

SCORE

COLOUR PALETTE #1:
Images of Gros Morne

for string quartet

(2018)

LIAM RITZ

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Premiered on April 22nd, 2018 at the Church of the Holy Trinity, Toronto Ontario
Nelson Moneo (violin), Matthias McIntire (violin), Clara Nguyen-Tran (viola), Dobrochna Zubek (cello)

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Colour Palette #1: Images of Gros Morne (2018)

for string quartet

Duration: ca. 12 minutes

Programme Note

Colour Palette #1: images of Gros Morne explores the relationship between painting and palette, showing the progression of micro to macro in the setting of visual arts. The piece is based on a painting by contemporary Canadian artist, E. Robert Ross, celebrated for his expansive and realistic paintings of the Canadian landscape.

The painting in question is of Gros Morne National Park, in Newfoundland, Canada. The composition juxtaposes the final painting with the concept of the palette used by the artist. It focusses on the idea that every colour, gesture, and brushstroke of the landscape can be found in the original paint palette, slowly introduced until the complete portrait is presented.

The structure of the piece is divided into three main sections. In each section, a member of the quartet takes on the role of a main element of the landscape (mountain, river, and sky). In addition to the physical

elements of the landscape, the sections are also paired with allusions to the human history of the land.

The first section features the cello, representing the ancient and worn cliffsides of Gros Morne, paired with faint echoes of rhythmic chanting from the Dorset and Paleo-Eskimo people who first inhabited the land. Next, the viola takes on the immense and shimmering river, coupled with the sounds of Norwegian folksongs and the Hardanger fiddle. In the final section, the violins paint the vast and open horizon, with slow shifting blankets of clouds, paired with whispers of Scottish folk music. The piece concludes with the accumulation of all the parts of the landscape, layered over each other, presenting the completed portrait of Gros Morne.

Colour Palette #1: images of Gros Morne received the 2nd Prize (Chamber Ensemble Category) SOCAN Foundation Young Composers Award in 2020.

Composer Biography

Liam Ritz (b.1996) is a Canadian-born composer based in Toronto, Ontario.

He has worked with renowned musicians and ensembles including the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra, the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Gemma New, Veronique Lacroix, and Etsuko Kimura. Ritz's works have been performed in festivals and workshops across Canada, as well as performances in the United States, Italy, and Finland.

Recognized for his work, Ritz has received multiple SOCAN Foundation Young Composers Awards, a City of Hamilton Arts Award, and was selected as the inaugural winner of the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra's Composer Fellowship Program during their 2018-19 season.

A graduate of the University of Toronto, Ritz's work has been supported by organizations such as the Toronto Arts Council, Ontario Arts Council, Canada Council for the Arts, and the RBC Emerging Artists Project.

Contact

Liam Ritz
www.liamritz.com

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based on the works of E. Robert Ross

COLOUR PALETTE #1:

Images of Gros Morne

for string quartet

Liam Ritz (b.1996)

spacious; ethereal (♩=60)

Musical score for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Cello, measures 1-4. The score is in 4/4 time with a tempo of ♩=60. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The first system shows the beginning of the piece. Violin I and II play a melodic line with a *ppp dolciss.* dynamic. The Viola and Cello play a bass line with *col legno tratto* and *pp* dynamics. A box with the number 8 is placed above the second measure.

Musical score for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Cello, measures 5-8. The score continues from the previous system. The dynamics are *pp* for the strings. The Viola and Cello parts include *arco, ord.* and *pizz.* markings. The Cello part has *p espr.* and *n* markings. The Viola part has *port.* markings. The first system of this block shows measures 5-6, and the second system shows measures 7-8.

Musical score for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Cello, measures 9-12. The score continues from the previous system. The dynamics are *pp* for the strings. The Viola and Cello parts include *gliss.* and *s.p.* markings. The Cello part has *f molto espr.* and *p* markings. The Viola part has *ppp* and *sim.* markings. The first system of this block shows measures 9-10, and the second system shows measures 11-12.

8^a. *accel.* $\leftarrow \text{♩} = \text{♩} \rightarrow$

16 *f* *p* *f*

sim. *port.* *port.* *senza vib.*

20 energetic; rhythmic ($\text{♩} = 72$)

loco *p* *sfz cresc.* *mf*

port. *vib.*

24 *fp cresc. poco a poco* *f molto sost.*

6 *3*

30

28 *f* *f sost.* *f sost.* *port.*

3 *5* *IV*

32

IV-
mf
gliss.

36

p cresc. poco a poco

40

mp cresc.
p cresc. poco a poco

accel.

