

From Detroit to LA

Michael Mikulka

“From Detroit to LA” is based on a flight I took in November 2009. This was the first time I had flown on a clear day at a low altitude, and I was struck by the patterns that emerged from the air: not only the man-made patterns of towns and plowed farmland, but also the natural patterns from mountains, rivers, and canyons. Though we were actually moving at several hundred miles per hour, everything below seemed expansive, and shifted from view at a slow pace, which is the reason for the quasi-minimalist style often found in this piece.

All of the melodies for the piece were composed on the actual flight, and the order in which they appear in the composition is the order in which they appeared during the trip. The purpose of the trip was to visit the University of Southern California, so a few of the motifs and melodic fragments (as well as other aspects of the composition) are imitative of and/or inspired by the music of Frank Ticheli.

From Detroit to LA

Michael Mikulka

Endless squares of farmland

♩ = 120

Piccolo

Flute 1 + 2

Oboe 1 + 2

Bassoon 1 + 2

Clarinet in B \flat 1

Clarinet in B \flat 2

Clarinet in B \flat 3

Bass Clarinet

Alto Saxophone 1+2

Tenor Saxophone

Baritone Saxophone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Horn in F 1 + 2

Horn in F 3 + 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Bass Trombone

Euphonium

Tuba

Timpani

Percussion 1

Percussion 2

Percussion 3

Xylophone

Marimba

4/4

32" - G, 29" - B, 26" - C \sharp , 23" - F

Large Temple Block

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Little streams and rivulets appear

This musical score is for the section 'Little streams and rivulets appear'. It features a variety of instruments including Piccolo, Flutes 1 and 2, Oboes 1 and 2, Bassoons 1 and 2, Clarinets 1, 2, and 3, Bass Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone, Trumpets 1, 2, and 3, Horns 1 and 2, Horns 3 and 4, Trombones 1 and 2, Baritone Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba, Timpani, Percussion 1, 2, and 3, Xylophone, and Maracas. The score is written in a key signature of two flats and a common time signature. The music is characterized by flowing, melodic lines in the woodwinds and strings, with dynamic markings such as *mf*, *sfzp*, *f*, and *mp*. The percussion parts include rhythmic patterns on the Xylophone and Maracas, with dynamic markings like *f* and *8va* indicating specific playing techniques.

Picc. *f sfzp f*

Fl. 1 + 2 *mf sfzp*

Ob. 1 + 2 *f sfzp*

Bsn. 1 + 2

Cl. 1 *mf sfzp*

Cl. 2

Cl. 3

B. Cl.

A. Sax. *f sfzp*

T. Sax. *mp*

B. Sax.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Hn. 1 + 2

Hn. 3 + 4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn. *mp*

Euph.

Tba. *mf*

Timp. *mp*

Perc. 1 *to gong (with triangle beater)*

Perc. 2 *Egg Shaker mf*

Perc. 3 *Bass Drum mp*

Xyl. *f mp*

Mar. *f mp*

78

78

78

The streams lead into broad rivers

♩ = ♩

This musical score is for a symphony orchestra. It features a complex rhythmic structure with a 7/8-5/8-4/4-7/8 meter. The score is divided into three measures, with large numbers 7, 5, 4, and 7 indicating the time signature changes. The instruments and their parts are as follows:

