

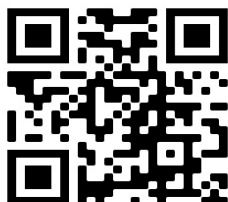
Oboes

# Causeway

For Youth Orchestra, Children's Chorus and Folk Ensemble

Aileen Sweeney  
Lyrics by Iona Lee

(2025)



Aileen  
Sweeney



*Causeway* is scored for youth orchestra, children's chorus and folk ensemble, including these instruments:

Flutes  
Oboes  
Clarinets in Bb  
Bassoons 1,2  
Contra Bassoon

Horn in F 1,2  
Trumpet in Bb 1,2,3  
Tenor Trombone 1,2  
Bass Trombone  
Tuba

Timpani: C2, D2, E2, G2, A2, Bb2, C3

Percussion 1: Bass drum, wind chimes, cabasa, cowbell

Percussion 2: Suspended cymbal

Percussion 3: Tubular bells, tambourine

Percussion 4: Concert toms (x4), cowbell

Percussion 5: Shaker

Percussion 6: Drum kit (kick drum, hi-hat, snare, high tom, mid tom, low tom, floor tom, ride cymbal, 2x crash cymbals - mallets and brushes required.

*\*Simple percussion parts are welcome to be doubled on similar instruments to allow for more performers\**

*\*Groove percussion parts such as the drum kit can be embellished by the performer using the template given\**

Children's Chorus: (C4-D5) - to be split into Chorus 1 and Chorus 2 between Letter L and N. The stave for 'claps' also applies to the children's chorus.

Harp

Solo Low Whistle/Wooden Flute

Folk Ensemble (mixed instrumentation) - *suggested bowing/ornamentation have been added for fiddles which can be embellished. Ornaments can be added as to what best suits the instrument and player.*

Violin 1  
Violin 2  
Viola  
Cello  
Double Bass

*\*Ornaments can be removed from orchestral parts if required to simplify the part\**

## Performance directions:

It is written to be suitable for instrumentalists that are of a grade 5+ standard and for young, primary school aged children to sing. A range of other instrumental parts suitable for beginner and intermediate players are available upon request.

**Winds/brass:** Cross head notation - unpitched air sound.

**Strings:** Natural harmonics - written at sounding pitch.

**General:** Play glissandi for the full duration of the given note so that microtonal differences can be heard.

**Sound engineer:** amplification should be used on certain parts of the ensemble is possible such as the solo low whistle/ wooden flute, folk group and drum kit.

## Duration

c. 6'

Co-commissioned by the BBC, ABRSM, Music for Youth and the Royal Albert Hall as part of BBC 10 Pieces.

## Causeway by Iona Lee

*The endless sky, a ragged sail,  
billowed o'er the sea.  
Wind teased her waters green and blue  
and it set the spindrift free.*

*Two islands loomed like castles carved  
by nature's crafty hand,  
and on each island lived a man  
the other could not stand.*

*So long had passed since they first fought  
that they'd forgotten why,  
but habit is a well-trod path  
and hate hard to deny.*

### CHORUS

*We could brawl, we could fight, tooth and nail together.  
We could clash, you I'd smite, let's travail together.  
We could duel through the night, warring Gaels together.*

*Mighty I'd be,  
if we faced as fate contends.*

*The giants yelled across the strait,  
one jeered and shook his fist,  
the other plucked a heavy stone  
and threw it into the mist.*

*He hurled more stones into the sea  
from along the hillside ridge.  
In time, with all the rocks  
and insults they'd thrown,  
without having known,  
they'd built themselves a bridge.*

### DANCE BREAK

*A bridge exists for those who wish  
to seek a better place.  
The giants stormed across the sea  
till they met face to face.*

*How similar the saw they were  
reflected in a smile.  
A breeze blew all the rage away  
to help them reconcile.*

### CHORUS

*We could roam, we could sail, and get by together.  
We could dance, we could flail, you and I together.  
We could sing, and wassail, let us try together.*

*Now I can see...  
Maybe we could*

*We could roam, we could sail, and get by together.  
We could dance, we could flail, you and I together.  
We could sing, and wassail, let us try together.*

