

DAVID DZUBAY

Portages / Portage

NARRATOR (OPTIONAL)

PIANO, PERCUSSION

VIOLIN, VIOLA, CELLO

(2004)



PRO NOVA MUSIC

Portages / Portage

Duration: 13 / 11 minutes

Instrumentation:

Narrator (optional),
Piano, Percussion (Marimba - 5 octave if possible, but 4 ½ is ok, 2 Tam-tams, 2 triangles),
Violin, Viola, Cello

Program Listing:

Portages (2004)

David Dzubay (b. 1964)

Texts: Thomas Jefferson, the Lewis and Clark journals

PORTAGE #1a "Setting Out"

PORTAGE #1b "First Encounter"

PORTAGE #2 "Standoff with the Teton Sioux"

PORTAGE #3 "White Cliffs"

PORTAGE #4 "Falls of the Missouri"

PORTAGE #5 "Continental Divide - Ft. Clatsop"

Portage (2004)

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Program Note:

Northwest Passages presents two compositions in parallel. *Portages*, a series of five movements for instruments and narrator, follows the western course of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, beginning at the departure from Saint Louis in May 1804 and ending with the arrival at the Pacific Ocean in November 1805. The narrator recites excerpts from the Corps of Discovery's journals, focusing on a few landmark events from the journey. In the score, these movements are called 'portages,' as they serve to link from one to the next of five choral songs comprising the other composition, which in fact can be performed alone under the title *Five Dream Songs*. The songs are settings of Native American song texts, and present a counterpoint to the narrative of the expedition. Alongside the songs the narrator recites excerpts from Chief Seattle's oft-repeated speech of 1854, creating another counterpoint in this work representing in some way a passage of two peoples. Absent narration, *Portage* can be performed as a one movement instrumental work.

-David Dzubay

Performance Options:

- a) Instruments only, in 1 movement, with the title *Portage*. (Duration: 11 minutes)
The cuts are indicated in the score in this manner: X: to P3
- b) Instruments and Narration, with the title *Portages*. (Duration: 13 minutes)
Add P2 to above (before P3).

David Dzubay is Professor of Music, Chair of the Composition Department, and Director and Conductor of the New Music Ensemble at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music in Bloomington, Indiana.

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Portages / Portage

(2004)

DAVID DZUBAY

(b. 1964)

PORTAGE #1a: "Setting Out" [4:15]



Narrator

[President Thomas Jefferson's Instructions to Captain Meriwether Lewis (June 20, 1803)]

"To Meriwether Lewis, esquire, Captain of the 1st regiment of infantry of the United States of America.

The object of your mission is to explore the Missouri river, & such principal stream of it, as, by it's course & communication with the waters of the Pacific Ocean may offer the most direct & practicable water communication across this continent for the purposes of commerce.

Beginning at the mouth of the Missouri, you will take observations of latitude & longitude,
at all remarkeable points on the river, & especially at the mouths of rivers, at rapids,
at islands, & other places & objects distinguished by such natural marks & characters
of a durable kind, as that they may with certainty be recognised hereafter.

The commerce which may be carried on with the people inhabiting the line you will
pursue, renders a knolege of those people important. You will therefore endeavor to
make yourself acquainted, as far as a diligent pursuit of your journey shall admit,
with the names of the nations & their numbers; the extent & limits of their possessions;
their relations with other tribes of nations; their language, traditions, monuments;
their ordinary occupations in agriculture, fishing, hunting, war, arts, & the implements
for these;their food, clothing, & domestic accommodations; the diseases prevalent
among them, & the remedies they use;moral & physical circumstances which
distinguish them from the tribes we know; peculiarities in their laws, customs &
dispositions; and articles of commerce they may need or furnish, & to what extent.

PORTAGE #1a: "Setting Out" [4:15]

Red. sempre una corda

like an unpredictable current, with unexpected ripples & whirlpools, unstable dynamics (ripples, subitos, disappearances, etc.)

Marimba

like an unpredictable current, with unexpected ripples & whirlpools, unstable dynamics (ripples, subitos, disappearances, etc.)

PORTAGE #1a: "Setting Out" [4:15]

con sord.

con sord.

con sord.

ppp

② ~70"

Nar.

And, considering the interest which every nation has in extending & strengthening the authority of reason & justice among the people around them, it will be useful to acquire what knolege you can of the state of morality, religion, & information among them; as it may better enable those who endeavor to civilize & instruct them, to adapt their measure to the existing notions & practices of those on whom they are to operate.

In all your intercourse with the natives, treat them in the most friendly & conciliatory manner which their own conduct will admit; allay all jealousies as to the object of your journey, satisfy them of its innocence, make them acquainted with the position, extent, character, peaceable & commercial dispositions of the U.S. of our wish to be neighborly, friendly & useful to them, & of our dispositions to a commercial intercourse with them; confer with them on the points most convenient as mutual emporiums, and the articles of most desireable interchange for them & us.

