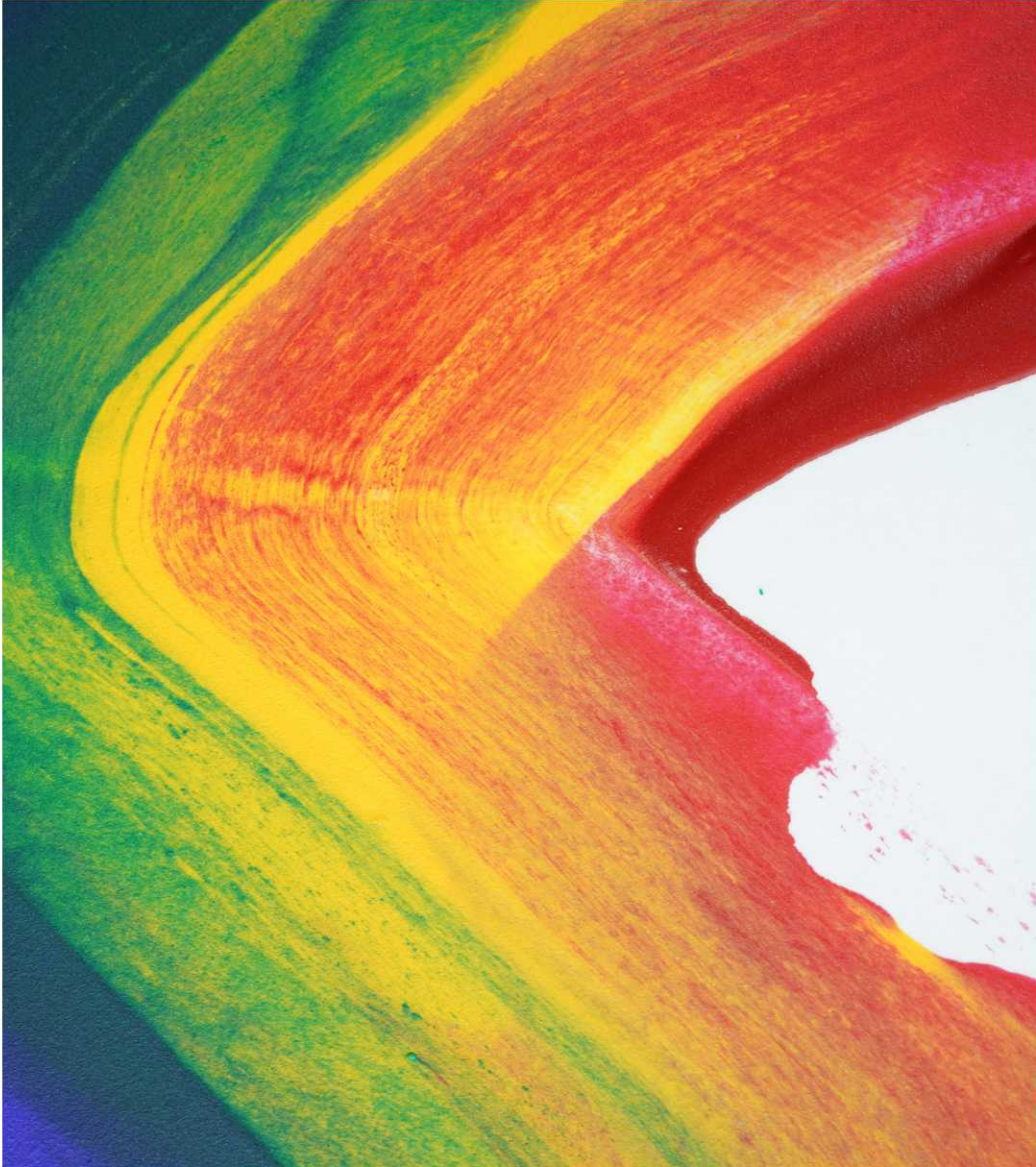


Brushstrokes

a suite of colours



for small flute ensemble

Edgar Divver

When I first started this project, I had recently moved house and had started to think about some redecorations, especially repainting some interior walls. While researching paint colours, I noticed that many of them had very interesting names, and I was fascinated by this!

Upon delving a little more, the most interesting names, without a shadow of a doubt, were from Farrow & Ball, and so I took a trip to my local F&B store to look at the colours in more detail. I honestly could have chosen at least a dozen colours for the movements, but I felt a resonance with five of them, and these names make up the individual movements in the suite.

'Green Smoke' is a swirling, unsettling, and jolting movement, exploring the full range of the flutes. It never feels stable, often moving unexpectedly, capturing the elusive and dangerous nature of smoke through a whirlwind of sound.

'Elephant's Breath' is a welcome change of pace, with the contrabass and bass flutes at the centre, but the smoke lingers slightly throughout, only clearing in the final few bars. The range is noticeably lower not just in the basses but across the entire ensemble, giving a greater sense of stability.

