

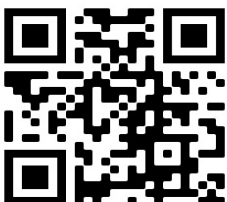
Perc. 2  
Suspended Cymbal  
Cabasa

# 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

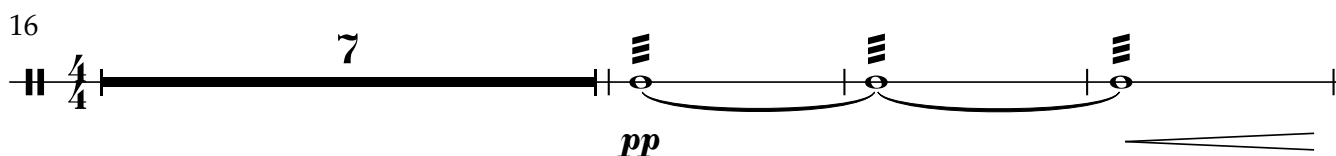
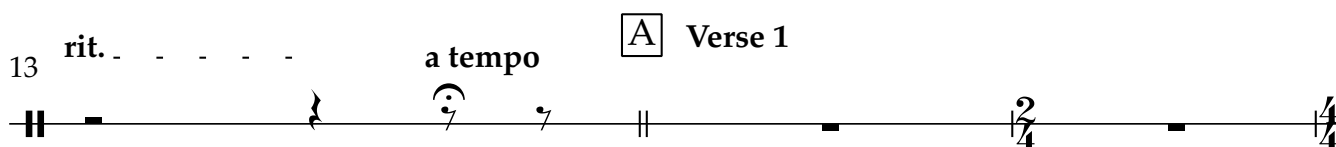
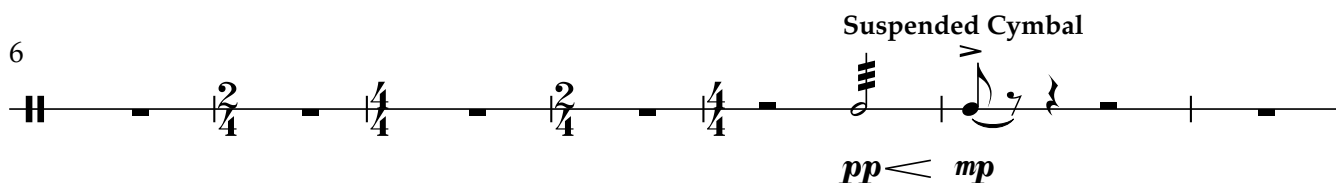
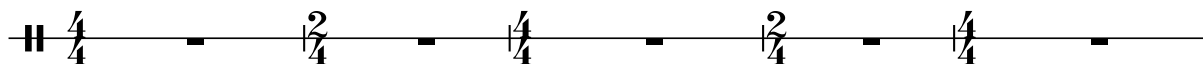
written for the BBC 10 Pieces series

Freely with rubato, moody with a sense of mystery

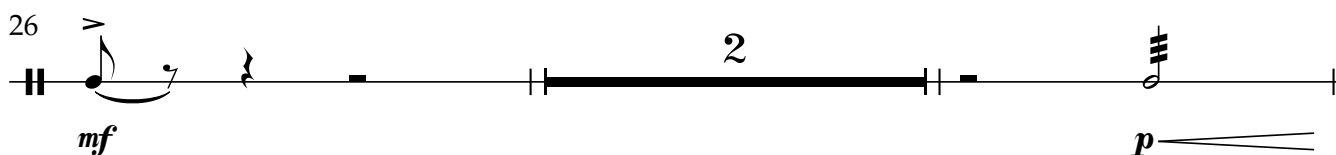
♩ = c. 68

Aileen Sweeney (b. 1994)

