

Gilad Cohen

Around the Cauldron

for violin, cello and piano

(2016)

*Commissioned for Lysander Piano Trio by Concert Artists Guild
with support from the Adele and John Gray Endowment Fund*

© 2016 ASCAP. All rights reserved.

www.giladcohen.com
gilad@giladcohen.com

Gilad Cohen

Around the Cauldron

for violin, cello and piano

(2016)

Program notes:

Around the Cauldron was inspired by the three witches from Shakespeare's play *Macbeth*. With a nod to multi-movement pieces such as Schumann's *Scenes From Childhood* and Mussorgsky's *Pictures At An Exhibition*, *Around the Cauldron* is comprised of seven short scenes, each of which evokes a mood that resonates with an image of three witches gathered around a cauldron in a dark forest, muttering spells, and adding selected creatures to a bubbling stew.

The movements carry individual titles: "In Dusk," "Pounce," "Transmutation," "Boiling," "Witches Waltz," "Newts' Lament," and "Sacrificial." Most of the melodies in the piece were tailored to fit lines from the original Shakespearean text and were also arranged as songs for a production of *Macbeth* at Ramapo College of New Jersey. Thus, the main theme sets the play's immortal opening words: "Fair is foul and foul is fair / Hover through the fog and filthy air."

Honoring the three witches, the piece reflects the number three in its rhythms, which highlight groups of three beats; in its themes, which are constructed of three phrases; and in its instrumentation, which suggests that each instrument represents a different witch.

Around the Cauldron was commissioned by Concert Artists Guild with support from the Adele and John Gray Endowment Fund for Lysander Piano Trio, which is fittingly named after another Shakespearean character.

© 2016 ASCAP. All rights reserved.

www.giladcohen.com
gilad@giladcohen.com

Around the Cauldron

for violin, cello and piano

1. In Dusk

Andante (♩=105)

Gilad Cohen 2016
Version March 30th 2019

Violin

con sord.
I 8va
II #

pp pale, colorless

Violoncello

pizz.

pp rhythmic, mysterious
IV (half flat)

Piano

pp rhythmic, mysterious

5

Vln.

sul pont.

pp freely, like echo of piano

Vc.

p

Pno.

p solo

Red.

8 *simile*

Vln. *pp* 3 7 7 7

Vc.

Pno. *p* 3 3 3 *pp* *Ped.*

11 *senza sord.* *ord.* 12

Vln. *pp*

Vc.

Pno. *p* 3 3 3 *pp* *Ped.*

14 **A** *Groovy* (♩=80)
Steady and heavy

Vln. *f*

Vc. *f* *arco* *V* *V* *5* *espress.*

Pno. *f* *V* *V* *V* *V*

18

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

p

f

subp

f

22

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

espress.

gradually to

sul pont. molto vib.

B

25

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

pp

ppp

subpp

white noise on bridge, occasionally alternating with sul pont. on open D string

8va (#)

8vb

29

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

(pp) ATTACCA

(8)

FOR PERUSAL USE ONLY

2. Pounce

Allegro (♩=120), rhythmic, very steady

1

Vln. *sul pont.*

Vc. *f* arco pizz. spiccato *8va* pizz. arco *sul pont.* pizz. *gliss.* arco

Pno.

6

Vln. *sul pont.*

Vc. *f* *assertive, dirty* harm. I *gliss.* pizz. arco pizz. arco

Pno. *p* *8va* *Ped.*

9

Vln. *accasionally jump an octave using bow position*

Vc. *pp*

Pno. *pp* *8vb*

12

Vln. *p* like echo of cello

Vc. *gliss.* *p* III

Pno.

(8)

16 **B**

Vln. *p* arco *f* sul pont.

Vc. *pizz.* arco spiccato

Pno. *p* *f*

18

Vln. *poco* sul pont.

Vc. *f* assertive, dirty *pizz.* *harm.* *gliss.* *pizz.* *arco* *sul pont.*

Pno. *8va*

Ped.

