f*

Vc. 2 *f*

Db. *f*

Rhythmic, with movement (♩=c144)

105

Vln. 1 Solo *mf marcato* *f scherzando* *p*

Vln. 2 Solo *mf marcato* *f scherzando* *p*

Vln. 3 *p mechanically*

Vln. 4 *p mechanically*

Vla. 1 *p mechanically*

Vla. 2 *p mechanically*

Vc. 1 *p mechanically*

Vc. 2 *p mechanically*

Db. *p mechanically*



110

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3 Solo *mf scherzando* *marcato* *f* *p*

Vln. 4 Solo *mf scherzando* *marcato* *f* *p*

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Db.

114

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vln. 3
Vln. 4
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.

Solo
mf scherzando
marcato
f
p

Detailed description: This system of musical notation covers measures 114 to 117. It features eight staves: four violins (Vln. 1-4), two violas (Vla. 1-2), two cellos (Vc. 1-2), and a double bass (Db.). The violins and violas play melodic lines with various articulations and dynamics. The cellos and double bass provide a rhythmic and harmonic foundation. Dynamic markings include *mf scherzando*, *marcato*, *f*, and *p*. A *Solo* marking is present above the first two staves.

118

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vln. 3
Vln. 4
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.

Solo
mf scherzando
f marcato
p

Detailed description: This system of musical notation covers measures 118 to 121. It features the same eight staves as the previous system. The violins and violas continue their melodic lines. The cellos and double bass play a more active, rhythmic part. Dynamic markings include *mf scherzando*, *f marcato*, and *p*. A *Solo* marking is present above the first two staves.

122

Vln. 1 *f* *mf marcato*

Vln. 2 *f* *mf marcato*

Vln. 3 *f* *p*

Vln. 4 *f* *p*

Vla. 1 *f* *p*

Vla. 2 *f* *p*

Vc. 1 *f* *p*

Vc. 2 *f* *p*

Db. *f* *p*

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for measures 122 through 125. It features eight staves: Violins 1-4, Violas 1-2, Cellos 1-2, and Double Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. Measures 122-123 are marked with a forte (*f*) dynamic. At measure 124, the dynamics change: Violins 1 and 2 are marked *mf marcato*, while Violins 3 and 4, Violas 1 and 2, Cellos 1 and 2, and Double Bass are marked *p*. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and dynamic hairpins.



126

Vln. 1 *p*

Vln. 2 *p*

Vln. 3 *p*

Vln. 4 *p*

Vla. 1 *p*

Vla. 2 *p*

Vc. 1 *p*

Vc. 2 *p*

Db. *p*

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for measures 126 through 129. It features the same eight staves as the previous block. The key signature remains one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. All instruments in this section are marked with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The score shows a shift in texture with longer note values and more frequent use of slurs and ties across measures.

130 Slower (♩=c84)

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vln. 3
Vln. 4
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.

pp *p* *gliss.*

136 A tempo (♩=c144)

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vln. 3
Vln. 4
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.

pp *mf* *p* *nat.* *p mechanically* *nat.*

140 pizz. *p*

Vln. 1

Vln. 2 pizz. *p*

Vln. 3 pizz.

Vln. 4 pizz.

Vla. 1 pizz.

Vla. 2 pizz.

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Db.

143 arco *p*

Vln. 1

Vln. 2 arco *p*

Vln. 3 *p*

Vln. 4 *p*

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vc. 1 pizz. *p*

Vc. 2 pizz. *p*

Db. pizz. *p*

157 *arco* **Slower** (♩=72)

Vln. 1 *arco*

Vln. 2 *arco*

Vln. 3 *arco (nat.)*

Vln. 4 *f bright* *arco (nat.)* *f bright*

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vc. 1 *arco (nat.)* *f bright*

Vc. 2 *arco (nat.)* *f bright*

Db.

163

Vln. 1 *f bright*

Vln. 2 *f bright*

Vln. 3 *arco (nat.)*

Vln. 4 *arco (nat.)*

Vla. 1 *f arco (nat.)*

Vla. 2 *f arco (nat.)*

Vc. 1 *f pizz.* *arco* *sub p*

Vc. 2 *pizz.* *arco*

Db. *arco*

167

Vln. 1 *p* *gliss.*

Vln. 2 *p* *gliss.*

Vln. 3 *p* *gliss.*

Vln. 4 *p* *gliss.*

Vla. 1 *p* *gliss.*

Vla. 2 *p* *gliss.*

Vc. 1 *sub p*

Vc. 2 *sub p*

Db. *p* *gliss.*

172

Vln. 1 *f*

Vln. 2 *f*

Vln. 3 *f*

Vln. 4 *f*

Vla. 1 *f*

Vla. 2 *f*

Vc. 1 *f*

Vc. 2 *f*

Db. *f*

175

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vln. 3
Vln. 4
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.

f

This system contains measures 175 and 176. It features eight staves: Violins 1-4, Violas 1-2, Cellos 1-2, and Double Bass. The music is written in a key with two flats and a 3/4 time signature. Measures 175 and 176 are marked with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The strings play a melodic line with slurs and ties across the measures.