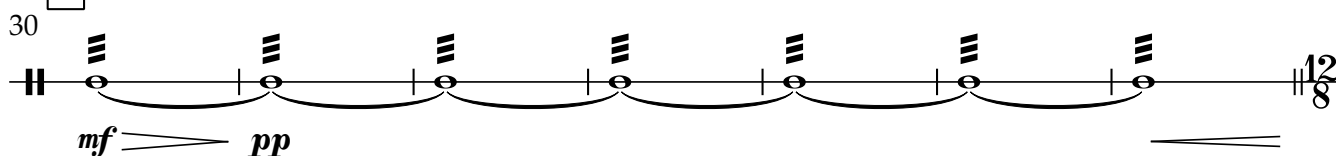
Lyrics by Iona Lee



## [B] Instrumental



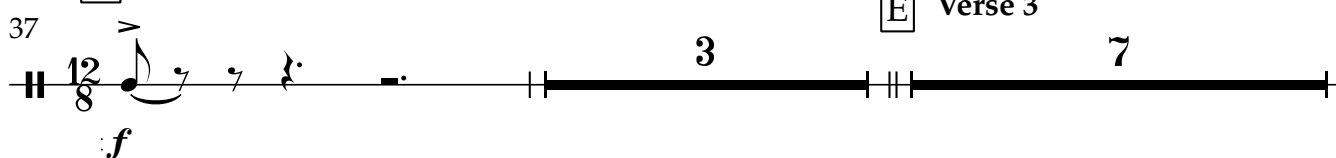
## [C] Verse 2: Dark and foreboding



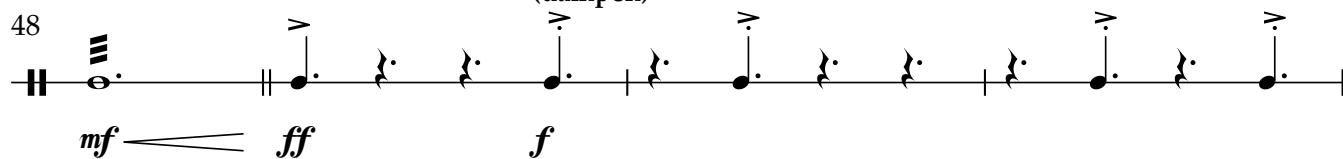
Instrumental: driving, with energy

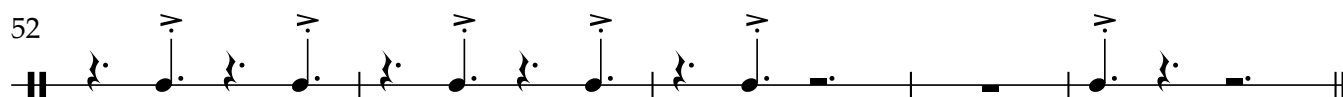
♩ = 124

## [D]



**[F] Chorus 1**

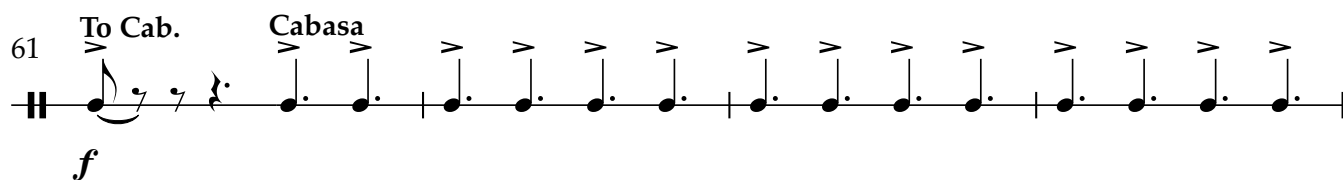
48 

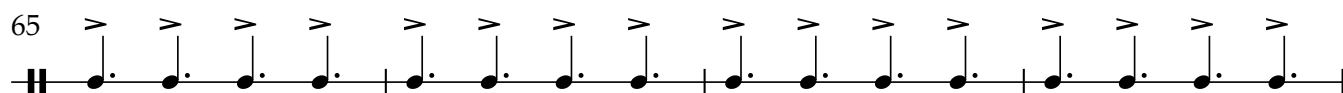
52 

**[G] Instrumental**

57 

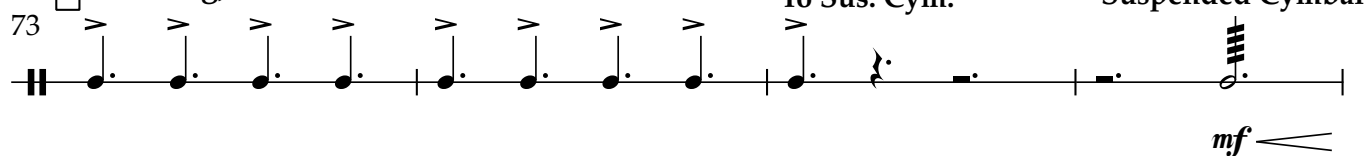
