

Derek B. Scott

The Warning Song

Tone Poem for orchestra

Op.44

(1985/2022)

Full Score

The Warning Song

The Warning Song is a tone poem based on music from a dramatic cantata for four principals, children's chorus, and small orchestra. It was written and composed in 1985 and performed that year at Spring Street Theatre, Hull, under the musical direction of Laurence Rugg, who had commissioned it. It was a stage work created in opposition to the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

The music of the tone poem begins with an abbreviated statement of the *March of Escalation*, and then turns to the music of *The Warning Song*, the message of which was taken from lines in William Cowper's poem *Expostulation* of 1782:

*I know the warning song is sung in vain
That few will hear, and fewer heed the strain.*

The mood changes to one of satire in the next section, based on the song *Tarzon Agonistes*, Tarzan being the nickname of the UK's then-defence minister Michael Heseltine. He had suffered huge embarrassment when Sarah Tisdall, a Foreign Office employee, leaked information about how he was intending to explain to the House of Commons the arrival of American cruise missiles. The unfortunate Sarah was imprisoned for her offence.

The march of escalationn interrupts before a new lyrical theme acts as a lament for the neglected veterans of the UK's nuclear tests carried out in 1957-8 at Malden Island and Kiritimati (Christmas Island) in the Pacific Ocean. Analysis of subsequent illnesses suffered by veterans had been deemed too difficult to interpret, and a case brought before the European Court of Human Rights in 1998 was rejected by a majority of 5 to 4. In 2005, researchers at Massey University, New Zealand, discovered that there was a statistically significant rate of chromosome translocations in the blood of sailors who had witnessed the tests. An attempt by over a thousand ex-servicemen to sue the Ministry of Defence collapsed on the grounds that too much time had elapsed since they first noticed health problems. In contrast, the government of Fiji awarded compensation payment in 2015 for the two dozen surviving Fijians who had been present at the tests.

The march of escalation now develops in a more persistent manner and leads to a reprise of the scornful 'Tarzan' music. That is followed by a reprise of the lament and, after a final short interruption from the march, the *Warning Song* is recapitulated.

Derek B. Scott

Orchestra

Piccolo
2 Flutes
2 Oboes
Cor Anglais
2 Clarinets in B♭
Bass Clarinet in B♭
2 Bassoons

4 Horns in F
2 Trumpets in B♭
3 Trombones (TTB)
Tuba

Timpani
Percussion (1)
Cymbals
Bass Drum
Snare Drum

Harp

Strings

Duration 9'30"

The Warning Song

Tone Poem

Derek B. Scott
Op. 44 (1985/2022)

Andante ($\text{♩} = 88$)

This musical score page shows the first section of the piece, labeled "Andante ($\text{♩} = 88$)". The score is for a large orchestra and includes parts for Piccolo, Flutes 1.2., Oboes 1.2., English Horn, Clarinets 1.2. in B \flat , Bass Clarinet in B \flat , Bassoons 1.2., Horns 1.2. in F, Horns 3.4. in F, Trumpets 1.2. in B \flat , Trombone 1, Trombone 2, Bass Trombone, Tuba, Timpani, and Harp. The harp part is annotated with "D, C, B,
E, F, G, A". The music consists of several measures of rests followed by dynamic markings like *mf* and *p*. The harp part has a specific melodic line with grace notes.

Andante ($\text{♩} = 88$)

This musical score page shows the second section of the piece, also labeled "Andante ($\text{♩} = 88$)". It features parts for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass. The strings play eighth-note patterns, with dynamic markings like *mp* and *div.* (divisi). The violins play a melodic line with grace notes, while the bassoon provides harmonic support.

8

Fl. *p solo*

Ob.

C.A.

Cl. (B♭) 1. solo *p*

B. Cl.

Bsn.

Hn. 1.2. (F)

Hn. 3.4. (F)

Tpt. 1.2. (B♭)

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Timpani

Hp. *p*

Vl. 1 *pp*

Vl. 2 unis. *pp*

Vla.

Vc.

Cb. *pizz.* *p*

rit. a tempo

15

Picc.

Fl. (h) *mp* a2 *f*

Ob. *mp* a2 *f*

C.A.