'Red Earth' maintains the low feel, but a sense of unease creeps in, the wariness of an unfamiliar place. The piccolo, G flute and alto flute play together warily, initially uncomfortable with their sound, but, eventually, the rest of the ensemble embraces the new environment as the movement closes.

'Borrowed Light' is a stark contrast to the previous movements. The flutes soar, free of their previous worries, as they relish a moment of sun, and all through the ensemble there is joy in the sound, culminating in the brightest moment of the entire piece.

'Citron' brings the suite to a close, reinventing what has gone before in a zesty new way, before nostalgia sets in and snippets of the sunshine return - finally ending with a race to the finish!

Edgar Divver, September 2022

Movements:



I - Green Smoke



II - Elephant's Breath



III - Red Earth



IV - Borrowed Light



V - Citron

This work was developed for the Bedfordshire Woodwind Academy Flute Ensemble as part of the Adopt a Music Creator Project 2022, funded by the PRS Foundation and the Philip and Dorothy Green Music Trust, and run by Making Music, in Partnership with Sound and Music.

I dedicate this work to the members of BWAFE and its director, Liz Childs, for their unwavering enthusiasm and endless optimism throughout the project. It has been a true collaboration and many of the notes in this suite were directly created by the group. I cannot thank them enough.

This revised version for smaller flute ensemble was commissioned as part of the Adopt a Music Creator Legacy scheme, which aims to make pieces available to more ensembles.

Duration: 12 minutes (approx.)

© Edgar Divver 2023

Brushstrokes

for BWAF

I - Green Smoke

Edgar Diver

Swirling ♩ = 116

Musical score for the first system, measures 1-6. The Piccolo part is silent. Flute I, II, and III play a swirling eighth-note pattern. Flute I and II have dynamics *ppp* and *pp*. Flute III has dynamics *ppp* and *pp*. Alto Flute and Bass Flute are silent until measure 4, where they play a low note with dynamics *ff*. The time signature changes from 4/4 to 2/4 and back to 4/4.

Musical score for the second system, measures 7-13. The Piccolo part plays a sixteenth-note pattern with dynamics *p*, *f*, *ff*, and *fff*. Flute I, II, and III play a similar pattern with dynamics *p*, *f*, *ff*, and *fff*. Flute I and II have trills in measures 10-13. Alto Flute and Bass Flute play a low note with dynamics *fff* and *ff*. The time signature changes from 4/4 to 2/4 and back to 4/4.

Musical score for the third system, measures 14-19. The Piccolo part plays a sixteenth-note pattern with dynamics *ff* and *ff* harsh. Flute I plays a sixteenth-note pattern with dynamics *ff* and *ff* harsh. Flute II plays a low note with trills and dynamics *ff* and *ff* harsh. Flute III plays a low note with trills and dynamics *ff* and *ff* harsh. Alto Flute and Bass Flute play a low note with trills and dynamics *ff* and *ff* harsh. The time signature changes from 4/4 to 2/4 and back to 4/4.

21

Picc.

Fl. I

Fl. II

Fl. III

A. Fl.

B. Fl.

26

Picc.

Fl. I

Fl. II

Fl. III

A. Fl.

B. Fl.

32

Picc.

