

James Weeks

# Narrow Path

for solo flute

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# Narrow Path

solo flute

to Reiko Manabe

## Duration

5 mins

## Performance Notes

There are 10 lines of music. Each line lasts 30 seconds and is divided into six 5-second units. The notation is space-time (1cm = 1second) and should be respected as far as possible, down to the durations of each individual note: a stopwatch is recommended.

Each line should be played once, but the lines may be played in any order.

The three lines of each staff represent adjacent semitones (for example, F-F#-G). Sounds are represented by black lines for played notes, blue lines for sung notes. Diagonal or wavy lines are glissandos. A fine detailing of microtonality is called for, to be achieved by the player using any means available to her/him, for example pitch-bending, glissando and use of alternative fingerings. In particular, 'hollow' timbres should be featured where possible. Avoid brighter timbres to give an overall opaque, granular sound.

● , ● , ○ : ¾ air, ½ air, normal tone

##### : fluttertongue. When sung (blue line), mimic a fluttertongue by rolling an 'r' or doing a lip tremolo.

Senza vibrato sempre. The piece should be played objectively and clearly, without overt expressivity, though always with sensitivity.

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'There was a huge body of mountains obstructing my way to the province of Dewa, and the road was terribly uncertain. The mountains were so thickly covered with foliage and the air underneath was so hushed that I felt as if I were groping my way in the dead of night. There was not even the cry of a single bird to be heard, and the wind seemed to breath out black soot through every rift in the hanging clouds.' Bashō, *Oku no hosomichi*



Handwritten musical score for a string quartet, consisting of ten staves. The staves are labeled with notes and dynamic markings. The notation includes various musical symbols such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings (p, mp, pp, mf, f).

Staff 1: G# F# F. Dynamics: p, mp, pp.

Staff 2: G# G F#. Dynamics: p, mp, p, pp, mp.

Staff 3: F# F E. Dynamics: p, pp, mp.

Staff 4: G# F# F. Dynamics: p-pp, mp, p, mp. Includes the word "Multiphonic" written above the staff.

Staff 5: G# F. Dynamics: mp, p, mp, mf, mp, pp, f, mp, mf, mp, f, mf.

Staff 6: G# G F#. Dynamics: p, pp.

Staff 7: F# F E. Dynamics: mp, p, mp, mp.

Staff 8: F# F E. Dynamics: mp, p, mp, pp, p, mp.

Staff 9: A G# G. Dynamics: p, mp.

Staff 10: G# G F#. Dynamics: p, mp, p, mp, p, mp.