Cl. (B♭)

B. Cl.

Bsn. *mf*

Hn. 1.2. (F)

Hn. 3.4. (F)

Tpt. 1.2. (B♭)

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Timpani

Hp. G♯ C♯ F♯ C♯ E♭ *mp* E♯ F♯

rit. a tempo

Vl. 1 *p* *mp*

Vl. 2 *p* *mp*

Vla. *p* *mp*

Vc. pizz. *p* *mp*

Cb. *p* *mp*

Detailed description: The score consists of two systems of music. The top system, starting at measure 15, includes parts for Piccolo, Flute, Oboe, Clarinet (B-flat), Bassoon, Horn 1.2 (F), Horn 3.4 (F), Trumpet 1.2 (B-flat), Trombone 1, Trombone 2, Bass Trombone, Tuba, Timpani, and Bassoon (Horn). The bottom system continues from measure 15 and includes parts for Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, and Double Bass. Measure 15 features dynamic markings such as *mp*, *f*, *mf*, and *p*. Measure 16 shows woodwind entries with specific pitch labels (G♯, C♯, F♯, E♭, E♯, F♯) and dynamics (*mp*). Measures 17-18 show sustained notes and eighth-note patterns. Measures 19-20 feature eighth-note patterns with dynamic changes to *p* and *mp*. Measures 21-22 show eighth-note patterns with dynamic changes to *p* and *mp*.

21 **A**

Fl.

Ob.

C.A.

Cl. (B \flat)

B. Cl.

Bsn.

Hn. 1.2. (F)

mf

Hn. 3.4. (F)

Tpt. 1.2. (B \flat)

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Timp.

Hp. *f*

VI. 1

f

VI. 2

f

Vla.

f

arco

Vc.

f

arco

Cb.

f

28 (a2)

Fl.

Ob.

C.A.

Cl. (B \flat)

B. Cl.

Bsn.

Hn. 1.2. (F)

Hn. 3.4. (F)

Tpt. 1.2. (B \flat)

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Timp.

Hp.

Vl. 1

Vl. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

(a2)

p

mp

mp

p

mp

mp

mp

p

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

pp

div.

p

mp

pp

mp

pp

mp

pizz.

mp

Detailed description: This is a page from a musical score. The top half shows parts for Flute, Oboe, Clarinet (B-flat), Bassoon, Horn 1.2 (F), Horn 3.4 (F), Trumpet 1.2 (B-flat), Trombone 1, Trombone 2, Bass Trombone, Tuba, Timpani, Double Bass, and Cello. Measures 28 and 29 are shown. Measure 28 starts with a forte dynamic in the woodwind section, followed by a dynamic change to *p* for Oboe and *mp* for Clarinet/Bassoon. Measure 29 begins with a dynamic *p* for the brass section. The bottom half shows parts for Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, and Double Bass. Measures 28 and 29 show sustained notes and rhythmic patterns typical of string section writing. Dynamics like *pp*, *p*, *mp*, and *pizz.* are used throughout the piece.

37 **B**

Picc. - - - - *mf*
Fl. - - - - *mf*
Ob. - - - -
C.A. - - - -
Cl. (B♭) - - - -
B. Cl. *solo* *f* - - - - *mf* - - - -
Bsn. - - - -

Hn. 1.2. (F) - - - -
Hn. 3.4. (F) - - - -
Tpt. 1.2. (B♭) - - - -
Tbn. 1 - - - -
Tbn. 2 - - - -
B. Tbn. - - - -
Tuba *f* - - - - *mf* - - - -

Tim. *(sec)* *f* - - - - *mf* - - - -

B unis.
Vl. 1 *f* - - - -
Vl. 2 *f* - - - - *mf* - - - -
Vla. *f* - - - - *mf* - - - -
Vc. *f* - - - - *mf* - - - -
Cb. *arco* *f* - - - - *mf* - - - -

43

Picc.

Fl.

Ob.

C.A.

Cl. (B \flat) *1. solo* *f*

B. Cl. *mf*

Bsn.

Hn. 1.2. (F)

Hn. 3.4. (F)

Tpt. 1.2. (B \flat)

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Vl. 1

Vl. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

48

Picc.

Fl.

Ob. *p*

C.A.

Cl. (B \flat)

B. Cl.

Bsn. *p*

Hn. 1.2. (F) *p*

Hn. 3.4. (F) *p*

Tpt. 1.2. (B \flat)

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Timp.