C

20

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

submp

arco

sul pont.

pizz.

p

r.h.

23

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

arco

sul pont.

pizz.

arco

sul pont.

pizz.

26

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

arco

sul pont.

pizz.

arco

mf bell-like

8va

8vb

p percussive

28

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

wild vib.

sul pont.

pizz.

arco

sfz

(8)



D Poco accelerando throughout this section

30

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

subp

II *8va*

IV ricochet

pizz.

arco

mf dark and intimidating

p determined and articulated

pp percussive, as short and pitchless as possible

(8)...

8^{vb}

34

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

mf mischievous and sinister *pp*

pizz. arco

(8)

37

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

mf *pp* *mf* *pp*

pizz. arco

mf heavy *p*

(8)

40

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

mf *pp* *f* *pp*

pizz. arco

mf powerful

(8)

11 43

Vln. *mf* *pp* *f* *f* *pp* **E**

Vc. pizz. arco *ff*

Pno.

(8)

ff forceful and dirty, suggesting distorted heavy metal guitar

46

Vln. *f* *pp* *f* *pp*

Vc. *f* *pp* *f* *pp*

Pno.

(8)

49

Vln. *f* *pp* *f*

Vc. *f* *pp* *f*

Pno.

F Più mosso (♩=130), very steady

51 scratch sound on bridge

Vln. *subp* non vib.

Vc. *pp* molto vib., sul pont. I *p* keep timbre ever-changing with bow and I bow position (e.g. sul pont., sul tasto etc.) *p* rhythmic and percussive

Pno. *mp* *p* rhythmic, like 1970s' dance music

55

Vln. *poco a poco cresc.*

Vc. *poco a poco cresc.*

Pno. *poco a poco cresc.*

59

Vln. vib.

Vc. *f*

Pno. *f*

13

G

63 *sul pont.*

Vln. *f espress., nasty*

Vc. *sul pont.*
f espress., nasty

Pno. *ppp*
percussive, with occasional pedal

8^{va}

67

Vln.

Vc.

Pno. *p*

(8)

loco

H

71 *p cantabile*

Vln. *ord.*

Vc. *mp lyrical*

Pno. *mp lyrical*

74 *I* *8va*

Vln. *poco a poco cresc.*

Vc. *port.* *espress., poco a poco cresc.*

Pno. *mf*

77

Vln.

Vc. *f* *forceful*

Pno. *8va* *8vb*

I

79

Vln. *ff wild* *p* *ff*

Vc. *ff* *agressive*

Pno. *f*

81

Vln. *sfz*

Vc. *espress. and wild*

Pno.

(8)

83

Vln. *wide vib. while glissing* *p* *ff*

Vc. *IV* 3 3 3

Pno. *sfz* *loco*

(8)

8^{vb}

85

Vln. *sfz*

Vc. *fff* *shrilling, wild* *rubato, wide vib. ad lib.* 5

Pno.

(8)

87

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

3 3 3 3

5

ffz

locob.

(8)

8^{vb}

89

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

3 3

6

(8)

91

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

wide vib.

3 3 3

ffz

loco

(8)

8^{vb}

93

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

sfz

(8)

The musical score consists of three staves: Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vc.), and Piano (Pno.). The Violin part begins with a measure marked '93' and features a tremolo effect over a whole note. The Viola part provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords. The Piano part has a complex melodic line in the right hand and a rhythmic accompaniment in the left hand. A dynamic marking of *sfz* (sforzando) is present in the Viola part. A rehearsal mark '(8)' is located at the bottom of the Piano staff.

FOR PERUSAL

3. Transmutation

Lento Rubato, Senza Misura
Mysterious

♩=120, A Tempo

Vln. *P* non vib. gradually add vib. → ord vib. *mp*

Vc. *P* non vib. gradually add vib. → ord vib. *mp*

Pno. *pp mysterious* *Red.*

8^{va}

2

Vln. *pp*

Vc. *pp*

Pno. (8) *Red.*

3

Lento rubato

♩=120, A Tempo

Vln. gradually add vib. → ord vib. *p* *mp*

Vc. gradually add vib. → ord vib. *p* *mp*

Pno. (8) *pp* *Red.*

8^{va}

4

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

5

Vln. *pp*

Vc. *pp*

Pno.

