

*for Peter Dennee and the Lincoln Chamber Singers*

# Riverbed

**for Four-part Chorus  
and 2 Percussion**

Text by  
Octavio Paz

Music by  
Patrick Long

## River-Bed

Hear the palpitation of space  
The drums of summer  
    The footfalls  
Of the season in heat  
That sound above the year's ashes  
Is of wings and rattles  
The crepitation of the earth  
Under its raiment of insects and roots  
Thirst awakens and builds  
Its great glass cages  
You sing your furious song there  
Your joyous song of  
    Chained waters  
You sing naked there  
With your breasts and belly smeared with pollen  
Your shadow on the abolished landscape  
Is a land of birds  
Which the sun scatters with a gesture

[L.K.]

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## Cauce

Oye la palpitación del espacio  
Son los tambores del verano  
Los pasos d la estación en celo  
Sobre las brasas del año  
Es su ruido de alas y de cròtalos  
`La crepitación de la tierra  
Bajo si vestidura de insectos y raíces  
La sed se despierta y construye  
Sus grandes jaulas de vidrio  
Allí cantas tu canción furiosa  
Tu canción dichosa  
De agua encadenada  
Allí cantas desnuda  
Con los pechos y el vientre manchados  
Con la cara manchada de polen  
Sobre el paisaje abolido  
Tu sombra es un país de pájaros  
Que el sol dispera con un gesto

Octavio Paz

## PERCUSSION

Legend:  
+ = indicates mute head with left hand  
x = indicates mute head with left hand  
— = un-muted "boom" sound  
• = somewhat muted "thud" sound

(Players share a marimba)

for Peter Dennee and the Lincoln Chamber Singers

# RIVER BED

FOR CHORUS AND 2 PERCUSSION

TEXT BY:  
OCTAVIO PAZ

MUSIC BY:  
PATRICK LONG

**Strong, steady, hypnotic** ♩ = 68

**Solo Alto**

**Percussion 1**

• Large Cymbal (soft marimba mallets)

Marimba (soft mallets)

**Percussion 2**

**Solo Alto**

**Solo Sop.**

**B.**

**P. 1**

**P. 2**

Ahh

Ahh

Aah

pp (stagger breathing)

mmm

Marimba (4 soft mallets)

roll all notes

mp

pp

mp

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Musical score for measures 11-16. The score includes parts for Solo Alto, Solo Sop., Solo Sop. 3, T. (Tenor), B. (Bass), P. 1 (Piano 1), and P. 2 (Piano 2). The Solo Sop. part includes the instruction "(sneak breath)". The Solo Sop. 3 part includes the instruction "Aah". The T. part includes the instruction "Aah" and "(stagger breathing)". The B. part includes the instruction "(mmm)". The piano parts (P. 1 and P. 2) provide harmonic accompaniment. Measure numbers 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16 are indicated at the bottom of the system.

Musical score for measures 17-22. The score includes parts for S. (Soprano), A. (Alto), T. (Tenor), B. (Bass), P. 1 (Piano 1), and P. 2 (Piano 2). The vocal parts (S., A., T., B.) include the lyrics "Oy - e" and "la pal-pi - ta - ción del es - pa - ci-". The T. part includes the instruction "p". The B. part includes the instruction "p" and "(mmm)". The piano parts (P. 1 and P. 2) provide harmonic accompaniment. Measure numbers 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, and 22 are indicated at the bottom of the system.

S. \_\_\_\_\_

A. *oy - e* \_\_\_\_\_ *mmm* *oy - e* \_\_\_\_\_ *mmm* \_\_\_\_\_

T. *o* \_\_\_\_\_ *son los tam - bor - es* \_\_\_\_\_ *del ver -*

B. *o* \_\_\_\_\_ *oy - e* \_\_\_\_\_ *son los tam - bor - es* \_\_\_\_\_ *del ver -*

Marimba - soft mallets  
(roll all notes)

P.1 *p* \_\_\_\_\_ *mp* \_\_\_\_\_ *p* \_\_\_\_\_

P.2 \_\_\_\_\_

23 24 25 26 27 28

S. \_\_\_\_\_

A. *oy - e* \_\_\_\_\_ *oy - e* \_\_\_\_\_ *oy - e* \_\_\_\_\_ *mp* *los pe -*

T. *a - ño* \_\_\_\_\_ *Oy - e* \_\_\_\_\_ *mmm* \_\_\_\_\_ *mp* *los pe -*

B. *a - ño* \_\_\_\_\_ *oy - e* \_\_\_\_\_ *oy - e* \_\_\_\_\_ *oy - e* \_\_\_\_\_

P.1 \_\_\_\_\_

P.2 \_\_\_\_\_

29 30 31 32 33

*mp*

S. en ce - lo so - bre

A. sos d la es - ta - ci - ón en ce - lo so - bre

T. sos d la es - ta - ci - ón en ce - lo so - bre

*mp*

B. en ce - lo so - - bre

P. 1

P. 2

34 35 36 37

S. las bra - sas del a - ño a - ño

*p*

A. del a - - - ño

T. las bra - sas del a - ño del a - ño

*p*

B. las bra - sas so - bre las bra - sas del a - ño

*p*

P. 1

P. 2

Cym.