46 più mosso (♩=80)

44

ff molto sost.
ff molto sost.
ff molto sost.
ff molto sost.

49 ^{8^a}

mf *ff*

gliss.

54 ^{8^a}

ff *mf* *ff*

gliss. *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.*

loco

59

fff feroce *fff feroce* *fff feroce* *fff feroce*

gliss. *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.*

pp leggero *ff subito* *pp subito* *ff subito*

1 *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.*

64

allargando

gliss. *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.*

IV *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.*

port. *3* *3* *sul tasto*

ff molto sost. *sfppp*

69 Tempo I (♩=60)

Musical score for measures 69-73. The score is in 4/4 time with a tempo of Tempo I (♩=60). It features four staves: Violin I, Violin II, Cello/Double Bass, and Bass. Dynamics are primarily *pp* (pianissimo). Performance instructions include *gliss.*, *flaut.*, *pizz.*, *arco*, and *tr.*. The Cello/Double Bass part includes markings for *s.t.*, *poco s.p.*, *m.s.p.*, and *s.t.*. A large bracket spans measures 69-73.

Musical score for measures 74-77. The score continues with four staves. Dynamics range from *pp* to *mf*. Performance instructions include *arco, ord.*, *gl.*, and *tr.*. Tempo markings include *molto accel.*, *molto rit.*, and *a tempo*. A large bracket spans measures 74-77.

Musical score for measures 78-81. The score continues with four staves. Dynamics include *mp* and *ff*. Performance instructions include *gliss.*, *tr.*, and *ff*. A *molto accel.* marking is present. A large bracket spans measures 78-81.

82 delicate (♩=72)

Musical score for measures 82-85. The score is in 4/4 time with a tempo of delicate (♩=72). It features four staves. Dynamics are *pp con grazia*. Performance instructions include *(trem.)*, *pizz.*, *(poco gliss.)*, and *rit.*. A large bracket spans measures 82-85.

109

pizz. arco ord.

115

II

121

accel.

127 poco più mosso (♩ = 66)

sfpp molto tranquillo *ppp molto tranquillo* *pp* *sim.* *sim.*

133

sim.

This system contains measures 133 through 138. It features four staves: two treble clefs and two bass clefs. The music is in a key with one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The first staff has a melodic line with slurs and a 'sim.' dynamic marking. The second staff has a melodic line with slurs and a 'v' dynamic marking. The third and fourth staves provide harmonic support with rhythmic patterns and slurs.

139

(ord.)

(ord.)

(ord.)

(ord.)

This system contains measures 139 through 144. It features four staves. The first staff has a melodic line with slurs and '(ord.)' dynamic markings. The second staff has a melodic line with slurs and '(ord.)' dynamic markings. The third and fourth staves provide harmonic support with rhythmic patterns and slurs.

145

poco s.p.

ord.

poco s.p.

ord.

poco s.p.

ord.

s.p.

ord.

This system contains measures 145 through 150. It features four staves. The first staff has a melodic line with slurs and 'poco s.p.' and 'ord.' dynamic markings. The second staff has a melodic line with slurs and 'poco s.p.' and 'ord.' dynamic markings. The third and fourth staves provide harmonic support with rhythmic patterns and slurs.

151

This system contains measures 151 through 156. It features four staves. The first staff has a melodic line with slurs. The second staff has a melodic line with slurs and a 'v' dynamic marking. The third and fourth staves provide harmonic support with rhythmic patterns and slurs.

COLOUR PALETTE #1

157

163

169

173

175

*) This melody is derived from a Norwegian hardanger fiddle tune (from Lårdal, Telemark) called a *Kvelding* (*Evening Dance*), transcribed by Norwegian composer, Eivind Groven in 1924.

181

Musical score for measures 181-186. It features three staves: two treble clefs and one bass clef. The music consists of eighth-note patterns with various dynamics and articulations. Above the staves, there are markings for *s.t.* (staccato) and *s.p.* (pizzicato). A large watermark 'FOR SALE ONLY' is visible across the page.

187

Musical score for measures 187-192. It features three staves: two treble clefs and one bass clef. The music continues with eighth-note patterns. A *mf* (mezzo-forte) dynamic marking is present in the bass staff. Above the staves, there are markings for *s.p.* and *s.t.*. A large watermark 'FOR SALE ONLY' is visible across the page.

molto accel.

198 più mosso (♩ = 96)

193

Musical score for measures 193-198. It features three staves: two treble clefs and one bass clef. The music includes eighth-note patterns and rests. Dynamics include *cresc.* (crescendo) and *f* (forte). Above the staves, there are markings for *s.t.*, *s.p.*, and *ord.* (ordinario). A large watermark 'FOR SALE ONLY' is visible across the page.

