

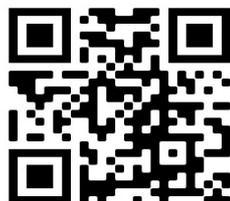
Perc. 4  
Tom-toms  
Cowbell

# 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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Perc. 4  
Tom-toms  
Cowbell

# Causeway

5

written for the BBC 10 Pieces series

Freely with rubato, moody with a sense of mystery

Aileen Sweeney (b. 1994)

♩ = c. 68

Lyrics by Iona Lee

Tom-toms

*mf*

6

13 rit. . . a tempo [A] Verse 1

*mf*

[B] Instrumental

26

[C] Verse 2: Dark and foreboding

[D] Instrumental: driving, with energy  
♩ = 124

To Cowbell

30

*f* *mf* < *f*

41 **E** Verse 3

8

**F** Chorus 1

49 Cowbell

*f*

52 To Tom-t.

57 **G** Instrumental

3 Tom-toms

**H** Verse 4: Aggressive intensity

61

64

67

*ff*

3

This musical staff covers measures 67 to 70. It begins with a dynamic marking of *ff*. The notation includes eighth notes, quarter notes, and a triplet of eighth notes. Accents (>) are placed above several notes. The staff concludes with a triplet of eighth notes, indicated by a '3' above the notes.

71

This musical staff covers measures 71 and 72. It features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes and quarter notes with accents (>) above the notes.

I Driving, with momentum

73

*mf*

This musical staff covers measures 73 and 74. It starts with a dynamic marking of *mf*. The notation consists of eighth notes and quarter notes with accents (>) above the notes.

75

This musical staff covers measures 75 and 76. It continues the rhythmic pattern of eighth notes and quarter notes with accents (>) above the notes.

77

This musical staff covers measures 77 and 78. It continues the rhythmic pattern of eighth notes and quarter notes with accents (>) above the notes.

79

This musical staff covers measures 79 and 80. It concludes the piece with a final rhythmic pattern of eighth notes and quarter notes, followed by a double bar line and repeat sign.

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

82

88

**K** Jig: B section

94

100

106

**L** Verse 5: Triumphant!

114

120

**M** Verse 6

126

132

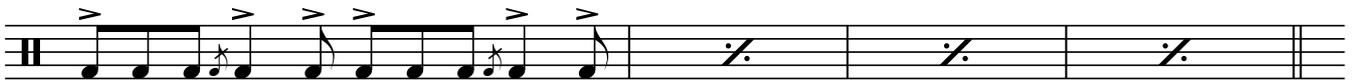


**N** Chorus 2

138



142



**O** Chorus 3

146



150

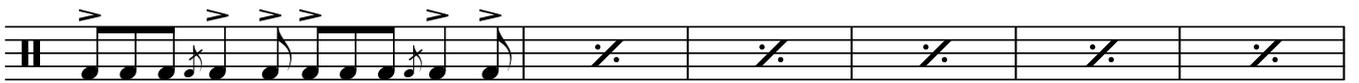


**P** Optional Dance Reprise

154



158



164