*pp* *mp* *p*

38 39 40 41 42 Bass drum (unmuted)

*mp*

S. Es su ru - i - do That sound a - bove the years - ash - es—

*mp*

A. Es su ru - i - do mmm— ash -  
a - ño a - ño unis.

T. del a - ño del a - ño del a - - - -

B. a - ño a - ño a - ño a - ño

P. 1

P. 2 (Bass drum) [ 3 ] [ 3 ]

43 44 45 46

S. — y de crô - ta - los

A. es — y de crô - ta - los 'La cre - pi - ta - ción

T. a - del a - ño

B. a - ño cro - ta - - - los

P. 1

P. 2

R.H. - bare hand  
L.H. - mallet

*pp* *mp*

Cym.

*mp*

47 48 49 50 51



S. *p cresc.* *mp cresc.*  
 la sed se des - pi - er - - - ta y con - stru -

A. *p cresc.* *mp cresc.*  
 la sed se des - pi - er - ta y con - stru -

T. *p cresc.* *mp cresc.*  
 y raí - ses des - pi - er - ta y con - stru - ye -

B. *p cresc.* *mp cresc.*  
 y raí - ses des - pi - er - ta y con - - - -

P. 1 *p* *mp* *mf*  
 muted bass drum

P. 2 *p* *mp* *mf*

61 62 63 64 65

S. *mf*  
 ye can - ci - ón

A. *mf*  
 ye can - ci - ón

T. *mf* *f*  
 Oy - e

B. *mf* *f*  
 stru - ye Oy - e

P. 1 (R.H. bare) *mp* *ff* (slap)  
 5

P. 2 (R.H. bare) *p* *f* (L.H. mutes bongo) *ff* (slap) *mf*  
 (B.D. muted) (L.H. mutes conga)

66 67

S. *mp*  
can - ci - ción can - ci - ón

A. *mp*  
can - ci - ción can - ci - ón

T. *ff*  
Oy - e Thirst a - wa - kens and

B. Oy - e Oy - e

P. 1 (sim.) *ff*

P. 2 (sim.) *ff*

68 69

S. can - ción

A. can - ción

T. builds it's great glass ca - - - ges

B. Oy - e Oy - e

P. 1

P. 2

70 71

*ff* <sup>3</sup>  
 S. You sing your fur - i - ous song — there —  
*f*  
 A. tu can - - - ci - - - on di -  
*f*  
 T. tu can - - - ci - - - on di -  
*ff*  
 B. tu can - - - ci - - - on di -  
*mp* *ff* *mp* *ff*  
 P.1  
*f* *ff*  
 P.2

72

73

<sup>3</sup>  
 S. — your joy - ous song of the chained wa - ters con los  
 A. cho - sa Your song of the chained — con los  
 T. cho - sa song of wa - ters  
 B. cho - sa song of wa - ters —  
 P.1  
 P.2

74

75

S. pe - chos y el vi - en - - - - tre man - cha - dos

A. pe - chos y el vi - en - tre man - cha - dos  
You sing there na - ked

T. You sing na - - - - - ked

B. You sing na - ked

P. 1

P. 2

76

77

S. *cresc.* con la ca - ra man - cha - da de po - len *ff*

A. *cresc.* con la ca - ra man - cha - da de po - len *ff*

T. there *cresc.* there you sing there *ff*

B. there you sing there *ff*

P. 1

P. 2

78

79

80



S. en - ca - - - de - - - na - da

A. en - ca - - - de - - - na - da oy - e

T. tas des - nu - - - da los tam - bor - es

B. tas des - nu - - - da los mmm

P.1

P.2

*mp*

*p*

88 89 90 91 92

S. Hear the pal - pi - ta - tion The drums of

A. oy - e oy - e oy - e tam bor - es ver -

T. Hear the pal - pi - ta - tion The drums of

B. oy - - - - e The drums of Cym.

P.1

P.2

*mf*

*mp*

*mf*

to marimba

Marimba (soft mallets)

*mf*

93 94 95 96

S. sum - mer Your sha - dow Your sha - dow

A. an - - - o Your sha - dow Your sha - dow

T. sum - mer Your sha - dow sha - dow sha - dow

B. sum - mer Your sha - dow sha - dow sha - dow

P.1 *mf* Bass drum *mf* *p*

P.2

97 98 99 100

S. Your sha - dow on the a - bo - lished land - scape

A. Your sha - dow on the land - scape

T. on the a - bol - ished land - scape on the a - bol - ished land - scape

B. on the a - bol - ished mmm on the land - - - scape

P.1 *mp*

P.2

101 102 103 104 105

S. *(dim.)* ----- *p* ----- *n.*  
is a land of birds mmm

A. *(dim.)* ----- *p* ----- *dim.* -----  
is a land of birds oy - e oy - e

T. *(dim.)* ----- *p* ----- *n.*  
is a land of birds mmm

B. *(dim.)* ----- *p* ----- *dim.* -----  
is a land oy - e oy - e oy - e

P. 1 *mp* *mp* *mp*

P. 2 Bass drum (muted) *mp*

106 107 108 109 110

S.

A. *(dim.)* ----- *n.*  
oy - e

T.

B. *(dim.)* ----- *n.*  
oy - e mmm

P. 1 *pppp*

P. 2 *pppp*

111 112 113 114 115