

RICHARD BOLLEY

ODYSSEYS  
(Travels with Alex 8)

for countenor, viola obbligato and chamber ensemble

*Celebrating Alexandra David-Néel (1868-1969) and remembering Fiona McLean (1952-2011)*

*Odysseys* is the eighth piece in the cycle *Travels with Alex*  
for viola obbligato and various chamber ensembles

The pieces may be performed singly, in combination or  
(ideally) in the complete numbered sequence.

Instrumentation:

countertenor

viola obbligato

flute

oboe

horn in F

violin

cello

2 percussion

(1:- crotales, glockenspiel, tubular bells,\* tambourine,  
suspended cymbal);

2:- vibraphone, tubular bells\*)

\*The two percussionists should play from one instrument,  
positioned so that each can play it at different points in the  
piece.

All parts are notated at concert pitch except the crotales and  
glockenspiel (which sound two octaves higher).

Accidentals last for the complete bar unless corrected.  
Thus, naturals are to be presumed unless otherwise specified.

In the *senza misura* sections/bars - indicated by double  
downbeats from the conductor - the metre should be  
interpreted more fluidly, as long as the overall proportions,  
the sequence of entries and all directions from the conductor  
are observed.

Alex writes vividly of how the flora, fauna and (above all) landscape change as she ascends higher and higher into the mountains

# Odysseys (Travels with Alex 8)

Richard Bolley (2018)

**4/4**  $\text{♩} = 84$

NB. Senza misura sections: These sections, which always open with double downbeats, are to be played more fluidly, the players observing coincidences between parts primarily at the points indicated by the conductor's single downbeats, appearing as sequential circled numbers in the score

**6/4** **4/4**

Counter-tenor

Viola obbligato

Percussion 1 (Crotales)

Tambourine

Tubular Bells (played by Perc.1)

Tubular Bells (played by Perc.2)

Percussion 2(Crotales)

Vibraphone

Flute

Oboe

Horn in F

Violin

Violoncello

*f* *ff* *p* *f* *mf* *ff* *p* *ff*

*ppp* *pp* *f* *f*

1 2 3

5 5

arco pizz arco pizz arco pizz arco pizz

9

6 6

3 3

5 3 3 3

l.v.

Tambourine: laid flat on soft material, and played with same beaters as crotales

5

Ct.

Vla. obbl.

Perc. 1

Tambourine

Glockenspiel

Tub. B.

Tub. B.

Vib.

Fl.

Ob.

Hn.

Vln. 1

Vc.

5

mp mp ff mf mf mp

arco pizz arco pizz arco

*pp* *p*

*mf* *f*

*mf* *f*

*mf* *f*

*mf* *f*

con sord. *mf* *mf*

*mf*

*mf* *f* pizz.

Le che- min\_ qui-tte la va- llée

let ring-

9

Ct. *mf*  
par-mi la jun - gle les or - chi - dées les lu - ci - o - les\_ comme é - tin - ce - - - lles

Vla. *pizz* *arco*  
obbl. *p* *f* *sfz* *sfp* *p* *sfz* *p* *pp*

Glock. *f* *p*

Tub. B.

Tub. B.

Vib.

Fl. *f*

Ob.

Hn. senza sord.

Vln. 1

Vc.

9

8/4

①

①

①

3

5

5

5

3

3

**B**

13

Ct.

Vla. obbl. *f* arco sul pont *fp* col legno *f* *mp* gliss. *fp* sul pont *sfz* col leg. batt.

Glock. 13 *f* Crotales

Tub. B. *mf*

Vib. *f* *sfz*

Fl. 13 *f* *sfz*

Ob. *f* *sfz*

Hn. *f* *sfz*

Vln. 1 *f* *sfz*

Vc. *f* arco *sfz*

15

Ct.

Vla. obbl. <sup>9</sup>arco *p* *f* col legno battuto

Crot. Glockenspiel Crotales

Tub. B. *pp*

Vib. *p* *f*

Fl. *p* *f*

Ob. *p* *f*

Hn. *p* *f*

Vln. 1 *p* *f*

Vc. arco *p* *f*

15

16

Ct. *p* Mais en mon - tant tout chan - ge l'a - spe - ct la na - tu - re s'a - sso - mbrit

Vla. arco sul ponticello..... *sfz* *f* *fp* *mp < fp* *sfz* *ppp* arco pizz *pizz*

Crot. 16 *f* 5 Crotales

Tub. B.

Tub. B.

Vib. *f*

Fl. 16 *fp*

Ob. *fp*

Hn. *fp*

Vln. 1 *fp*

Vc. *fp*

16

2 4

① ② ③

① ② ③ ④



Ct. 19  $\Downarrow$   $\text{mp}$  les chants d'oi - seaux les cha - nts d'a-bei-lles se tai - sent

Vla.  $\Downarrow$

Crot. 19  $\Downarrow$   $p$   $\underline{5}$

Tub. B.