**[H] Verse 4: Aggressive intensity**

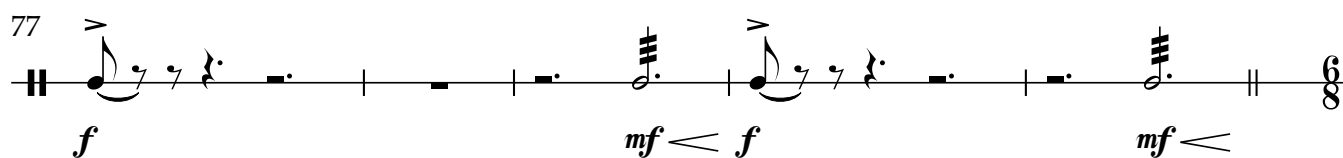
61 

65 

69 

**[I] Driving, with momentum**

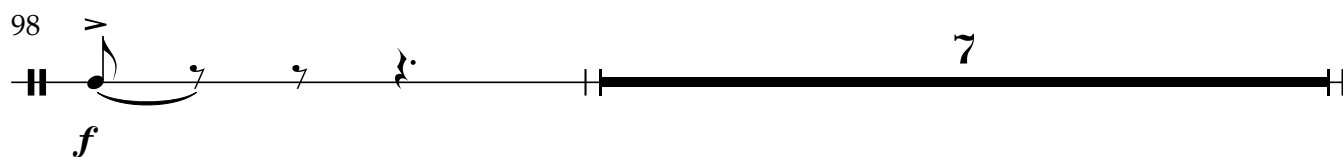
73 

77 

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

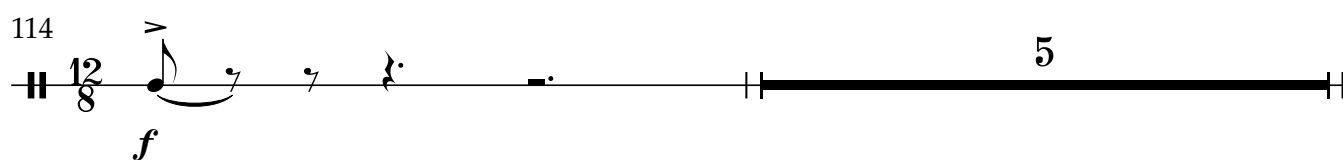
82 

**K** Jig: B section

98 

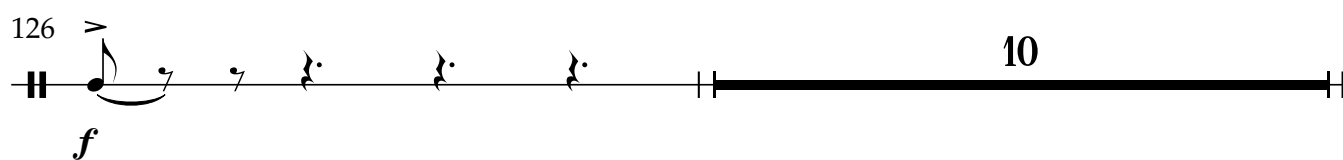
106 

**L** Verse 5: Triumphant!

114 

120 

**M** Verse 6

126 

137 N Chorus 2 (dampen)

*ff* *f*

141

145 O Chorus 3

*ff*

149

P Optional Dance Reprise

154

*ff* *f*

158

163

167

*fp* *fff*