

Ben Morris

for the Sibelius Academy Creative Dialogue 2020

Órnes Carvings



for solo violoncello

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Órnes Carvings

for solo violoncello

Total Duration: ca. 3'00"

Program Note

Órnes Carvings was remotely composed and workshopped during the Sibelius Academy Creative Dialogue 2020 for cellists Coleman Itzkoff and Shulamit Sarid. It is inspired by the ancient carvings on Urnes (formerly Órnes) Stave Church on the Sognefjord in Norway. The music takes the rhythmic pattern from Norwegian *pols* and *springleik* music, which has a three-beat pattern with a stretched middle beat, as well as prominently featuring the “neutral” / “blue” third found in Norwegian music. In that sense, the piece re-imagines the cello as a big Hardanger fiddle.

Ornes Carvings

Ancient, like a big fiddle $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 80$ for solo cello

scordatura - A - D - F# - C

"neutral"/"blue" third

3+4+3 (stretch middle beat)

senza vib.

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Violoncello $\text{Bass clef} \text{ 10/8 time}$

f like a viol

5 (trill ends)

9

12 "neutral"/"blue" third

16

20 sul G →
fpp cresc.
(cresc.)

poco accel.

24

2

27

rit.

30

More energy ♩ = ca. 84

sul A →

32

36

39

42

pizz.

47

50

53

56

rit.

60

molto rit.

con vib.

64

pp

meno mosso $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 72$

"neutral" / "blue" third

arco, senza vib.

67

mf like a viol

rebow as required

poco rit.

71

pp