- Picc.**: Piccolo flute, playing a melodic line with *mp* dynamics.
- Fl. 1 + 2**: Flutes, with 1st and 2nd staves, playing a melodic line with *mp* dynamics.
- Ob. 1 + 2**: Oboes, playing a melodic line with *mp* dynamics.
- Bsn. 1 + 2**: Bassoons, playing a melodic line with *mp* dynamics.
- Cl. 1**: Clarinet 1, playing a melodic line with *mf* dynamics.
- Cl. 2**: Clarinet 2, playing a melodic line with *mp* dynamics.
- Cl. 3**: Clarinet 3, playing a melodic line with *mp* dynamics.
- B. Cl.**: Bass Clarinet, playing a melodic line with *mp* dynamics.
- A. Sax.**: Alto Saxophone, playing a melodic line with *mp* dynamics.
- T. Sax.**: Tenor Saxophone, playing a melodic line with *mf* dynamics.
- B. Sax.**: Baritone Saxophone, playing a melodic line with *mp* dynamics.
- Tpt. 1, 2, 3**: Trumpets, playing a melodic line with *mp* dynamics.
- Hn. 1 + 2**: Horns 1 and 2, playing a melodic line with *f* dynamics.
- Hn. 3 + 4**: Horns 3 and 4, playing a melodic line with *f* dynamics.
- Tbn. 1, 2**: Trombones 1 and 2, playing a melodic line with *f* dynamics.
- B. Tbn.**: Baritone Trombone, playing a melodic line with *f* dynamics.
- Euph.**: Euphonium, playing a melodic line with *f* dynamics.
- Tba.**: Tuba, playing a melodic line with *f* dynamics.
- Timp.**: Timpani, playing a melodic line with *f* dynamics.
- Perc. 1**: Percussion 1, playing a melodic line with *f* dynamics, including a "Scrape gong with triangle beater" instruction.
- Perc. 2**: Percussion 2, playing a melodic line with *f* dynamics.
- Perc. 3**: Percussion 3, playing a melodic line with *f* dynamics.
- Xyl.**: Xylophone, playing a melodic line with *mf* dynamics.
- Mar.**: Maracas, playing a melodic line with *mp* dynamics.

Picc. *mp* *mp* *mf* *mf*

Fl. 1 + 2 *mp* *mp* *mf* *mf*

Ob. 1 + 2 *mp* *mp* *mf* *mf*

Bsn. 1 + 2

Cl. 1 *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf*

Cl. 2 *mp* *mp* *mf* *mf*

Cl. 3 *mp* *mp* *mf* *mf*

B. Cl.

A. Sax. *mp* *mf* *mf*

T. Sax.

B. Sax. *mf*

Tpt. 1 *f* *f*

Tpt. 2 *f*

Tpt. 3 *f*

Hn. 1 + 2

Hn. 3 + 4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Euph.

Tba. *f*

Timp. *f*

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 *f* *f*

Perc. 3

Xyl. *mf* *mp* *mp* *mp*

Mar. *mf* *mp* *mp* *mp*

24

25

26

27

The river gives way to circles of farmland

Musical score for 'The river gives way to circles of farmland'. The score is written for a large orchestra and includes the following instruments and parts:

- Picc.
- Fl. 1 + 2
- Ob. 1 + 2
- Bsn. 1 + 2
- Cl. 1
- Cl. 2
- Cl. 3
- B. Cl.
- A. Sax.
- T. Sax.
- B. Sax.
- Tpt. 1
- Tpt. 2
- Tpt. 3
- Hn. 1 + 2
- Hn. 3 + 4
- Tbn. 1
- Tbn. 2
- B. Tbn.
- Euph.
- Tba.
- Timp.
- Perc. 1
- Perc. 2
- Perc. 3
- Xyl.
- Mar.

The score is in 3/4 time, as indicated by the large '3' and '4' at the beginning of the Piccolo and Bass Trombone staves. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The score includes various dynamics such as *p*, *pp*, and *mp*. The first flute part is marked '1sts' and *p*. The bassoon part is marked *p*. The clarinet parts (Cl. 1, 2, 3) are marked *pp*. The bass clarinet part is marked *p*. The horn part (Hn. 3 + 4) is marked *mp*. The euphonium part is marked *mp*. The tuba part is marked *mp*. The score is divided into measures 28 through 36, which are numbered in boxes at the bottom of the page.

Picc.

Fl. 1 + 2

Ob. 1 + 2

Bsn. 1 + 2

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Cl. 3

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Hn. 1 + 2

Hn. 3 + 4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Euph.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Xyl.

Mar.

rit.