② ~70"

2
continue in same vein, ad libitum, with increasing variety, and getting gradually louder

Pno. *pp* unsteady capricious rhytm simile, ad libitum

(Ped.)

Pc. *pp* continue in same vein, ad libitum, with increasing variety, and getting gradually louder

Vn. ② ~70"

Vla. *ppp* *pp* *ppp* *pp* *ppp* *p* *n*

Vc.

3 ~60"

Nar.

If a few of their influential chiefs, within practicable distance, wish to visit us, arrange such a visit with them, and furnish them with authority to call on our officers, on their entering the U.S to have them conveyed to this place at the public expense. If any of them should wish to have some of their young people brought up with us, & taught such arts as may be useful to them, we will receive, instruct & take care of them. Such a mission, whether of influential chiefs or of young people, would give some security to your own party. Carry with you some matter of the kinepox; inform those of them with whom you may be, of it[s] efficacy as a preservative from the small-pox; & instruct & encourage them in the use of it. This may be especially done wherever you winter."

niente

[Narration begins to fade out and get covered by instruments...becoming inaudible by the end of this paragraph.]

3 ~60"

3

Pno.

Pc.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

3

STRINGS: complete previous figure before moving to this one

senza sord. (remove mute 1st time and leave off)

senza sord. (remove mute 1st time and leave off)

senza sord. (remove mute 1st time and leave off)

ppp

mf

n

f

mp

p

pp

tr

5

7

6

12/8

4 $\text{♩} = 80$

Pno. p *crescendo poco a poco...*

(♩) *diminuendo poco a poco...* n

Pc. p *crescendo poco a poco...*

Vn. p *crescendo poco a poco...*

Vla. pp *crescendo poco a poco...*

Vc.

7

Pno. $\text{molto crescendo...}$

Pc. $\text{molto crescendo...}$

Vn. $\text{molto crescendo...}$

Vla. $\text{molto crescendo...}$

Vc. mp *crescendo poco a poco...* $\text{molto crescendo...}$

PORTAGE #1b: "First Encounter" [1:45]

♩=60

[8/3/04, Meriwether Lewis and William Clark to the Oto Indians]

Nar.

"Children. – the great chief of the Seventeen great nations of America, impelled by his parental regard for his newly adopted children on the trouble waters, has sent us out to clear the road, remove every obstruction, and to make it the road of peace between himself and his red children residing there.

He has commanded us his war chiefs to undertake this long journey, which we have so far accomplished with great labour & much expence, in order to council with yourselves and his other red-children on the troubled waters, to give you his good advice; to point out to you the road in which you must walk to obtain happiness.

You are to live in peace with all the whitemen, for they are his children; neither wage war against the redmen your neighbours, for they are equally his children and he is bound to protect them. Injure not the persons of any traders who may come among you.

Do these things which your great father advises and be happy. Avoid the councils of bad birds; turn on your heel from them as you would from the precipice of an high rock... lest by one false step you should bring upon your nation the displeasure of your great father...who could consume you as the fire consumes the grass of the plains.

We hope that the Great Spirit will open your ears to our councils, and dispose your mind to their observance. Follow these councils and you will have nothing to fear, because the great Spirit will Smile upon your nation, and in future ages will make you to outnumber the trees of the forest."

PORTAGE #1b: "First Encounter" [1:45]

10 ♩=60

Pno. *ff*

Pc. *ff*

Tam-tams
scrape with triangle beaters

Red. *sempre*

PORTAGE #1b: "First Encounter" [1:45]

X: to P3

10 ♩=60

Vn. *fp*

Vla. *fp*

Vc. *fp*

sul pont. ----- ord.

PORTAGE #2: "stand off with Teton Sioux, 9/25/1804" [1:30]

♩=120

Nar. [Joseph Whitehouse:]
 "about 10 oClock they came about 50 in number."
 ...the Indians did not incline to let us Go on any further up the river."

17

Pno. *ff*

Pc. *ff*

Marimba

(loco)

PORTAGE #2: "stand off with Teton Sioux, 9/25/1804" [1:30]

♩=120

17

Vn. *ff*

Vla. *ff*

Vc. *ff*

f

3x [William Clark:]
 "... we gave them 1/4 a glass of whiskey which they appeared to be very fond of, Sucked the bottle after it was out & Soon began to be troublesom, one of the 2d Chief assumeing Drunkness, as a Cloake for his rascally intentions ... as Soon as I landed the Perogue three of their young Men Seased the Cable of the Perogue, the Chiefs Soldr Huged the mast, and the 2d Chief was very insolent both in words & justures ... declareing I should not go on, Stateing he had not receved presents sufficent from us, his justures were of Such a personal nature I felt My self Compeled to Draw my Sword (and Made a Signal to the boat to prepare for action) ... I felt My Self warm & Spoke in very positive terms.