6

Lento rubato **♩=120, A Tempo** **ATTACCA**

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

p gradually add vib. → ord vib. *mp* *f*

p gradually add vib. → ord vib. *mp* *f*

p *8va* *8va* *Red.*

4. Boiling

Largo (♩=50), dark and intimidating

1

Vln. short arco con sord.

Vc. short pizz. arco SOLO *pp* accompanying cello *p cantabile*

Pno. short *p rich cantabile*

4

Vln. slow gliss. *gliss.*

Vc. *gliss.*

Pno. *p* *ppp*

7

Vln. *gliss.* *gliss.*

Vc. *gliss.*

Pno. *p* *ppp*

Ped. *8^{va}*

A **Con moto**

Vln. *p espress.*

Vc. *mp espress.*

Pno. *mp intimidating* *mf*

8^{va} loco



Vln. *(in same tempo)* *f* *p* *senza sord.*

Vc. *(in same tempo)* *f* *p*

only piano: faster and lighter (♩=60)

Pno. *subp* *ppp* *8^{va}*

Ped.

5. Witches Waltz

Moderate Waltz (♩. =70)

1

Vln. *pizz.* *p*

Vc. *pizz.* *p*

Pno.

4

Vln. *mp light*

Vc. *p*

Pno. *p solo* 6

A

7

Vln. *mp*

Vc. *mp*

Pno. *8va*

12

Vln. *arco*

Vc. *arco* *p* *f*

Pno. *f dramatic*

B

16

Vln. *f* *p vigorous*

Vc. *f* *p vigorous*

Pno. *groovy, articulated*

20 *simile*

Vln. *simile*

Vc. *simile*

Pno.

f *mp solo* *sfz*

24 **C**

Vln. III *mf cantabile*

Vc. *arco* *p intense*

Pno. *p intense* *p^{8va}* *mf*

27

Vln.

Vc. *mf cantabile*

Pno. *p classy* *mf*

25
30
Vln. *espress.*
Vc. 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3
Pno.
lighter

33
Vln. *lighter* *pizz.* *f* *arco* *ff dramatic*
Vc. *ord.* *p cantabile* *mf* *f* *ff dramatic*
Pno. *f*

D *A tempo*
36
Vln. *tr*
Vc. *tr*
Pno. *f*

39

Vln. *f espress. a la Schoenberg*

Vc. *wild* gliss. while wide vib.

Pno. *groovy*

42

Vln.

Vc. *f*

Pno.

Ped.

E

46


Vln. *subp light and elegant*


Vc. *p* pizz. *p elegant*

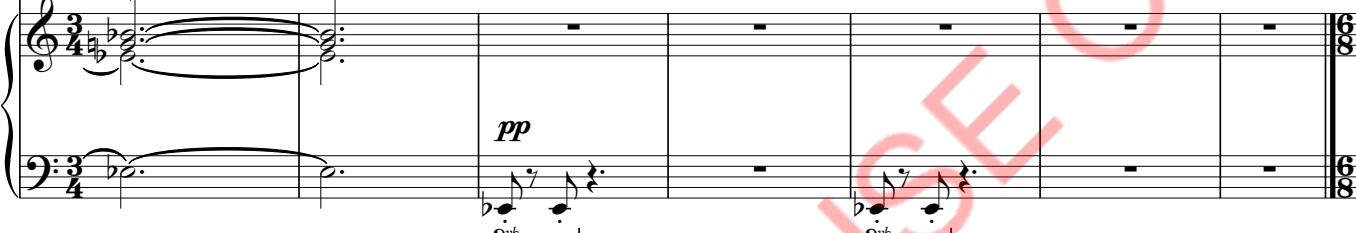
Pno. *p* *p light and elegant*

Subito Allegro (♩=120) white noise sul pont. simile **poco rit.** **ATTACCA**

49 **IV**

Vln. 