Picc. *mf*

Fl. 1 + 2 *mf*

Ob. 1 + 2 *f* *mf* *p*

Bsn. 1 + 2 *mf*

Cl. 1 *p*

Cl. 2 *p*

Cl. 3 *p*

B. Cl. *mf*

A. Sax. *mf* *mp*

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpt. 1 *mf*

Tpt. 2 *mf*

Tpt. 3 *mf*

Hn. 1 + 2 *mf*

Hn. 3 + 4 *mf*

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Euph. *mf*

Tba. *mf*

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Xyl. *mf*

Mar. *mf*

787

787

787

Picc.

Fl. 1 + 2

Ob. 1 + 2

Bsn. 1 + 2

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Cl. 3

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Hn. 1 + 2

Hn. 3 + 4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Euph.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Xyl.

Mar.

5/8 **2/4** **3/4** **4/4**

p

pp

pp

pp

pp

5/8 **2/4** **3/4** **4/4**

pp

to temple block

p

Squares reappear

Picc. **4/4** *f* **8/4**

Fl. 1 + 2 *p* *f* **8/4**

Ob. 1 + 2 *p* *f*

Bsn. 1 + 2 *mp*

Cl. 1 *f*

Cl. 2 *f* *mp*

Cl. 3 *f* *mp*

B. Cl. *p* *mp* a2

A. Sax. *mp*

T. Sax. *mp*

B. Sax. **4/4** *p* *mp* **8/4**

Tpt. 1 **4/4** *p* *mp* **8/4**

Tpt. 2 *p* *mp*

Tpt. 3 *p* *mp*

Hn. 1 + 2 *mp*

Hn. 3 + 4 *mp*

Tbn. 1 *p* *mp*

Tbn. 2 *p* *mp*

B. Tbn. *mp*

Euph. *p* *mp*

Tba. **4/4** *mf* **8/4**

Timp. **4/4** **8/4**

Perc. 1 *p* *mf* *mp*

Perc. 2 *mp*

Perc. 3

Xyl. *f* *f*

Mar. *f* *f*

The squares are interspersed with rectangles

Picc. **8/4**
 Fl. 1 + 2
 Ob. 1 + 2
 Bsn. 1 + 2
 Cl. 1
 Cl. 2
 Cl. 3
 B. Cl.
 A. Sax.
 T. Sax.
 B. Sax. **8/4**
 Tpt. 1 **4**
 Tpt. 2
 Tpt. 3
 Hn. 1 + 2
 Hn. 3 + 4
 Tbn. 1
 Tbn. 2
 B. Tbn.
 Euph.
 Tba. **8/4**
 Timp. **4**
 Perc. 1
 Perc. 2
 Perc. 3
 Xyl.
 Mar.

Picc. *mp*

Fl. 1 + 2

Ob. 1 + 2

Bsn. 1 + 2 *mp*

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Cl. 3

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpt. 1 *mp*

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Hn. 1 + 2 *mp*

Hn. 3 + 4 *mp*

Tbn. 1 *f* Smoothly

Tbn. 2 *mf* Smoothly

B. Tbn. *mf* Smoothly

Euph. *mf* Smoothly

Tba. *mf* Smoothly

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Xyl.

Mar.