22

3x

Pno. *mp*

Pc. *mp*

(omit low D if unavailable)

Vn. *mp*

Vla. *mp*

Vc. *mp*

pizz.

arco

pizz.

2x

Nar. .. the perogue Soon returned with about 12 of our determined men ready for any event.
... Their treatment to me was very rough & I think justified roughness on my part,
... I call this Island bad humered Island as were in a bad humer."

28

Pno. *2x* *p*

Pc. *p*

Vn. *2x* *p* pizz.

Vla. *p* pizz.

Vc. *p* arco pizz.

Nar.

Pno. *diminuendo poco a poco...* *ppp*

Pc. *diminuendo poco a poco...* *ppp*

Vn. *pp*

Vla. *diminuendo poco a poco...* *ppp*

Vc. *diminuendo poco a poco...* arco pizz. arco pizz. *ppp*

PORTAGE #3: "White Cliffs" [2:15]

① 7" (②) 60"

[May 31, 1805, Meriwether Lewis :]

Nar. The obstructions of rocky points and riffles still continue as yesterday; at those places the men are compelled to be in the water even to their armpits, and the water is yet very cold, and so frequent are those point[s] that they are one fourth of their time in the water, added to this the banks and bluffs along which they are obliged to pass are so slippery and the mud so tenacious that they are unable to wear their moccasins, and in that situation dragging the heavy burthen of a canoe and walking occasionally for several hundred yards over the sharp fragments of rocks which tumble from the cliffs and garnish the borders of the river; in short their labour is incredibly painful and great, yet those faithful fellows bear it without a murmur.

38 **PORTAGE #3: "White Cliffs"** [2:15] (②) ~60"

Pno. *pp* *p*

Pc. *pp* *p*

Vn. *pp* *p* *n* *p* *pp* *f* *p* *rit.* *3* *pp* *mf*

Vla. *pp* *mf* *n* *p* *n* *f* *n* *f* *pp* *mp*

Vc. *mp* *n* *pp* *mf* *p* *pp* *mp* *p* *mf* *p* *f*

③ ~35"

Nar. The hills and river Cliffs which we passed today exhibit a most romantic appearance. ... The water in the course of time in descending from those hills ...has trickled down the soft sand cliffs and worn it into a thousand grotesque figures, which with the help of a little imagination and an oblique view ...are made to represent elegant ranges of lofty freestone buildings... statuary...long galleries ... the remains or ruins of elegant buildings;

39 ③ ~35" *poco piu mosso*

Pno. *pp sub.*

Pc. *pp sub.* *poco piu mosso*

Vn. *pp sub.* *72*

Vla. *pp sub.*

Vc. *p sub.*

free, irregular rhythm, ad lib., gently oscillating...

4 ~30"

Nar. some columns standing ...
others ...lying prostrate an broken ...
niches and alcoves of various forms and sizes.

As we passed on it seemed as if those seems of
visionary inchantment would never have and end ...

40 *mp*

Pno. *diminuendo poco a poco...*

(Red.)

Pc. *mp* 5" *diminuendo poco a poco...*

Vn. 40 *mp* 4 ~30" *diminuendo poco a poco...* $\text{♩} = 56$

Vla. *mp* 3" *diminuendo poco a poco...* $\text{♩} = 52$

Vc. *mp* *diminuendo poco a poco...*

Nar. vast ranges of walls of tolerable workmanship, so perfect indeed ...that I should have thought that nature had
attempted herre to rival the human art of masonry had I not recollected that she had first began her work."

42 *(dim.)* *tr* *ppp*

Pno. *(dim.)* *tr* *ppp*

Pc. *(dim.)* *tr* *ppp*

Vn. 42 *(dim.)* *ppp*

Vla. $\text{♩} = 54$ *(dim.)* *ppp*

Vc. *(dim.)* *ppp*

PORTAGE #4: "Falls of the Missouri" [2:00]

1 ~35"



[June 13, 1805, Meriwether Lewis :]

"... my ears were saluted with the agreeable sound of a fall of water

Nar.

PORTAGE #4: "Falls of the Missouri" [2:00]

1 ~35"

fast, slightly irregular, quasi gushing water

Pno. 43 *pp*

Pc. *pp* (fast, but a bit slower than piano)

PORTAGE #4: "Falls of the Missouri" [2:00]

1 ~35"

Vn. 43 *n* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp*
Vla. *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp*
Vc. *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp*

and advancing a little further I saw the spray arise above the plain like a column of smoke which would frequently disappear again in an instant caused I presume by the wind which blew pretty hard from the S.W.

