

Gáeth Ard Úar

For Solo Bass/Contrabass Clarinet in Bb
(score transposed)

Circa 8' 40"

Eoin Mulvany 2017

Gáeth ard úar

This piece for Solo Bass/Contrabass Clarinet in B-flat is inspired by an ancient Irish poem estimated to be from the 6th Century. The score is transposed.

It describes in allegory the 'High Cold Wind' of the invasion of Christianity and its replacement of the old Pagan religions with a characterisation of the Stag and his Herd, as proxies for Fionn and the Fianna, and their flight from the cold wind of the new ways.

The music describes the legendary required feats of members of the Fianna: feats such as jumping over a shoulder-high branch while running at full tilt; dodging arrows to demonstrate agility; excelling in single combat; running unimpeded through a dense forest; rhetorical prowess; and demonstrable charm.

Interjecting, is the menace of the Dies Irae (days of wrath) melody illustrating the encroachment of the interloper.

Scél lem dúib, Dordaid dam: Snigid gaim: Ro faith sam:
Gáeth ard úar: ísel grían; Gair a rriith: Ruirthech rían;
Rorúad rath; Ro cleth cruth; Ro gab gnáth: Giugrann guth.
Ro gab úacht: Etti én; Aigre ré; é mo scél.

Here's my story: Winter's come: Sad Stag roars: Summer's Gone:
High cold wind; Low cold sun; Swelling seas; Strongly run;
Rust red fern; In disguise; Speckled goose; Crookes and cries;
Birds don't sing: songs of glory; Ice-wrapped wings; That's my story.

Translation by Máiréad Perron.

Gáeth Ard Úar

♩ = 66

Menacingly

Tongue slap
Dies Irae
Pulse breath

ord.

Tongue slap

mp *sf* *np* *ppp* *pp* *mf* *ff*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 1 through 8. It begins with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The first measure has a half note G4 with a *mp* dynamic. The second measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4, all beamed together with a *sf* dynamic. The third measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter rest, and a quarter rest, with a 'Tongue slap' instruction above. The fourth measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4, with a 'Pulse breath' instruction above. The fifth measure is a whole rest. The sixth measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4, with an 'ord.' instruction above. The seventh measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4, all beamed together with a *mf* dynamic. The eighth measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4, all beamed together with a *ff* dynamic. There are also 'Tongue slap' instructions above the eighth measure.

9

Pulse breath

ord.

Pulse breath

np *pp* *ppp* *mp* *sf* *ppp* *np* *pp* *p* *mp* *p* *ppn*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 9 through 16. It begins with a treble clef and a 2/4 time signature. The first measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4, all beamed together with a *pp* dynamic. The second measure is a whole rest. The third measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4, all beamed together with a *mp* dynamic. The fourth measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4, all beamed together with a *sf* dynamic. The fifth measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4, all beamed together with a *ppp* dynamic. The sixth measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4, all beamed together with a *pp* dynamic. The seventh measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4, all beamed together with a *p* dynamic. The eighth measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4, all beamed together with a *mp* dynamic. The ninth measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4, all beamed together with a *p* dynamic. The tenth measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4, all beamed together with a *ppn* dynamic. There are 'Pulse breath' instructions above measures 9, 11, and 13.

17

ord.

Pulse breath

Pulse breath

mf *p* *mp* *ppp* *np* *pp* *p* *mp* *p* *ppn*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 17 through 23. It begins with a treble clef and a 3/4 time signature. The first measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4, all beamed together with a *mf* dynamic. The second measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4, all beamed together with a *p* dynamic. The third measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4, all beamed together with a *mp* dynamic. The fourth measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4, all beamed together with a *ppp* dynamic. The fifth measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4, all beamed together with a *pp* dynamic. The sixth measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4, all beamed together with a *p* dynamic. The seventh measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4, all beamed together with a *mp* dynamic. The eighth measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4, all beamed together with a *p* dynamic. The ninth measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4, all beamed together with a *ppn* dynamic. There are 'Pulse breath' instructions above measures 18 and 20.

24

ord.

Pulse breath

mp *p* *mf* *ppp* *np* *pp* *p* *mp* *p*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 24 through 31. It begins with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The first measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4, all beamed together with a *mp* dynamic. The second measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4, all beamed together with a *p* dynamic. The third measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4, all beamed together with a *mf* dynamic. The fourth measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4, all beamed together with a *ppp* dynamic. The fifth measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4, all beamed together with a *pp* dynamic. The sixth measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4, all beamed together with a *p* dynamic. The seventh measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4, all beamed together with a *mp* dynamic. The eighth measure has a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4, all beamed together with a *p* dynamic. There are 'Pulse breath' instructions above measures 25 and 29.

3

31 ord. Pulse breath

=ppn *mf* *p* *f* *np < pp < p* *mp* *p*

38 ord. Pulse breath

ppn *mf* *mp* *np < pp < p*

46 ord. Tongue slap

mp *p* *ppn* *f* *fp* *sf*

51 Tongue slap *poco accel.*

f *ffp* *sf* *ppp* *pp*

56 $\text{♩} = 72$

f \leftarrow \rightarrow *pp* *ppp* \rightarrow *mf* \leftarrow \rightarrow *pp*

64

ppp *mp* *mf* *p*

73

mf *mf* *fp* *mf* *fp* *mf*

80 *poco accel.*

fp *mf* *fp* *f* *ff* *fff*

♩ = 100
86 - **Agile**

fff *mf* *fff* *mf* *f* *mf* *fp* *mp*

91

mf *mf* *fp* *sff* *f*

95

p

♩ = 60
99 **Con Fuoco**

f *ff* *mf* *f*

105

p *mf* *mp* *f* *sff sfp*

111

pp *p*

114

f *mf* *f*

120

mf *ff* *fp* *f*

130

ff *f* *p* *pp* *mf* *p* *ppp*

139

p *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

145 *f* *mp* *p* *p* *poco rall.* *pp*

151 *pp* *ff* *f* *pp*
♩ = 50

158 *f* *ff* *fff* *mp*

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

170 *pp* *ppp* *pp* *ppp* *f* *fff*

Detailed description: This musical score consists of five staves of music in treble clef. The first staff (measures 145-150) starts in 6/16 time, changes to 7/8, then 4/8, 3/8, and ends with a repeat sign in 6/8. Dynamics range from *f* to *pp*. The second staff (measures 151-157) features complex time signatures including 5/8, 2/4, 11/16, 2/4, 3/8, 2/4, and 5/4. It includes a tempo marking of ♩ = 50 and dynamics from *pp* to *ff*. The third staff (measures 158-163) uses 5/4, 4/4, 3/4, 4/4, 3/4, 4/4, and 4/4 time signatures, with dynamics from *f* to *fff*. The fourth staff (measures 164-169) is in 4/4, 3/4, 4/4, 9/8, 4/4, and 7/8 time signatures, with dynamics from *f* to *p*. The fifth staff (measures 170-175) is in 7/8, 3/4, 4/4, 3/4, 3/4, 3/4, and 6/8 time signatures, with dynamics from *pp* to *fff*. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and triplets.