199

Musical score for measures 199-204. It features three staves: two treble clefs and one bass clef. The music includes eighth-note patterns and rests. Dynamics include *ff* (fortissimo) and *ord.* (ordinario). Above the staves, there are markings for *s.p.*. A large watermark 'FOR SALE ONLY' is visible across the page.

205

Musical score for measures 205-210. The score is in 6/8 time and consists of two systems of staves. The first system includes a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment (treble and bass clefs). The second system includes a piano accompaniment (treble and bass clefs). Dynamics include *mf* and *ff*. Performance markings include *s.t.*, *s.p.*, and *ord.*. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes with some rests.

211

Musical score for measures 211-216. The score is in 6/8 time and consists of two systems of staves. The first system includes a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment (treble and bass clefs). The second system includes a piano accompaniment (treble and bass clefs). Dynamics include *mf* and *mp leggiero*. Performance markings include *s.p.* and *ord.*. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes with some rests.

217

Musical score for measures 217-222. The score is in 6/8 time and consists of two systems of staves. The first system includes a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment (treble and bass clefs). The second system includes a piano accompaniment (treble and bass clefs). Dynamics include *f*. Performance markings include *s.p.* and *ord.*. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes with some rests.

223

molto rit.

Musical score for measures 223-228. The score is in 6/8 time and consists of two systems of staves. The first system includes a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment (treble and bass clefs). The second system includes a piano accompaniment (treble and bass clefs). Dynamics include *p cresc.*. Performance markings include *s.p.* and *ord.*. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes with some rests.

229 flowing (♩ = 120/♩ = 180)

(ord.) → poco s.p. (trem.)

ff pp sf ff pp

Musical score for measures 229-234. It features four staves: Treble 1, Treble 2, Bass 1, and Bass 2. The music is in 6/16 time and consists of flowing sixteenth-note patterns. Dynamics range from fortissimo (ff) to pianissimo (pp). A section starting at measure 233 is marked 'poco s.p.' (poco sostenuto) and includes a tremolo effect.

235 → s.t. → poco s.p.

Musical score for measures 235-240. It features four staves. The music continues with flowing sixteenth-note patterns. A section starting at measure 237 is marked 'poco s.p.' (poco sostenuto).

241 → ord. accel.

Musical score for measures 241-246. It features four staves. The music continues with flowing sixteenth-note patterns. A section starting at measure 244 is marked 'accel.' (accelerando).

249 più mosso (♩ = 76)

247 mf leggiero mf mf leggiero pizz. mf

Musical score for measures 247-252. It features four staves. The music is in 6/16 time and consists of flowing sixteenth-note patterns. Dynamics include mezzo-forte (mf), mezzo-forte leggiero (mf leggiero), and pizzicato (pizz.). A section starting at measure 250 is marked 's.p.' (sostenuto).

253

Musical score for measures 253-258. The score is in 6/16 time and features a complex rhythmic pattern with frequent changes in meter (6/16, 5/16, 6/16, 5/16, 6/16). The music is written for four staves: two treble clefs and two bass clefs. A dynamic marking of *ff* *molto sost.* is present in the second staff. A section marked 'IV' begins in measure 256.

259

Musical score for measures 259-264. The score is in 6/16 time. It includes dynamic markings *p*, *ff*, and *sf*. An *ord.* (ordine) marking is present in measure 259. A *s.p.* (sotto piano) marking is present in measure 261. The music is written for four staves: two treble clefs and two bass clefs.

265

Musical score for measures 265-270. The score is in 6/16 time. It includes dynamic markings *p subito*, *mp*, *f*, and *mf*. An *ord.* (ordine) marking is present in measure 265. The music is written for four staves: two treble clefs and two bass clefs.

271

Musical score for measures 271-276. The score is in 4/4 time. It includes dynamic markings *ff* and *mf*. An *allargando* marking is present in measure 271. The music is written for four staves: two treble clefs and two bass clefs.

277 broadly (♩=60)

Musical score for measures 277-282. The score is in 4/4 time and features four staves: two treble clefs and two bass clefs. The music is marked 'broadly' with a tempo of ♩=60. Dynamics include *pp*, *poco s.p.*, *ord.*, *pochiss.*, *molto*, *ppp*, *dolciss.*, and *sf*. Performance instructions include *pp*, *pochiss.*, *molto*, *ppp*, *dolciss.*, and *sf*. A large watermark 'FOR PUBLISHED ONLY' is visible across the score.