64

64

64

Squares and circles with large trenches throughout

Picc. **6/4** *f* *mp* **7/4**

Fl. 1 + 2 *mp* *mp*

Ob. 1 + 2 *mp*

Bsn. 1 + 2 *mp*

Cl. 1 *fp*

Cl. 2 *fp*

Cl. 3 *fp*

B. Cl. *mp*

A. Sax. *mp*

T. Sax.

B. Sax. **6/4** **7/4**

Tpt. 1 *mp* **7/4**

Tpt. 2 *mp*

Tpt. 3 *mp*

Hn. 1 + 2 *mp*

Hn. 3 + 4 *mp*

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Euph. *mp* *mf*

Tba. **6/4** *mf* **7/4**

Timp. **6/4** **7/4**

Perc. 1 *mp* Gong (scrape w/ triangle beater) to crash cymbals

Perc. 2 *mp* to susp. cymbal

Perc. 3 *mp*

Xyl. *f*

Mar. *f*

Large snow-capped mountains

Picc.
 Fl. 1 + 2
 Ob. 1 + 2
 Bsn. 1 + 2
 Cl. 1
 Cl. 2
 Cl. 3
 B. Cl.
 A. Sax.
 T. Sax.
 B. Sax.
 Tpt. 1
 Tpt. 2
 Tpt. 3
 Hn. 1 + 2
 Hn. 3 + 4
 Tbn. 1
 Tbn. 2
 B. Tbn.
 Euph.
 Tba.
 Timp.
 Perc. 1
 Perc. 2
 Perc. 3
 Xyl.
 Mar.

Musical score for "Large snow-capped mountains" featuring various instruments and dynamic markings. The score is divided into five measures, each with a large time signature: 5/8, 3/4, 3/8, 5/8, and 7/8. The instruments listed on the left include Piccolo, Flutes 1+2, Oboes 1+2, Bassoons 1+2, Clarinets 1, 2, and 3, Bass Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone, Trumpets 1, 2, and 3, Horns 1+2 and 3+4, Trombones 1, 2, and Bass Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba, Timpani, Percussion 1, 2, and 3, Xylophone, and Maracas. Dynamic markings include *f* (forte) and *mf* (mezzo-forte). The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and articulation marks.

Picc.

Fl. 1 + 2

Ob. 1 + 2

Bsn. 1 + 2

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Cl. 3

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Hn. 1 + 2

Hn. 3 + 4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Euph.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Xyl.

Mar.

mf

f

mf

f

mf

f

to temple block

The mountains continue, with circular patterns in the valleys

Picc. *mf*

Fl. 1 + 2 *mp*

Ob. 1 + 2 *mf*

Bsn. 1 + 2

Cl. 1 *mf*

Cl. 2 *mp*

Cl. 3 *mp*

B. Cl.

A. Sax. *f*

T. Sax. *f*

B. Sax. *f*

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Hn. 1 + 2

Hn. 3 + 4

Tbn. 1 *f* very full

Tbn. 2 *f* very full

B. Tbn. *f* very full

Euph. *f* very full

Tba. *f* very full

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 *mp*

Perc. 3

Xyl.

Mar.

3/8 **3/4**

3/8 **3/4**

3/8 **3/4**

Picc. *mf* **3/4** *mf* *mf* **2/4** *fp* **3/4**

Fl. 1 + 2 *mp* *mp* *mp* *mf* *fp*

Ob. 1 + 2 *mf* *mf* *mf* *f* *fp*

Bsn. 1 + 2 *f* *fp*

Cl. 1 *mf* *mf* *mf* *fp*

Cl. 2 *mp* *mp* *mp* *mf* *fp*

Cl. 3 *mp* *mp* *mp* *mf* *fp*

B. Cl. *f* *fp*

A. Sax. *fp*

T. Sax. *fp*

B. Sax. *fp* **3/4** **2/4** **3/4**

Tpt. 1 **3/4** **2/4** **3/4**

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Hn. 1 + 2 *f* very full

Hn. 3 + 4 *f* very full

Tbn. 1 *f*

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Euph.

Tba. **3/4** **2/4** **3/4**

Timp. **3/4** **2/4** **3/4** *ff*

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 *mp* *mf*

Perc. 3

Xyl.

Mar.

Large plateaus sweep across the landscape

This musical score is for a symphonic band and includes parts for Piccolo, Flutes 1 & 2, Oboes 1 & 2, Bassoons 1 & 2, Clarinets 1, 2, & 3, Bass Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone, Bass Saxophone, Trumpets 1, 2, & 3, Horns 1 & 2, Horns 3 & 4, Trombones 1, 2, & Bass, Euphonium, Tuba, Timpani, Percussion 1, 2, & 3, Xylophone, and Maracas. The score is divided into five measures, with measure numbers 134, 135, 136, 137, and 138 indicated at the bottom. The time signature changes from 4/4 to 3/4 in measure 135 and back to 4/4 in measure 136. The music features a prominent melodic line in the woodwinds and brass, with dynamic markings such as *f* (forte), *mp* (mezzo-piano), and *mf* (mezzo-forte). A 'bring out' instruction is present in the Alto Saxophone part in measure 137. The percussion parts include patterns for snare drum, tom-toms, and maracas.

