

JACOB THOMPSON-BELL

MEERESSTILLE:

A RECOLLECTION

*For string quartet*

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MEERESTILLE: A RECOLLECTION

*A deconstruction of Meeresstille by Schubert, for string quartet*

#### COMPOSER'S NOTE

This composition for string quartet is based on a distorted version of Schubert's song for voice and piano, *Meeresstille* (Calm Sea).

Imagining Schubert's work through the haze of distant recollection, the music transforms the harmonies and gestures of the original piece, blending the instrumental layers to create a shimmering, dream-like state. Schubert's music is present but only faintly remembered, dissolving in a gentle ocean of sound.

The resulting composition is a series of 10 miniature variations on a transformed version of the first minute or so of Schubert's song.

#### DURATION

Approx. 17 minutes 10 seconds

The composition may be repeated as many times as desired.

#### PREMIERE:

25 September 2012, BLANKSPACE  
Gallery, Manchester.

Performed five times consecutively, as part of || : *figure refraction ground* :|| , a Collectives and Curiosities installation, in association with the Royal Northern College of Music and Blank Media Collective.

# MEERESTILLE: A RECOLLECTION

Jacob Thompson-Bell

$\text{♪}=120$

Musical score for four staves in 4/8 time, key signature of B-flat major (two flats). The tempo is indicated as ♪=120. Measure 1: All staves play eighth notes at *pp*. Measure 2: Staves 1, 2, and 4 play eighth notes at *mf*; Staff 3 plays eighth notes at *pp*. Measure 3: Staves 1, 2, and 4 play eighth notes at *pp*; Staff 3 plays eighth notes at *mf*. Measure 4: Staves 1, 2, and 4 play eighth notes at *pp*; Staff 3 plays eighth notes at *sfz* followed by *pp*. Measure 5: Staves 1, 2, and 4 play eighth notes at *pp*; Staff 3 plays eighth notes at *pp*.

Musical score for four staves in 4/8 time, key signature of B-flat major (two flats). Measure 6: Staves 1, 2, and 4 play eighth notes at *pp*; Staff 3 plays eighth notes at *mf*. Measure 7: Staves 1, 2, and 4 play eighth notes at *pp*; Staff 3 plays eighth notes at *pp*. Measure 8: Staves 1, 2, and 4 play eighth notes at *pp*; Staff 3 plays eighth notes at *mf*. Measure 9: Staves 1, 2, and 4 play eighth notes at *pp*; Staff 3 plays eighth notes at *sfz*. Measure 10: Staves 1, 2, and 4 play eighth notes at *pp*; Staff 3 plays eighth notes at *pp*.

13

*mf* — *pp* — *mf*

*pp* — *mf* — *pp* — *mf* — *sfz* — *pp*

*pp* — *mf* — *THEMA* — *pp* — *mf* — *pp* — *mf* — *pp*

19

*3pp* — *mf* — *pp* — *mf*

*mf* — *pp* — *mf*

*sfz* — *pp* — *mf*

*pp* — *mf* — *pp*

25

*pp* — *mf* — *pp* — *mf*

*pp* — *3* — *pp* — *mf*

*pp* — *5* — *3* — *pp* — *mf*

*pp* — *3* — *pp* — *gliss*

31

*8va*

*pp*      *mf*  
*pp*      *mf:pp*      *mf:pp*  
*mf*      *pp*      *mf*      *pp*

37

*>pp*      *mf*      *pp*      *mf*  
*mf*      *pp*      *mf pp*      *mf pp*  
*mf*      *pp*      *mf*      *sfz appass*      *sfz*  
*pp*      *mf*      *3*

43

*pp*      *mf*      *pp*      *mf pp*  
*(8)*      *mf*  
*pp*      *mf*      *pp*      *mf*  
*THEMA*      *pp*      *mf*

49

*mf*

*pp* *mf*

*pp* *mf* *pp*

*pp* *mf* *pp* *gliss.*

55

*pp*

*mf*

*pp*

*pp*

1

*sfz* *p*

*pp*

*pp*

61

*mf*

*pp*

*=mf*<sup>5</sup>

*pp*

*pp* *mf*

*pp* *mf*

THEMA

*mf* > *pp*

*5* *3*

67

*mf*      *ppp*      *mf*      *pp*  
*3sfz*      *3*      *3*      *mf*  
*3*      *3*      *3*      *sfz*  
*f sonore*      *fp*

73

(unmeasured accel)

**A tempo**

*mf*      *p*      *ff*  
*pp*  
*3*      *3*      *mf*      *pp*  
*3*      *fp*      *fp*      (unmeasured accel)  
*ff*      *ff:p*      *mf*  
*ff:p*      *ff:p*      *ff*      *ff:p*      *mf*<sup>5</sup>      *3*