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vln. 3
Vln. 4
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.

177

f

This system contains measures 177 and 178. It features the same eight staves as the previous system. Measure 177 is marked with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The musical notation continues with slurs and ties across the measures.

179

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

Vln. 4

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Db.

pizz.

p pizz.

p pizz.

p pizz.

p

183

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

Vln. 4

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Db.

pizz.

p mechanically arco

p mechanically arco

p mechanically arco

p mechanically arco

mp arco

mp arco

arco

pizz.

p

mp arco

mp arco

arco

pizz.

p

pizz.

p

p

188

Vln. 1 *p mechanically*

Vln. 2 *p mechanically*

Vln. 3 *p mechanically*

Vln. 4 *p mechanically*

Vla. 1 *p mechanically*

Vla. 2 *p mechanically*

Vc. 1 arco pizz.

Vc. 2 arco pizz.

Db. arco pizz.

191

Vln. 1 *f*

Vln. 2 *f*

Vln. 3 *f*

Vln. 4 *f*

Vla. 1 *f*

Vla. 2 *f*

Vc. 1 arco *f*

Vc. 2 arco *f*

Db. arco *f*

rit.

Slow, calm (♩=48)

194

Vln. 1 *p warm* (non legato)

Vln. 2 *p warm* (non legato)

Vln. 3 *p warm* (non legato)

Vln. 4 *p warm* (non legato)

Vla. 1 *p warm*

Vla. 2 *p warm*

Vc. 1 *p warm*

Vc. 2 *p warm*

Db. *p warm*

199

Vln. 1 *f bright* non vib. sub. *p* vib. *pp*

Vln. 2 *f bright* non vib. sub. *p* vib. *pp*

Vln. 3 *f bright* non vib. sub. *p* vib. *pp*

Vln. 4 *f bright* non vib. sub. *p* vib. *pp*

Vla. 1 *f bright* non vib. sub. *p* vib. *pp*

Vla. 2 *f bright* non vib. sub. *p* vib. *pp*

Vc. 1 *f bright* non vib. sub. *p* vib. *pp*

Vc. 2 *f bright* non vib. sub. *p* vib. *pp*

Db. *f bright* non vib. sub. *p* vib. *pp*

Slightly faster, still calm (♩=c60)

28

sul E Play highest trill possible

The musical score consists of eight staves, each with a specific instrument label and performance instructions:

- Vln. 1:** *pp distant*. Instruction: *sul E Play highest trill possible*. Includes a *gliss.* marking.
- Vln. 2:** *pp distant*. Instruction: *sul E Play highest trill possible*. Includes a *gliss.* marking.
- Vln. 3:** *pp distant*. Instruction: *sul D Play highest trill possible*. Includes a *gliss.* marking.
- Vln. 4:** *pp distant*. Instruction: *sul G Play highest trill possible*. Includes a *gliss.* marking.
- Vla. 1:** *pp*. Starts with *pizz.* and changes to *arco* at measure 30.
- Vla. 2:** *pp*. Starts with *pizz.* and changes to *arco* at measure 30.
- Vc. 1:** *pp*. Changes to *pizz.* at measure 30.
- Vc. 2:** *pp*. Changes to *pizz.* at measure 30.
- Db.:** *pp*. Changes to *p* at measure 30.

The score is written in treble clef for violins and violas, and bass clef for violas, cellos, and double basses. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The time signature changes from 3/4 to 2/4 at measure 30. The page number 204 is written at the beginning of the first staff.

Rhythmic (♩=c104)

Musical score for measures 213-217. The score is for a string ensemble and includes parts for Violins 1-4, Violas 1-2, Cellos 1-2, and Double Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked as Rhythmic (♩=c104). The score features a variety of dynamics including *ppp*, *sub. f*, and *f*. Performance techniques such as *sul tasto*, *tr.*, *nat.*, *arco*, and *pizz.* are indicated. The measures are divided into three systems: measures 213-214, 215-216, and 217. A double bar line is present at the end of measure 217.

Musical score for measures 218-222. The score continues from the previous page and includes parts for Violins 1-4, Violas 1-2, Cellos 1-2, and Double Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked as Rhythmic (♩=c104). The score features a variety of dynamics including *p* and *f*. Performance techniques such as *arco* are indicated. The measures are divided into three systems: measures 218-220, 221, and 222. A double bar line is present at the end of measure 222.