Vib.  $\underline{ff}$   $f$   $p$   $\underline{3}$   $f$   $sfz$   $pp$   $\underline{tr}$

Fl. 19  $mf$   $\underline{3}$   $\underline{3}$   $\underline{5}$   $\underline{3}$   $\underline{3}$   $\underline{3}$   $\underline{3}$

Ob.  $p$   $\underline{5}$   $\underline{5}$   $\underline{5}$

Hn.  $p$   $\underline{5}$   $\underline{3}$   $\underline{3}$   $\underline{3}$   $f$   $\underline{3}$   $\underline{3}$

Vln. 1  $mf$   $\underline{5}$   $\underline{3}$   $ff$   $f$   $\underline{3}$

Vc. 19  $mf$   $\underline{5}$   $\underline{3}$   $ff$   $f$   $\underline{3}$   $\underline{3}$

D

Ct. 21 ↓ ↓

Les ar - bres é - nor - - mes se ren - dent

Vla.

Crot. 21

Glockenspiel

Tub. B. *p*

Tub. B.

Vib. (tr) subito *p*

subito *p*

Fl. 21

Ob.

Hn.

Vln. 1

Vc. 21

22

Ct. *mf* à me-su-re que se ra- ré-fient les airs que la ci-me sa pro-file *p* que la ci-me sa pro-file *mf* A cha-que mille la fo-rêt se ra-bou-grit

Vla. arco *mf* *p* arco, sul pont \*\*\* ord.\*\*\* *f* pizz arco *p*

Glock.

Tub. B.

Tub. B.

Vib. *mf*

Fl. 22 *mf*

Ob. *p*

Hn. *mf* *pp*

Vln. 1 *pp* *mf*

Vc. *p* *mf*

\*\*\*from here to [H] the harmonics are played with the bow in normal position, intervening arco gestures are all played sul ponticello

23

Ct. *f* <sup>3</sup> <sub>3</sub> <sub>3</sub> ①

Vla. pizz *f* arco *p* pizz *f* arco <sup>6</sup> *p* ①

Glock.

Tub. B.

Tub. B.

Vib. *ff* ①

Fl. 23

Ob. <sup>3</sup> *f* ①

Hn. *p* <sup>5</sup> <sup>3</sup> <sup>3</sup> <sup>3</sup> ①

Vln. 1 *p* <sup>3</sup> *mf* <sup>3</sup> ①

Vc. <sup>5</sup> <sup>3</sup> *mf* ①

23

les ar-bustes re - sem-blent - à des nains

qui ram - pent tous près du sol

pizz

arco

pizz

arco

24

Ct.

Vla.

Glock.

Tub. B.

Tub. B.

Vib.

Fl.

Ob.

Hn.

Vln. 1

Vc.

24

*f* 3 *p* *mf* 3 *p* *mf* *pp* 5 *f* 5 *p* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

① ② ③

pizz arco pizz arco pizz arco

Crotales

tr

F

G

9/4

25

Ct. *p* Bien - tôt il n'ya plus rien

Vla. *f* arco in modo ordinario *pp* repeat fragment very fast, varying length of rest to avoid synchronicity between parts

Crot. Glockenspiel *p*

Tub. B. *f* *pp*

Tub. B. *f*

Vib. *pp* repeat fragment very fast, varying length of rest to avoid synchronicity between parts

Fl. *pp* repeat fragment very fast, varying length of rest to avoid synchronicity between parts

Ob. *pp* repeat fragment very fast, varying length of rest to avoid synchronicity between parts

Hn. *pp* repeat fragment very fast, varying length of rest to avoid synchronicity between parts

Vln. 1 *pp* repeat fragment very fast, varying length of rest to avoid synchronicity between parts

Vc. *pp* repeat fragment very fast, varying length of rest to avoid synchronicity between parts

25

27 ↓

Ct.

Vla.

27  $\overset{\frown}{3}$

Glock.

① ② ③

Crotales

*mf*  $\underbrace{\hspace{2cm}}_6$

Tub. B.

① ② ③

Tub. B.

*pp*

① ② ③

Vib.

*pp*  $\langle \rangle$  basically pianissimo but varying the dynamic with irregular waves of crescendi/diminuendi

27 *tr*

Fl.

*pp* murmurando

① ② ③

Ob.

*pp* murmurando

*p* *f* *f*

① ② ③

Hn.

*pp* murmurando

*pp*  $\langle \rangle$  basically pianissimo but varying the dynamic with irregular waves of crescendi/diminuendi

① ② ③

Vln. 1

*pp*  $\langle \rangle$  basically pianissimo but varying the dynamic with irregular waves of crescendi/diminuendi

① ② ③

Vc.

*pp*  $\langle \rangle$  basically pianissimo but varying the dynamic with irregular waves of crescendi/diminuendi

① ② ③

27

I

28

Ct.