79

*mf*      *pp*      *pp*      *f*  
*pp*  
*3*      *3*      *3*      *3*  
*pp*      *pp*      *f*  
*mf*      *5*      *pp*      *f non dim*  
*p*

85

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

*gliss*

91

*mf*      *pp*      *mf*      *pp*  
*mf*      *pp*      *mf*  
*mf*      *f appass*  
*THEMA*  
*sfz*  
*mf*      *pp*

97

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

103

*mf*

*3pp*

*mf*

*pp*

*mf*

*pp*

*mf*

109

2

*pp*

*mf*

*pp*

*pp*

*f sonore*

*pp*

*mf*

*pp*

*f*

*pp*

115

*pp*

*mf*

*pp*

*pp*

*mf*

*pp*

*mf*

*pp*

*pp*

*mf*

*pp*

*mf*

*pp*

*f*

*pp*

121

mf pp mf pp sfz

THEMA

mf pp mf

Musical score for orchestra, page 127, showing four staves of music. The score includes dynamic markings such as *pp*, *mf*, and *gliss*, and performance instructions like "3". The music consists of measures 1 through 8.

Measure 1: Treble clef, B-flat key signature. Measure 1 ends with a fermata over the first note of the next measure.

Measure 2: Dynamics: *pp* (measures 1-2), *mf* (measures 3-4). Measure 2 ends with a fermata over the first note of the next measure.

Measure 3: Dynamics: *pp* (measures 1-2), *mf* (measures 3-4).

Measure 4: Dynamics: *pp* (measures 1-2), *mf* (measures 3-4).

Measure 5: Dynamics: *pp* (measures 1-2), *mf* (measures 3-4). Measure 5 ends with a fermata over the first note of the next measure.

Measure 6: Dynamics: *pp* (measures 1-2), *mf* (measures 3-4). Measure 6 ends with a fermata over the first note of the next measure.

Measure 7: Dynamics: *pp* (measures 1-2), *mf* (measures 3-4). Measure 7 ends with a fermata over the first note of the next measure.

Measure 8: Dynamics: *pp* (measures 1-2), *mf* (measures 3-4). Measure 8 ends with a fermata over the first note of the next measure.

Musical score for orchestra, page 133, measures 1-5. The score consists of five staves. Measure 1: Bassoon 1 (bottom) plays eighth-note chords (B-flat, D-flat, G-flat), Bassoon 2 (second from bottom) plays eighth-note chords (A-flat, C, E-flat), Trombones 1-3 (third from bottom) play eighth-note chords (E-flat, G, B-flat), Trombone 4 (fourth from bottom) rests, Trombone 5 (top) plays eighth-note chords (D, F, A). Measure 2: Bassoon 1 (bottom) plays eighth-note chords (B-flat, D-flat, G-flat), Bassoon 2 (second from bottom) plays eighth-note chords (A-flat, C, E-flat), Trombones 1-3 (third from bottom) play eighth-note chords (E-flat, G, B-flat), Trombone 4 (fourth from bottom) rests, Trombone 5 (top) rests. Measure 3: Bassoon 1 (bottom) plays eighth-note chords (B-flat, D-flat, G-flat), Bassoon 2 (second from bottom) plays eighth-note chords (A-flat, C, E-flat), Trombones 1-3 (third from bottom) play eighth-note chords (E-flat, G, B-flat), Trombone 4 (fourth from bottom) rests, Trombone 5 (top) rests. Measure 4: Bassoon 1 (bottom) plays eighth-note chords (B-flat, D-flat, G-flat), Bassoon 2 (second from bottom) plays eighth-note chords (A-flat, C, E-flat), Trombones 1-3 (third from bottom) play eighth-note chords (E-flat, G, B-flat), Trombone 4 (fourth from bottom) rests, Trombone 5 (top) rests. Measure 5: Bassoon 1 (bottom) plays eighth-note chords (B-flat, D-flat, G-flat), Bassoon 2 (second from bottom) plays eighth-note chords (A-flat, C, E-flat), Trombones 1-3 (third from bottom) play eighth-note chords (E-flat, G, B-flat), Trombone 4 (fourth from bottom) rests, Trombone 5 (top) rests.