Vc. *p* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* 

Pno. *pp* *8^{vb}* 

FOR PERUSAL USE ONLY

6. Newts' Lament

1 Andante, flowing, sad (♩=50)

Vln. 

Vc. 

Pno. 
p introverted

==

Vln. 
f shrilling

Vc. 
arco
f shrilling

Pno. 
espress.
mp

grad. to sul pont. →

Vln. *11* sul pont. *p mysterious* *f shrilling* *8va*

Vc. grad. to sul pont. → sul pont. *p mysterious* *f shrilling*

Pno.

grad. to sul pont. →

Vln. *15* (8) rit. sul pont. *mp*

Vc. grad. to sul pont. → sul pont. *mp*

Pno.

A **Meno mosso** (♩.=40)

The musical score is arranged in three systems. The first system contains the Violin (Vln.) and Viola (Vc.) parts. The Violin part starts at measure 17 with a treble clef, 3/8 time signature, and a key signature of one flat. It features a melodic line with slurs and accents, marked *p espress.* and *pp*. The Viola part is in the bass clef, 3/8 time signature, and one flat key signature. It includes fingerings (I, II), dynamic markings (*p*, *pp*), and performance instructions like *rich*. The second system contains the Piano (Pno.) part, split into right and left hands. The right hand is in treble clef, 3/8 time signature, and one flat key signature, marked *pp mysterious* and *ppp*. The left hand is in bass clef, 3/8 time signature, and one flat key signature, marked *tr* and *8vb*. A *Ped.* (pedal) marking is present at the bottom of the system. The score concludes with a double bar line and a 4/4 time signature. A large red watermark 'FOR PERUSAL USE ONLY' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

molto vib.

ord.

p espress.

pp

ord.

p

p

pp

rich

8va

8va

8va

Pno.

pp mysterious

ppp

tr

8vb

Ped.

7. Sacrificial

Presto (♩=170), energetic and very steady
ord. vib.

1

Vln. *fp*

Vc. *fp*

Pno. *f intense*

f intense

p

(8) -1

5

Vln. *f*

Vc. *f intense*

Pno. *f*

pizz.

gradually to

producing octave higher using sul pont., suggesting electric guitar with distortion

simile

9

Vln.

Vc. 3 3 3 3 3

Pno. *subpp*

A

12

Vln. *ff*

Vc. *ff*

Pno. *f*

8^{vb}

16

Vln. arco *f cantabile elegant waltz*

Vc. *mf elegant waltz*

Pno. *p*

(8)

B

22

Vln. *mf* *f aggressive* *ff*

Vc. *f (melting f into piano)*

Pno. *f intense*

bend less than 1/2 step

pizz.

8^{vb}

26

Vln. arco *f* simile

Vc.

Pno. (8).....

29

Vln. arco *pp* *ff* 5

Vc. *f* 3 3 3 3 3 *ff*

Pno. *subp* *f* 3 3 8^{vb}.....

32

Vln. *ff* pizz.

Vc. *ff* pizz.

Pno. *p* *mf* (8).....

36

Vln. *p* *f* arco *pp* *f*

Vc. *p* *f* arco *pp* *f*

Pno. *subp* *f*

40

Vln. *ff* *shrilling* *gliss.* *port.*

Vc. *ff* *shrilling* *gliss.* *port.*

Pno. *mf* *ffz*

44

Vln. *p tense* *f*

Vc. *p tense* *f*

Pno. *p tense* *f*

50

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

do not overpower cello

f as possible

I

53

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

55

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

D

57

Vln. *con sord.*

Vc. *con sord.*

Pno. *p*
mute inside piano with right hand,
creating muffled and percussive sound

8^{vb}

61

Vln.

Vc.