283

Musical score for measures 283-287. The score is in 4/4 time and features four staves. The music is marked *ppp flaut. morendo* and includes performance instructions such as '(w/ light fingers)', '6', '5', and 'n'. Dynamics include *ppp* and *mp*. A large watermark 'FOR PUBLISHED ONLY' is visible across the score.

288 expansive (♩=72)

Musical score for measures 288-292. The score is in 4/4 time and features four staves. The music is marked 'expansive' with a tempo of ♩=72. Dynamics include *p*, *mf*, *port.*, *sf*, *ppp*, and *mp*. Performance instructions include *port.*, *mf*, *p*, *sf*, *ppp*, and *mp*. A large watermark 'FOR PUBLISHED ONLY' is visible across the score.

293

Musical score for measures 293-297. The score is in 4/4 time and features four staves. The music is marked *p* and *molto*. Performance instructions include *p* and *molto*. A large watermark 'FOR PUBLISHED ONLY' is visible across the score.

298 poco più mosso (♩=76)

Musical score for measures 298-302. The score is for four staves: Flute I, Flute II, Bassoon, and Bass. The tempo is 'poco più mosso' with a quarter note equal to 76 beats per minute. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 4/4. The score includes dynamic markings such as *pp flaut.* and *sim.*, and performance instructions like *senza vib.* and *sim.*. A box with the number 298 is located at the top left of the first staff.

Musical score for measures 303-306. The score continues for the four staves. It includes dynamic markings like *mf dolce* and *p*, and performance instructions such as *(senza vib.)* and *vib.*. A box with the number 307 is located at the top right of the first staff.

Musical score for measures 308-312. The score continues for the four staves. It includes dynamic markings like *p* and *mf*, and performance instructions such as *8^a*. A box with the number 308 is located at the top left of the first staff.

Musical score for measures 313-317. The score continues for the four staves. It includes dynamic markings like *mf*, *p*, and *pp*, and performance instructions such as *8^a*, *(senza vib.)*, and *vib.*. A box with the number 313 is located at the top left of the first staff.

318

mf *p* *pp* *mf* *p* *pp dolciss.* *mf* *rit.*

323 subito più mosso (♩=80) *accel.*

p *mf* *accel.*

328 *più mosso* (♩=120)

mf *f molto sost.* *f molto sost.* *f molto sost.* *f molto sost.*

pizz. *arco* *pizz.* *port.*

333 *ff*

ff *ff* *ff* *ff*

molto rit. **340** *subito più mosso* (♩ = 132)

Musical score for measures 338-340. The score is written for four staves. Measure 338 is marked *molto rit.* and *ff*. Measure 340 is marked *subito più mosso* (♩ = 132) and *ff*. The notation includes eighth notes, sixteenth notes, and slurs. A large watermark 'FOR PERUSAL USE ONLY' is visible across the page.

Musical score for measures 342-344. The score is written for four staves. Measure 342 is marked *ff*. Measure 344 is marked *ff*. The notation includes eighth notes, sixteenth notes, and slurs. A large watermark 'FOR PERUSAL USE ONLY' is visible across the page.

molto rit. *subito più mosso* (♩ = 144)

Musical score for measures 345-347. The score is written for four staves. Measure 345 is marked *molto rit.* and *ff*. Measure 347 is marked *subito più mosso* (♩ = 144) and *ff*. The notation includes eighth notes, sixteenth notes, and slurs. A large watermark 'FOR PERUSAL USE ONLY' is visible across the page.

348 *molto rit.*

Musical score for measures 348-351. It features four staves: Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Cello/Double Bass. The music is marked "molto rit." and includes various articulations like "arco" and "pizz.". The score shows complex rhythmic patterns with triplets and sixteenth notes.

352 broadly; soaring ($\text{♩} = 72$)

Musical score for measures 352-354. It features four staves: Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Cello/Double Bass. The music is marked "mf sost. e molto espr." and "f molto espr.". The score shows a broad, soaring melodic line in the upper staves and a more rhythmic accompaniment in the lower staves.

355

Musical score for measures 355-357. It features four staves: Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Cello/Double Bass. The music is marked "f" and "ff". The score shows a powerful, driving melodic line in the upper staves and a rhythmic accompaniment in the lower staves.

358

S^a
S^{a+1}
ff
ff
ff
ff

361 animated; lively (♩ = 88)

ff feroce
S^a
S^{a+1}
ff feroce
sfp
tr
molto
sf
p
f
molto sf
p

364

S^a
S^{a+1}
ff pesante
fff
fff
fff
fff
fff pesante
fff