139

*mf:pp*   *mf*   *pp*  
*mf:pp*   *mf:pp*   *mf*   *pp*  
*mf*   *pp*   *mf*   *pp*  
*pp*   *f*   *pp*

*pp*   *mf*   *pp*

*gloss*

145

*mf*   *f appass*   *mf*   *pp:mf*  
*mf:pp*   *f appass*   *pp*   *mf*  
*mf*   *f appass*   *sfz*   *mf*  
*mf*   *f appass*   *pp:mf*   *mf*  
*mf*   *f appass*

*THEMA*

*p*

151

*pp*

*pp*

*f*

*pp*

*pp*

10

157

*mf*      *pp*

*mf*

*mf*

*gliss.* .      *mf*      *pp*

3

163

*fp*      *5*      *mf*

*fp*      *5*      *mf*

*fp*      *5*      *mf*

*fp*      *5*      *mf*

169

*pp*      *mf*      *pp*

*pp*      *mf*      *pp*      *mf*

*pp*      *mf*      *pp*

THEMA  
*mf*      *pp*      *3*      *3*      *mf*

175

*fp* *f*

*pp* *fp* *f*

*fpp* *fp* *f*

*fpp* *fp* *f*

181

*pp* *f* *p*

*pp* *f* *p*

*pp* *f* *p*

187

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

*mf* *pp*

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

193

= *p* < *mf* *p* *f appass* *p* *mf*  
=<*p*< *mf* *p* *f appass* *p* *mf*  
=<*mf* *p* *3mf*

199

*p* *f* *pp* *f:pp*  
*p* *f* *pp* *f:pp*  
*p* *f:pp*  
*p* *f* *pp* *f:pp*

205

*ff* *mf* *3pp* *mf* *gliss.*  
*pp* < *mf* < *pp*

211

4

pp

pp

mf

pp

pp

pp

mf

mf

mf

pp

pp

mf

mf

217

mf

pp

mf

pp

mf

pp

223

pp

mf

mf

mf sfz

sfz

pp

mf

pp

pp

mf

THEMA

pp

229

*pp*       $\frac{5}{3}$        $\frac{5}{3}$       *mf*       $\frac{3}{pp}$       *mf*  
*mf*      *sfz*      *pp*      *mf*      *mf*  
*pp*      *pp*

235

*pp*      *mf*      *mf*      *pp*  
*mf*      *pp*  
*mf*      *pp*      *gliss*      *pp*  
*mf*      *pp*      *mf*

241

*mf*      *mf*      *pp*      *8va*  
*mf*      *pp*  
*mf*      *pp*  
*sfz*      *pp*      *pp*      *non cresc*

247

*mf*

*mf pp*

*pp mf pp mf*

*gliss*

*mf pp mf*

*pp mf pp mf*

*pp mf pp mf*

253

*mf*

*pp mf*

*sfz appass pp pp*

*pp pp*

*pp*

259

*mf pp mf*

*pp mf*

*mf pp mf*

*mf pp mf*

*mf pp mf*

*pp*

265

5

*mf*

*pp*

*mf*

*sfz pp*

*mf pp*

*mf pp*

*mf pp*

271

*pp*

*mf pp*

*mf pp*

*mf*

*sfz*

*mf*

*pp*

*mf sfz 5*

*3*

277

*pp*

*mf pp*

*3*

*mf*

*3*

*sfz 3*

*3*

*pp*

*pp*

*mf*

THEMA

*mf pp*

*mf*

283

4

*ppp*      *mf*      *pp*      *mf*

*mf*

*sfz*      *pp*      *mf*

*pp*      *mf*      *pp*

289

*pp*      *mf*

*pp*      *mf*      *pp*      *mf*

*pp*      *mf*

*mf*      *pp*      *sfz*      *pp*

295

*pp*      *mf*

*pp*      *mf:pp*      *mf:pp*

*3*      *mf*      *pp*      *mf*      *3 pp*

301

Music for four staves:

- Staff 1: Dynamics: >pp, mf, pp, mf, pp, mf.
- Staff 2: Dynamics: mf, 3pp, mf:pp, mf, pp, mf.
- Staff 3: Dynamics: mf, 3pp, mf, sfz appass, sfz.
- Staff 4: Dynamics: pp, mf, 3.

Performance instructions: gliss.

307

Music for four staves:

- Staff 1: Dynamics: pp, mf:pp, 3, pp, mf:pp.
- Staff 2: Dynamics: mf, 3, 3, pp, mf.
- Staff 3: Dynamics: pp, mf, pp, mf.
- Staff 4: Dynamics: pp, mf.

Text: THEMA

313

Music for four staves:

- Staff 1: Dynamics: mf.
- Staff 2: Dynamics: pp, 3, pp, mf, 3pp.
- Staff 3: Dynamics: pp, mf, pp.
- Staff 4: Dynamics: pp, 3, pp, mf, pp.

Performance instruction: gliss.