Pno. (8)

Evocation: like three floating memories

E

Violin+cello: slower than piano
(like "Pounce", ♩=120)

64

Vln. *mp* wicked

Vc. *pp* heavy, dark and scary

Pno. Repeat, keeping the same tempo

wide vib.

III
8va

mp

mp *ord.*

insert once at some point

8^{vb}

All: A Tempo (♩=170)

69

Vln. *mf* non vib. flat and dry

Vc. *f* non vib. flat and dry

III

3 3 3 3

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 69, 70, and 71. The Violin (Vln.) part is in treble clef, starting with a dynamic of *mf* and playing a melodic line with accents and triplets. The Violoncello (Vc.) part is in bass clef, starting with a dynamic of *f* and playing a bass line with triplets. The instruction "non vib. flat and dry" is written above both staves. A Roman numeral "III" is placed below the Vln. staff in measure 69. The tempo is marked as "All: A Tempo" with a quarter note equal to 170 beats per minute.

Pno. *(p)*

8^{vb}

Detailed description: This block shows the piano accompaniment for measures 69-71. The piano part is in bass clef, playing a steady eighth-note accompaniment. The dynamic is marked as *(p)*. An 8va (octave) sign is present below the staff.

72

Vln. *mf* like echo *mp* *p*

Vc. *mf* like echo *mp* *p*

Pno.

(8)

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 72, 73, 74, and 75. The Violin (Vln.) and Violoncello (Vc.) parts are in treble and bass clefs respectively, playing sustained chords. The dynamics for both parts are *mf* like echo in measure 72, *mp* in measure 73, and *p* in measure 74. The piano accompaniment (Pno.) is in bass clef, playing a steady eighth-note accompaniment. The dynamic is *(p)*. An 8va sign is present below the piano staff.

76

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

(8)

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 76, 77, 78, and 79. The Violin (Vln.) and Violoncello (Vc.) parts are in treble and bass clefs respectively, playing sustained chords. The piano accompaniment (Pno.) is in bass clef, playing a steady eighth-note accompaniment. An 8va sign is present below the piano staff.

F Violin+cello: slower than piano
(like "Pounce", ♩=120)

80 *sul pont.*

Vln. *p mysterious* *f* *mf like echo*

Vc. *sul pont.* *p mysterious* *f* *mf like echo*

Pno. Repeat, keeping the same tempo

(8) *(p)* *8^{vb}*

ord., non vib. flat and dry

85

Vln. *mp* *p*

Vc. *mp* *p*

Pno. *ord. (not mute)* *mp* *loco*

(8)

G Violin+cello: slower than piano
(like "Witches Waltz", ♩=70)

90

Vln. *pp elegant and sinister* *mf*

Vc. *pp elegant and sinister* *mf*

Pno. Repeat, keeping the same tempo

All: A Tempo (♩=170)

95 *sul pont.* *senza sord.*

Vln. *sul pont.* *senza sord.*

Vc. *sul pont.* *senza sord.*

Pno. (*mp*)

H Showdown, very steady

101 *arco*

Vln. *p dark, rhythmic*

Vc. *arco* *p dark, rhythmic*

Pno. *f* *p* *sfz*

poco rall. **A tempo**

107 *pizz.*

Vln. *gliss.* *ff*

Vc. *gliss.* *pizz.* *f*

Pno. *p* *sfz* *p*

I

113

Vln. arco *p* gliss. *ff* pizz. poco rall.

Vc. arco *p* gliss. *f* pizz.

Pno. *sfz* *p*

A tempo

117

Vln.

Vc.

Pno. *sfz* *p*

J

121

Vln. arco *p* building suspense

Vc. arco *p* building suspense

Pno. *mf* *p* building suspense

127

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

r.h.

l.h.

Ped.

ff

ff

ff

8^{va}



K

130

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

ff

tr



135

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

140

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

mp

p

mf

mp

p

Ped.

||

143

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

ff

ff

sfz

ff

sffz

loco

8^{va}

8^{vb}

Ridgewood, NJ, USA
August 2016