*Now I can see  
We could be friends!*

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# Causeway

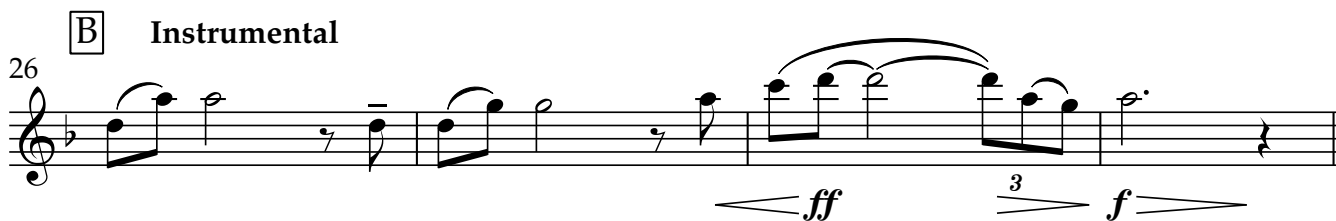
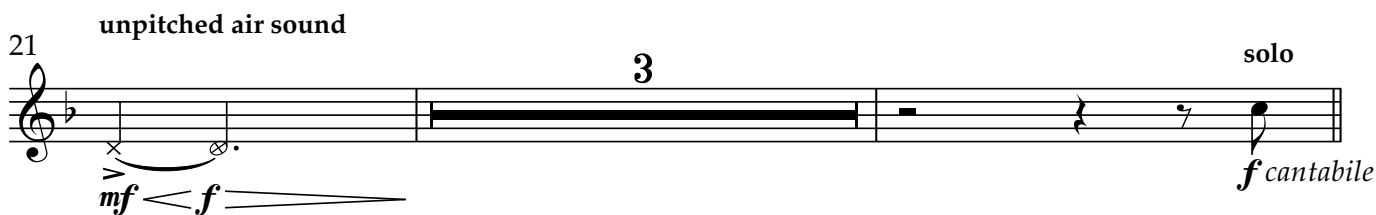
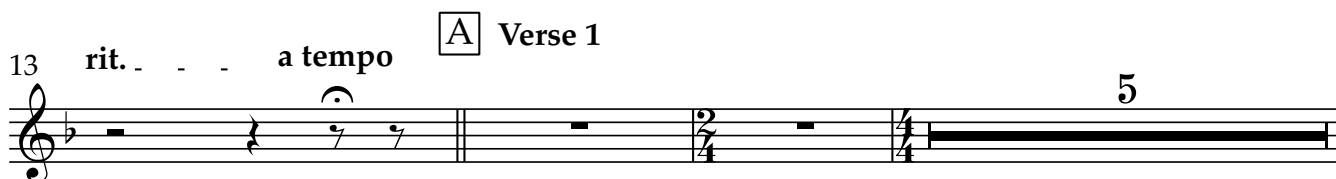
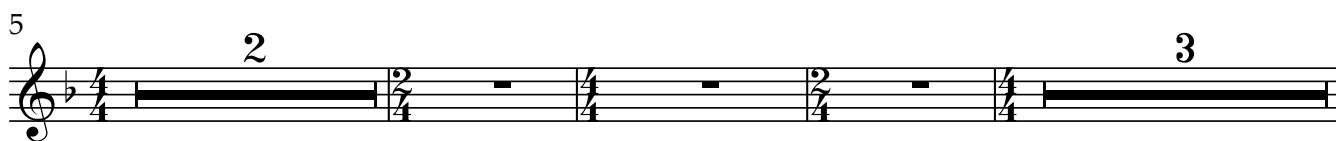
written for the BBC 10 Pieces series

Aileen Sweeney (b. 1994)