The plateaus lead to deep canyons

This musical score is for a symphonic band or orchestra. It features a variety of instruments including Piccolo, Flutes (1+2), Oboes (1+2), Bassoons (1+2), Clarinets (1, 2, 3), Bass Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone, Bass Saxophone, Trumpets (1, 2, 3), Horns (1+2, 3+4), Trombones (1, 2), Baritone Trombone, Euphonium, Tubas, Timpani, Percussion (1, 2, 3), Xylophone, and Maracas. The score is divided into measures 143, 144, 145, 146, and 147. The time signature changes from 6/4 to 4/4 to 5/4 and back to 6/4. Dynamics include *f*, *mf*, *mp*, and *ff*. There are also markings for *tr* (trills) and *5*, *6* (fingerings).

Picc. **6/4** **4/4** **5/4** **4/4**

Fl. 1 + 2 **6/4** **4/4** **5/4** **4/4**

Ob. 1 + 2

Bsn. 1 + 2

Cl. 1 *mf*

Cl. 2 *mf*

Cl. 3 *mf*

B. Cl.

A. Sax. *mf*

T. Sax.

B. Sax. **6/4** **4/4** **5/4** **4/4**

Tpt. 1 *mp*

Tpt. 2 *mp*

Tpt. 3 *mp*

Hn. 1 + 2 *mf*

Hn. 3 + 4 *mf*

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Euph.

Tba. **6/4** **4/4** **5/4** **4/4**

Timp. *mf* *f*

Perc. 1 *mp* *mf* *f*

Perc. 2 *f*

Perc. 3

Xyl. *mf* *f* *ff*

Mar. *mf* *f* *ff*

The canyons fade into squares

A tempo

♩ = 120

Picc.

Fl. 1 + 2

Ob. 1 + 2

Bsn. 1 + 2

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Cl. 3

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

B. Sax.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Tpt. 3

Hn. 1 + 2

Hn. 3 + 4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Euph.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Xyl.

Mar.

158

159

160

161

Picc. *fp*

Fl. 1 + 2 *fp*

Ob. 1 + 2 *fp*

Bsn. 1 + 2 *mf*

Cl. 1 *fp*

Cl. 2 *mf*

Cl. 3 *mf*

B. Cl. *mf*

A. Sax. *mf*

T. Sax. *mf*

B. Sax. *mf*

Tpt. 1 *mf*

Tpt. 2 *mf*

Tpt. 3 *mf*

Hn. 1 + 2 *mf*

Hn. 3 + 4 *mf*

Tbn. 1 *mf*

Tbn. 2 *mf*

B. Tbn. *mf*

Euph. *mf*

Tba. *f*

Timp. *mf*

Perc. 1 *mp*

Perc. 2 *mp*

Perc. 3 *mf*

Xyl. *mf*

Mar. *mf*

Susp. cymbal *mp*

787878

The glittering lights of Los Angeles

This page of a musical score, numbered 33, features the title "The glittering lights of Los Angeles". It contains staves for various instruments, including Piccolo, Flutes (1+2), Oboes (1+2), Bassoons (1+2), Clarinets (1, 2, 3), Bass Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone, Bass Saxophone, Trumpets (1, 2, 3), Horns (1+2, 3+4), Trombones (1, 2), Bass Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba, Timpani, Percussion (1, 2, 3), Xylophone, and Maracas. The score is divided into measures 166 through 170. Large numbers "7/8" and "4/4" indicate time signature changes at the beginning of measures 166 and 167. Dynamic markings such as *f*, *mp*, and *ff* are used throughout. Performance instructions like "1sts", "2nds", "dampen loudly", and "dampen!" are present. The woodwind and brass sections have complex melodic lines, while the percussion and maracas provide rhythmic accompaniment.

166

167

168

169

170