319

**6**

*ff*

*pp* *sfz* *p*

*mf* *pp*

*mf* *pp*

*pp*

*mf* *pp*

325

*mf*

*pp* *pp* *pp*

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

*mf* *pp* *mf*

*mf* *pp*

*mf* *pp*

*THEMA*

*mf* *pp*

331

*5* *3* *mf* *pp* *3* *pp* *mf* *pp*

*sfz* *pp* *mf* *pp*

*3* *3* *3* *3* *sfz* *p* *fp*

*f sonore*

337

(unmeasured accel)

**A tempo**

mf      **p**      **ff**

**ff:p**

**pp**      (unmeasured accel)      **ff:p**

**3fp**      **fp**      **ff**      **ff:p**

342

**mf**      **pp**      **pp**      **f**

**mf**      **pp**      **pp**      **f**

**mf**      **pp**      **pp**      **f non dim**

**=mf**      **5**      **5**      **p**

349

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

**pp**      **mf:pp**      **mf:pp**      **mf**      **pp**

**pp**      **pp**      **pp**      **pp**

**f**      **pp**      **pp**      **pp**

355

*mf*      *pp*      *mf*      *pp*  
*mf*      *mf*      *pp*      *mf*  
*mf*      *ff appass*      *sfz*      *mf*  
*mf*      *mf*      *pp*      *THEMA*

361

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

367

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

7

373

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

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

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

*f*      *5*      *3*      *pp*

379

*mf*      *pp*

*5*      *mf*      *pp*      *mf*

*3*      *mf*      *pp*      *mf*

*f*      *p*      *mf*      *pp*

385

*5*      *3*      *5*      *pp*      *pp*      *mf*

*3*      *sfz*      *5*      *pp*

*3*      *3*      *3*      *5*      *sfz*

*mf*      *pp*

391

pp      *mf* pp      pp  
               pp  
               *gliss*  
               3 pp      *mf*  
               3  
       *mf* 3 pp      f 5      3 *mf*  
               5

397

*mf*  
       pp      3 *mf:pp*      *mf*  
               pp      *mf:pp*      *mf:pp*  
               3 pp      *mf* 3 pp  
               pp      3 f pp  
               pp

403

> pp      *mf*      3 *f appass*      3 *mf*  
               3 pp      *mf:pp*      *f appass*      pp  
               3 pp      *gliss*      *f appass*      sfz  
               3 pp      *mf*      *f appass*

409

*pp:mf*

*mf*

*p f*

THEMA

3

3

3

3

415

*pp*

*pp*

*pp*

*pp*

*gliss*

421

8

*pp*

*pp*

*pp*

*pp*

*mf*

*pp*

*p*

*mf*

427

*mf > pp*

*mf*

*mf > pp*

*mf*

*mf > pp*

*mf*

*mf > pp*

*mf*

433

*pp*

*3*

*fp*

*f*

*pp*

*fp*

*f pp*

*f:pp*

*fp*

*f pp*

*f:pp*

*fp*

*f pp*

*f:pp*

*fp*

*f pp*

*f pp*

439

*f*

*3*

*5*

*p*

*mf*

*f*

*5*

*3*

*f*

*p*

*mf*

*f*

*5*

*3*

*mf*

445

(8)

*p*

*mf*

*p*

*pp*

*pp f p*

*mf*

*p*

*p*

451

*mf*

*p*

*f appass*

*p*

*mf*

*mf*

*p*

*f appass*

*p*

*mf*

*pp*

*f pp*

*pp*

*f pp*

*pp*

*f pp*

*pp*

*f pp*

457

*p*

*f*

*pp*

*f pp*

27

463

*mf*

*mf* *pp* *mf*

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

469

9

*pp*

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

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

*pp* *mf*

475

*mf* *pp* *mf*

*pp* *mf* *sfz* *pp* *mf*

*pp* *mf* *sfz*

*pp*

481

*mf*    *pp*    5 3    5 3    *mf*    *pppp*

*mfpp*    *mf*    *sffz*    *pp*    *mf*

*mf*

THEMA

*pp*    *mf*    *pp*

487

*mf*    *pp*    *mf*

*mf*

-

*pp*    *mf*    3 *pp*    *mf*

493

*mf*    *pp*

*mf*    *pp*    *mf*

*mf*

*mf*    *pp*    *mf*    *mf*    *pp*

*mf*    3 *pp*    *mf*    *sfz*    *pp*

499

*8va*

*pp*      *mf*

*pp*      *mf:pp*

*mf*

*pp*      *mf*

*mf*      *pp*

*pp*      *mf*

505

*mf*

>*pp*      *mf*

*mf*      *pp*      *mf*      *pp*

*pp*      *mf*

*mf*      *pp*      *mf*

*gliss*

*appass*

*sfz*

>*pp*

*pp*      *mf*

*mf*

*pp*

512

*pp*      *mf*      *pp*

*pp*

*mf*

*pp*      *mf*      *pp*

*pp*      *mf*      *pp*

*pp*      *mf*      *pp*

*pp*      *mf*      *pp*

*THEMA*

*pp*

*mf*

*pp*

Repeat entire piece as many times as desired