

17 Names for Rain

for

Violin, Clarinet, 'Cello, and Piano

I. Fog - Falling Fog - Misting - Dripping

Interlude: Petrichor

II. Sprinkling - Spitting - Squall - Downpour - Torrent

Interlude II: Showers - Sunbreaks

III. Drizzle - Rain - Soaking

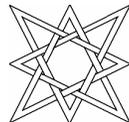
Interlude III: Virga

IV. Buckets - Cats & Dogs - Eye - Thunderstorm - Firehose

by

Sean Osborn

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Program Notes

There is an apocryphal story that the Inuit have 50 names for snow. I have often thought that Pacific Northwesterners had nearly as many names for rain. In composing this piece, I set out not to describe the types of rain *themselves* in the rhythms and pitches used, but to describe the emotions the different types of rain bring to the minds of the people out in them, such as the boredom of drizzle, the thrill of a thunderstorm, the relentlessness of buckets, the weirdness of falling fog.

I could not, of course, portray all the names I know for rain, but I have included 17 here, along with a few terms related to rain. Some of the names are descriptive, and some are technical. Two lesser-known names include: Virga - rain that evaporates before hitting the ground, and Petrichor - the wonderful smell when rain hits dry ground, especially noticeable in late spring and early summer after light rains.

Performance Notes:

Piano Pedaling - please adhere to markings strictly.

String Harmonics - I don't care if they're natural or not, just play the pitch indicated

X Pitch approximate

 Portamento (slide) Slide for the entire length of the note attached

 Glissando (notes)

 Tremolo (strings) or Flutter Tongue (clarinet)

 Slap Pizz (strings) or Slap Tongue (Clarinet)

tr= "Color" trill - move lower key for a microtonal trill

Musical notation for measures 16-22. The piece is in 3/8 time. Measure 16 starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes. Measure 22 ends with a repeat sign.

Dripping *slightly slower* *very free*

Musical notation for measures 23-28. Measure 23 starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. It features triplets of eighth notes. Measure 28 ends with a repeat sign. The dynamic marking *pp* is present. A cello part is indicated by a double quote and the word 'Cello' in the bass staff.

approximate coordination with 'cello

Musical notation for measures 29-32. Measure 29 starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The melody is highly rhythmic with many sixteenth notes. Measure 32 ends with a repeat sign. The dynamic marking *piu pp* is present.

Musical notation for measures 33-36. Measure 33 starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. It features triplets of eighth notes. Measure 36 ends with a repeat sign.

with 'cello *Air only* *first time only*

Musical notation for measures 37-40. Measure 37 starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. It features triplets of eighth notes. Measure 40 ends with a repeat sign. The dynamic marking *ppp* is present. A cello part is indicated by a double quote and the word 'cello' in the bass staff.

Interlude: Petrichor

Cello

Slow-ish, bright $\text{♩} = 72-80$

Clarinet

mf p

Detailed description: This system shows the beginning of the piece. The Cello staff (top) starts with a whole rest for two measures, then plays a melodic line in 4/4 time. The Clarinet staff (bottom) also starts with a whole rest for two measures, then enters with a melodic line. The tempo is marked 'Slow-ish, bright' with a quarter note equal to 72-80 beats per minute. Dynamics range from mezzo-forte (mf) to piano (p).

9 *mf* *cresc.* *ten.*

9 *mp* *cresc.* *ten.*

Detailed description: This system continues the music from measure 9. The Cello staff features a melodic line with dynamics of mezzo-forte (mf) and crescendo (cresc.), ending with a tenuto (ten.) mark. The Clarinet staff has a sustained melodic line with dynamics of mezzo-piano (mp) and crescendo (cresc.), also ending with a tenuto (ten.) mark.

17 *f* *riten.* *mf* *p*

17 *mp* *cresc.* *mf* *mf* *p*

Detailed description: This system continues the music from measure 17. The Cello staff has a melodic line with dynamics of forte (f), ritardando (riten.), mezzo-forte (mf), and piano (p). The Clarinet staff has a sustained melodic line with dynamics of mezzo-piano (mp), crescendo (cresc.), mezzo-forte (mf), and piano (p).

II. Sprinkling - Spitting - Squall - Downpour - Torrent

Sprinkling $\text{♩} = 63$

Clarinet

1 *p*

5

8

11

13

19 *pp* *cresc.*

23 *mf* *p* *accel* $\text{♩} = 63$ **Spitting**

Faster ♩ = 88

31 *cresc.* *mp* *p*

42 *mp*

Squall

49 *ff* *p*

56 *ff* *p* *cresc.*

Faster ♩ = 120 **Downpour**

63 *mf* *mp* *legato (slurred)*

69

74

79 *mf*

Interlude II: Showers - Sunbreaks

Clarinet

Lugubrious $\text{♩} = 72$
molto legato

1 *Very Free*
mp

11 *accel.*
cresc. *mp* *f* *mp* *mf*

16 *mf* *f*

19 *mp* *dim.* *p* *n*

23 *mp*

Slightly slower $\text{♩} = 84$
pochiss. rit.

28 *p* *mp*

Free-ish $\text{♩} = 72$
accel.

32 *pp* *cresc.*

40 **Allegro** $\text{♩} = 92$
mf *p*

III. Drizzle - Rain - Soaking

Drizzle $\text{♩} = 60$

Clarinet

1

p

15

Rain *piano leads*

34

mp *p*

43

pp *p*

59

ppp

dim. *fade to nothing*

continue rhythm, do not align

Interlude III: Virga

Make large, elaborate gesture for upbeat,
as if about to play, but don't play.

End of Interlude.

IV. Buckets - Cats & Dogs - Eye - Thunderstorm - Firehose

Buckets $\text{♩} = 90$

Clarinet

1 *f* slur all 8th-notes

6

12 LH Cello

18

24

30

35

39

43

47 *f* *ff* *f*

51 *ff* *f*

55 *ff* *f* *ff* *f* *ff*

59 *f* *ff* *f* *ff* *f* *p* *f*

64

68

72 *mf* *f* *dim.*

77

81 *mf* Cello out

85

89 Eye = 138 Thunderstorm

97 *f* *ff* 6

100 *ff* 6 3 6 *tr=* *ff*

104 *ff*

110 *f*

114 *ff* *mp* *f* 9

127 *ff*

130

133 *p < mf* *mf* *ff*

138 *mf*

6

6

6

6

6

6

141 *mf* *ff* *ff*

four-note tremolo within these pitches, fast

ff

145 *p cresc.*

ff

152 *mf* *pp cresc.* *mf* *ff*

157 *ff* *tr=*

162 *ff* 5 5 3 6 *tr=tr=*

Firehose

165 *flutter tongue* *at least 10 sec.* *fff*