Nar.

Pno. 44

Pc. (Red)

Vn. 44 *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp*
Vla. *mp* *pp* *mp*
Vc. *pp* *mp*

Nar. ② ~60" I did not however loose my direction to this point which soon began to make a roaring too tremendous to be mistaken for any cause short of the great falls of the Missouri. ... to gaze on this sublimely grand spectacle ... formes the grandest sight I ever beheld, ... irregular and somewhat projecting rocks below receives the water in it's passage down and brakes it into a perfect white foam which assumes a thousand forms in a moment sometimes flying up in jets of sparkling foam to the hight of fifteen or twenty feet and are scarcely formed before large roling bodies of the same beaten and foaming water is thrown over and conceals them.

~60" ② 45

Pno. *pp* *crescendo poco a poco...* *mp*

Pc. *mp*

Vn. ② ~60" 45 2" *pp* *crescendo poco a poco...* *mp*

Vla. 1" *pp* *crescendo poco a poco...* *mp*

Vc. *pp* *crescendo poco a poco...* *mp*

simile

Nar. ③ ~15" ...from the reflection of the sun on the spre y or mist which arrises from these falls there is a beatifull rainbow produced which adds not a little to the beauty of this majestically grand senery.... of it's kind I will venture to ascert is second to but one in the known world.

④ *ritardando poco a poco...* *My fare is really sumptuous this evening; buffaloe's humps, tongues and marrowbones, fine trout parched meal pepper and salt, and a good appetite; the last is not considered the least of the luxuries."*

③ ~15" 46 *irregular rhythm, slowing...* *p* *mf* *3x* *ritardando poco a poco...*

Pno. *pp*

Pc. *irregular rhythm, slowing...* *p* *mf* *3x* *pp*

Vn. ③ ~15" 46 *irregular rhythm, slowing...* *p* *mf* *3x* *ritardando poco a poco...*

Vla. *irregular rhythm, slowing...* *p* *mf* *3x* *pp*

Vc. *irregular rhythm, slowing...* *p* *mf* *3x* *pp*

X: to P5

pizz. *ric.* *col legno*

Nar.

[September 22, 1805, Meriwether Lewis:] "the pleasure I now felt in having triumphed over the rocky Mountains"

PORTAGE #5: "Continental Divide - Ft. Clatsop" [2:00]

53 $\text{♩} = 144$

Pno. *ff* *p* *ff* *p*

Pc. *ff* *p* *ff* *pp* Triangles (l.v.)

Red. sempre

PORTAGE #5: "Continental Divide - Ft. Clatsop" [2:00]

53 $\text{♩} = 144$

Vn. *arco* *fp* *fp* *f* *fp* *fp* *ff* *pp* *loco*

Vla. *arco* *fp* *fp* *f* *fp* *fp* *ff* *pp*

Vc. *arco* *fp* *fp* *f* *fp* *fp* *ff* *fp* *pp*

66

Nar.

and decending once more to a level and fertile country where there was every rational hope of finding a comfortable subsistence for myself and party can be more readily conceived than expressed,

66

60

Pno. *(Red.)*

Pc.

66

60

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

Nar. nor was the flattering prospect of the final success of the expedition less pleasing. "

68

Pno.

Pc.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

Nar. [November 07, 1805, William Clark:] "Great joy in camp we are in View of the Ocean, this great Pacific Ocean which we been So long anxious to See. and the roeing or noise made by the waves

75

Pno.

Pc.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

Marimba

mf

mp

8va

Nar.

brakeing on the rocky Shores (as I suppose) may be heard distinctly"

82

Pno.

(Lied)

87

crescendo...

Pc.

crescendo...

Vn.

82

87

crescendo...

Vla.

crescendo...

Vc.

crescendo...

Nar.

Pno.
88^{8va}
(Ped.)

Pc.

Vn.
88^v

Vla.

Vc.

1 ~30"



[December 01, 1805, William Clark:]

"The emence Seas and waves ... roars like an emence fall at a distance, and this roaring has continued ever Since our arrival in the neighbourhood of the Sea Coast which has been 24 days Since we arrived in Sight of the Great Western; (for I cannot Say Pacific) Ocian as I have not Seen one pacific day Since my arrival in its vicinity,

Nar.

1 ~30"
92

Pno.

Pc.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

2 ~15"

and its waters are forming and perpetually breake with emenc waves on the Sands and rockey coasts, tempestous and horiable."

3 ~15"

morendo...

Nar.

2 ~15"
(complete previous figure then change to the new one)

3 ~15"
p

morendo...

pp

Pno.

Pc.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

2 ~15"
(complete previous figure then change to the new one)

3 ~15"
(eighths should not be together) (complete previous figure) morendo...

pp

pp

pp