Vla. *p* arco *p*

Glock. Glockenspiel *f* Crotales *p* Glockenspiel *f*

Tub. B. *mf*

Tub. B. *mf*

Vib. *f* *p*

Fl. *f* *p*

Ob. *f* *p*

Hn. *f* *p*

Vln. 1 *f* *p*

Vc. *p* *f*

28

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for measures 28 through 31. It features a variety of instruments. The Clarinet (Ct.) part is mostly silent. The Viola (Vla.) part starts with a piano (*p*) triplet in measure 28 and continues with an arco *p* triplet in measure 31. The Glockenspiel (Glock.) part has a forte (*f*) triplet in measure 28, followed by Crotales in measure 29, and another forte (*f*) triplet in measure 31. The Tubas (Tub. B.) play a mezzo-forte (*mf*) chord. The Vibraphone (Vib.) has a forte (*f*) triplet in measure 29 and a piano (*p*) triplet in measure 30. The Flute (Fl.) and Oboe (Ob.) parts have forte (*f*) triplets in measure 28 and piano (*p*) triplets in measure 30. The Horn (Hn.) part has a forte (*f*) triplet in measure 29 and a piano (*p*) triplet in measure 30. The Violin 1 (Vln. 1) part has a forte (*f*) quintuplet in measure 31. The Violoncello (Vc.) part has a piano (*p*) quintuplet in measure 31 and a forte (*f*) triplet in measure 31. There are three numbered arrows (1, 2, 3) pointing to specific notes in the Viola, Glockenspiel, Tubas, Vibraphone, Flute, Oboe, Horn, Violin 1, and Violoncello parts across measures 28, 29, 30, and 31.



29

Ct. *mp* Le che-mi-nant est en - tou - ré de ro - chers ri-chement bro - dés de maint li - chens co - lo - ri - é ca - sca - de la - cs et gla - ci - ers *mf*

Vla. *mp*

Glock. *mf*

Tub. B.

Tub. B.

Vib. *pp*

Fl. *p*

Ob.

Hn.

Vln. 1

Vc.

29

30

Ct.

Vla.

Cym.

Tub. B.

Tub. B.

Vib.

Fl.

Ob.

Hn.

Vln. 1

Vc.

30

*f*

*pp*

*mf*

*p*

*ppp*

*pp*

*ppp*

*ppp*

*ppp*

*ppp*

*ppp*

3

5

5

5

5

5

5

5

5

5

3

6

6

6

5

5

5

5

5

5

5

5

5

5

5

pizz.

pizz.

arco

pizz.

arco

play with the opposite end of the beater (up to [K])

always stop the sound after tuplet groups

31

Ct.

Vla.

Cym.

Tub. B.

Tub. B.

Vib.

Fl.

Ob.

Hn.

Vln. 1

Vc.

31

33

Ct. *mp* *f* *mf* *f* 6/4

A - lors dé - cou - vre t' on sou - dain d' im - men - se plâ - teaux leur ho - ri - zons de cîmes bai - gnés ét - ran - ge - ment d' o - ran -

Vla. arco *mp* *mp* *ff* *f* *mf* *f* pizz

Cym. Crotales *mf* *pp* Glockenspiel

Tub. B.

Tub. B.

Vib.

Fl. 33

Ob.

Hn.

Vln. 1

Vc.

33

L

34 **6/4** **3/4** **7/4** **8/4** **6/4** **5/4**

Ct. *arco* *f* *mf*

Vla. *f* *mf*

Glock. *mf* *pp*

Tub. B. *pp*

Tub. B.

Vib.

Fl.

Ob.

Hn. *mf* *p*

Vln. 1 *mp* *mp* *ppp* *pizz* *arco* *poch.*

Vc. *mp* *mp* *ppp* *pizz* *arco* *poch.*

34

ge et mau-ve por-tant de bi-zar-res cas-quet-tes de nei-ge aux fronts puis-sants

*f*

*mf*

*mf*

*pp*

*pp*

*mf*

*p*

*mp*

*mp*

*ppp*

*poch.*

*mp*

*mp*

*ppp*

*poch.*

41 *mf* **5** **4** **2** **4**

Ct. *mf* Quelle vi - sion in - ou - bli - a - ble

Vla. *p* *mf* *f* *fp* *ff*

Glock. *f* suspended cymbal

Tub. B.

Tub. B. *p*

Vib. *f*

Fl. *ff* fl.

Ob. *ff*

Hn. *mf* *f* *f* *sffz*

Vln. 1 *f*

Vc. *f*

41

**N** Calmato

44 **2/4** **5/4** *mp* **3/4** **4/4** **5/4** *p* **4/4** **2/4**

Ct. Me voi-là ret-rou-vé en - fin dans la ca - lme so - li - tu - de dont je re - vais de-puis l'en - fa - - - - nce de-puis l'en - fa - - - - nce

Vla. *arco* *mf* *pp* *mf* *mf* *pp* *p*

44 Cym. *p* let ring----- sim. sim.

Tub. B. *p*

Vib. *pp* *pp* Motor on

44 Fl. *p* *p*

Ob. *pp* *pp*

Hn. *p* *3* *3* *5*

Vln. 1 *arco* *pp* *pp*

Vc. *arco* *pp* *pp*

44