Fl. I

Fl. II

Fl. III

A. Fl.

B. Fl.

rapid scale

fff

ff

rapid scale

fff

ff

rapid scale

fff

ff

rapid scale

fff

ff

rapid scale

fff

ff

rapid scale

fff

ff

38

Picc. *fff* *ff* *fff* *ff harsh*

Fl. I *fff* *ff* *fff* *ff harsh*

Fl. II *fff* *ff* *fff* *ff harsh*

Fl. III *fff* *ff* *fff* *ff harsh*

A. Fl. *fff* *ff* *fff* *ff harsh*

B. Fl. *fff* *ff* *fff* *ff harsh*

45

Picc. *p* *pp* *rit.*

Fl. I *p*

Fl. II *p*

Fl. III *p*

A. Fl. *p*

B. Fl. *p*

49

Picc. *f* *ff* *fff*

Fl. I *f* *ff* *fff*

Fl. II *f* *ff* *fff*

Fl. III *ff* *fff*

A. Fl. *ff* *fff*

B. Fl. *ff* *fff*

II - Elephant's Breath

rit. a tempo

53 Lumbering ♩ = 54

Picc. -

Fl. I ppp ppp pp

Fl. II ppp ppp pp

Fl. III ppp ppp pp

A. Fl. ppp ppp pp

B. Fl. f warm f warm

60

Picc. pp p pp pp pp p pp

Fl. I flutter pp p pp

Fl. II flutter pp p pp

A. Fl. pp p pp pp p pp

B. Fl. -

72

Picc. p pp p pp p pp p pp

Fl. I pp p pp pp p pp pp p pp

Fl. II pp p pp pp p pp pp p pp

Fl. III -

A. Fl. p pp p pp p pp p pp

B. Fl. -

82

Picc. *pp* *p* *pp* *pp* *p* *pp* *p* *pp*

Fl. I *pp* *p* *pp* *pp* *p* *pp* *pp* *p* *pp*

Fl. II *pp* *p* *pp* *pp* *p* *pp* *pp* *p* *pp*

Fl. III *p* *pp* *pp* *p* *pp* *pp* *p* *pp* *pp*

A. Fl. flutter *pp* *p* *pp* *pp* *p* *pp* *pp* *p* *pp*

B. Fl. *pp* *p* *pp* *pp* *p* *pp* *pp* *p* *pp*

ff confident

90

Picc. *p* *pp* *p* *pp* *p* *pp* *ppp* no flutter

Fl. I *pp* *p* *pp* *pp* *p* *pp* *ppp* no flutter

Fl. II *pp* *p* *pp* *pp* *p* *pp* *ppp*

Fl. III *p* *pp* *pp* *p* *pp* *ppp* no flutter

A. Fl. *pp* *p* *pp* *pp* *p* *pp* *ppp*

B. Fl. *p* *pp* *pp* *p* *pp* *pp* *p*

129

Picc. *pp* *f warm*

Fl. I *p espr.* *f warm*

Fl. II *f* *pp* *p espr.* *f warm*

Fl. III *p espr.* *f warm*

A. Fl. *pp* *f warm*

B. Fl. *pp* *f* *pp* *f warm*

135

Picc. *pp* *ff*

Fl. I *pp* *ff*

Fl. II *pp* *ff*

Fl. III *pp* *ff*

A. Fl. *pp* *ff*

B. Fl. *pp* *ff*

3/4

IV - Borrowed Light

11

141 Carefree ♩ = 84

Picc.

Fl. I *solo*
p espr. *pp*

Fl. II *p warm*

Fl. III *p warm*

A. Fl. *p warm*

B. Fl. *p warm*

156

Picc. *pp* *tutti* *p espr.*

Fl. I *pp*

Fl. II *pp*

Fl. III *pp*

A. Fl. *pp*

B. Fl. *pp*

168

Picc. *pp*

Fl. I *pp espr.* *pp*

Fl. II *p espr.* *pp*

Fl. III

A. Fl. *p espr.*

B. Fl. *p espr.*

182 rit. - - - - -

Picc. *p espr.*

Fl. I *p espr.*

Fl. II

Fl. III

A. Fl. *pp*

B. Fl. *pp*

191- - - - - *a tempo*

Picc. *f*

Fl. I *f*

Fl. II *f*

Fl. III *f*

A. Fl. *f*

B. Fl. *f*

V - Citron

13

199 Zesty $\text{♩} = 132$

Picc. *sfz* *fff* *ff*

Fl. I *sfz* *fff* *f*

Fl. II *sfz* *fff* *f*

Fl. III *sfz* *fff* *ff*

A. Fl. *f driving*

B. Fl. *f driving*

208

Picc. *fff* *f* *fff* *f*

Fl. I *fff* *f*

Fl. II *fff* *f*

Fl. III *ff* *fff* *f* *fff* *f*

A. Fl. *fff*

B. Fl. *fff*

216

Picc. *p* *f* *ff* *p* *f* *ff*

Fl. I *p* *f* *ff* *p* *f* *ff*

Fl. II *p* *f* *ff* *p* *f* *ff*

Fl. III *p* *f* *ff* *p* *f* *ff*

A. Fl. *ff*

B. Fl. *ff*

221 rit. 14

Picc. *f*

Fl. I *f*

Fl. II *f*

Fl. III *mf*

A. Fl.

B. Fl.

229 Nostalgic ♩ = 84

Picc. *ff*

Fl. I *ff*

Fl. II *ff*

Fl. III *mf*

A. Fl. *p warm*

B. Fl. *p warm*

p espr.

pp

pp

pp

p espr.

243 accel.

Picc. *p*

Fl. I *p*

Fl. II *pp*

Fl. III *mf*

A. Fl. *pp*

B. Fl. *p espr.*

251

Picc. *f* *fff*

Fl. I *f* *fff*

Fl. II *f* *fff*

Fl. III *f* *fff*

A. Fl. *f* *fff*

B. Fl. *ff* *fff*

The musical score consists of six staves. The Piccolo (Picc.) and Alto Flute (A. Fl.) parts play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The Flute I (Fl. I), Flute II (Fl. II), and Flute III (Fl. III) parts play a melodic line with slurs and ties. The Bass Flute (B. Fl.) part plays a simple harmonic accompaniment. The score is in 4/4 time. The dynamic marking *f* (forte) is present from measure 251 to 254, and *fff* (fortissimo) is present from measure 255 to 258. The key signature has one sharp (F#).