Lyrics by Iona Lee

Freely with rubato, moody with a sense of mystery

♩ = c. 68



**[C] Verse 2: Dark and foreboding**

30 **3** **solo** ***f cantabile***

**[D] Instrumental: driving, with energy**  
 **$\text{♩} = 124$** 

35 **tutti** ***mf*** ***f*** **2**

**[E] Verse 3**

40 ***f***

43

46

**[F] Chorus 1**

49 ***ff*** ***f***

51

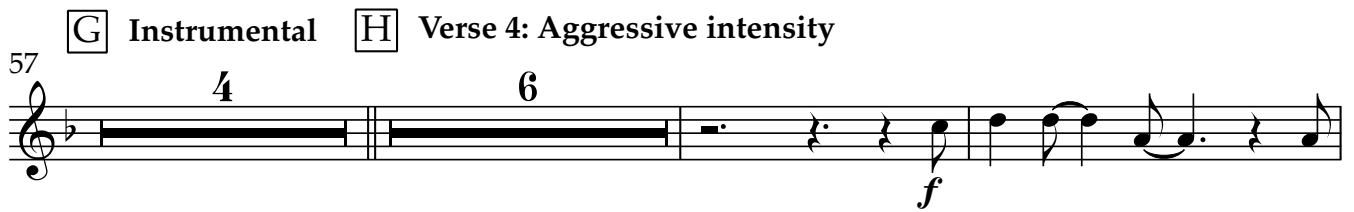
54



*ff*

57

**[G] Instrumental** **[H] Verse 4: Aggressive intensity**



*f*

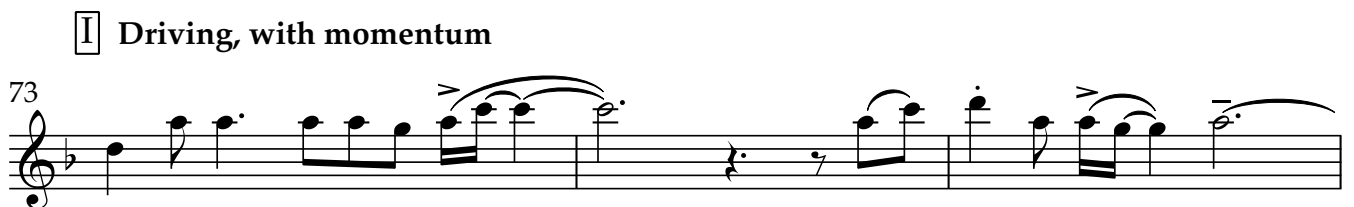
69



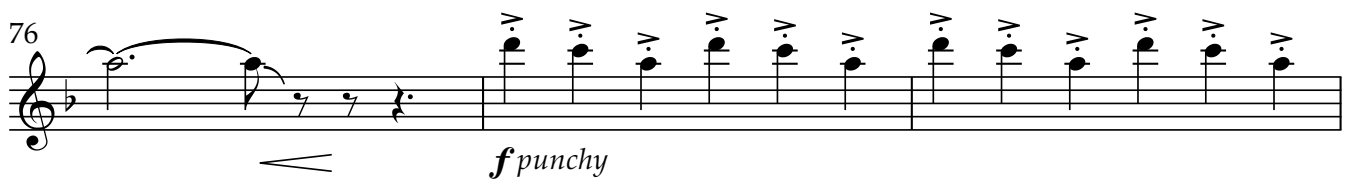
*f*

**[I] Driving, with momentum**

73



76

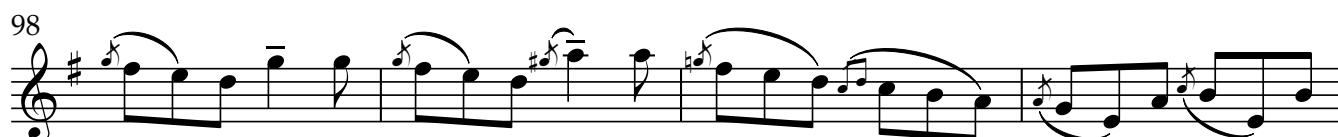


*f punchy*

79



*ff*

**J** Jig: A section (Dance interlude)**K** Jig: B section

110



**L** Verse 5: Triumphant!

114



116



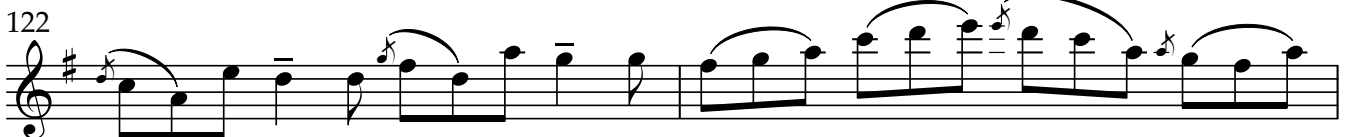
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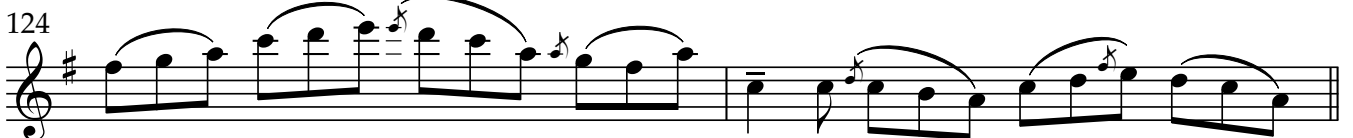
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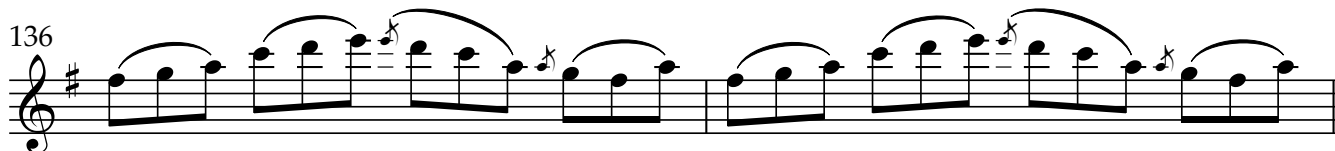


122



124



**M** Verse 6

**[N] Chorus 2**

138

*ff* *f*

141

143

**[O] Chorus 3**

146

*ff* *f*

149

151

P

154

156

158

160

162

164

166

168

$$ff \leq fff$$