

# Before History

“This is the long lulled pause  
Before history happens  
When the spirit hungers for form”

*from “The Strange Museum” by Tom Paulin  
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for Sylvia  
**Before History**  
for solo oboe

Martin Read  
(1991)

Andante (♩ = 70)

pp *ff* *mf* *f*

*f*

Slow and still (♩ = 64)

1 As quiet as possible *pp* No vibrato

2 Vibrato *mp* *p* No vibrato

3

Allegro (♩ = 96)

*pp* *p* Very percussive (slap) gradual crescendo -----

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----- *mf*

Andante

*p*

Slow and still

*mp* *mf* *pp*

Allegro  
*mp* (slap) *gradual crescendo* -----

4

Andante  
*ff* *mp*

*accel.* *f* *pp* *1* *Allegro* *f* (slap) *4*

*gradual cresc.* -----

*ff* *gradual decrescendo* -----