Vi. 1 *mp*

Vi. 2 *p*

Vla. *p*

Vc. *p*

Cb.

mp *cresc.*

mp *cresc.*

f

mf

1. 3

mf

pizz.

mf *cresc.*

pizz.

mf *cresc.*

mf

cresc.

mf *cresc.*

53

Picc. *f*

Fl. *f*

Ob.

C.A. *p*

Cl. (B \flat) *f* *p*

B. Cl.

Bsn. *f*

Hn. 1.2. (F)

Hn. 3.4. (F)

Tpt. 1.2. (B \flat)

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Tuba *mf*

Timpani

C

Vl. 1 *f* *mf*

Vl. 2 *f* arco *p*

Vla. *f* arco *p*

Vc. *f* *p*

Cb. *f* *p*

58

Fl.

Ob.

C.A.

Cl. (B_b)

B. Cl.

Bsn.

Hn. 1.2. (F)

Hn. 3.4. (F)

Tpt. 1.2. (B_b)

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Timp.

Vi. 1

Vi. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

64

Fl.

Ob.

C.A.

Cl. (B_b)

B. Cl. solo *f* *mf* *p* *p*

Bsn.

Hn. 1.2. (F)

Hn. 3.4. (F)

Tpt. 1.2. (B_b)

Tbn. 1 *p* *pp*

Tbn. 2 *b**p* *pp*

B. Tbn. *p* *pp*

Tuba *pp*

Timp. *pp* ³

Vi. 1 *f* *mf* *mp* *p*

Vi. 2 *f* *mf* *mp* *p*

Vla. *f* *mf* *mp* *p*

Vc. *f* *mf* *mp* *p*

Cb. *f* *mf* *mp* *p*

71

Fl.

Ob.

C.A.

Cl. (B \flat)

B. Cl.

Bsn.

Hn. 1.2. (F)

Hn. 3.4. (F)

Tpt. 1.2. (B \flat)

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Timp.

Hp.

Vl. 1

Vl. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

G to B \flat
D to F \sharp

D, C, B \flat ,
E \flat , F, G, A \flat

78 **D**

Fl.

Ob.

C.A.

Cl. (B \flat)

B. Cl.

Bsn.

Hn. 1.2. (F)

Hn. 3.4. (F)

Tpt. 1.2. (B \flat)

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Timp.

Hp.

Vl. 1

Vl. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

solo *mp*

pp

pp

pp

pp

D

pp

arco

pp

arco

pp

pp

pp

85

Fl.

Ob.

C.A.

Cl. (B \flat)

B. Cl.

Bsn.

Hn. 1.2. (F)

Hn. 3.4. (F)

Tpt. 1.2. (B \flat)

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Timpani

Hp.

Vl. 1

Vl. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

92

E

Fl.

Ob.

C.A.

Cl. (B \flat)

Bsn.

Hn. 1.2. (F)

Hn. 3.4. (F)

Tpt. 1.2. (B \flat)

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Timp.

Hp.

VI. 1

VI. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

E

mf

f

f

f

99

Picc.

Fl.

Ob.

C.A.

Cl. (B \flat)

B. Cl.

Bsn.

Hn. 1.2. (F)

Hn. 3.4. (F)

Tpt. 1.2. (B \flat)

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Timp.

Vl. 1

Vl. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

mf

pp

p

f

p

p

pizz.

pp

pizz.

pp

106

Fl.

Ob.

C.A.

Cl. (B \flat)

B. Cl.

Bsn.

Hn. 1.2. (F)

Hn. 3.4. (F)

Tpt. 1.2. (B \flat)

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Timp.

S. D.

Vl. 1

Vl. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

p

1. solo

p

solo

p

pizz.

p

div.

p

p

113 F

Fl.

Ob.

C.A.

Cl. (B \flat) *pp*

B. Cl.

Bsn. *pp*

Hn. 1.2. (F)

Hn. 3.4. (F)

Tpt. 1.2. (B \flat) *f*

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Timpani

S. D. *f*

F

Vi. 1

Vi. 2

Vla. *pp*

Vc. *pp*

Cb. *pp*

f

arco

arco unis.

f

arco

Musical score page 120. The score includes parts for Flute, Oboe, Clarinet (B-flat), Bassoon, Horn 1.2 (F), Horn 3.4 (F), Bassoon 1.2 (B-flat), Trombone 1, Trombone 2, Bass Trombone, Tuba, Timpani, Snare Drum, Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, and Double Bass. The score shows various musical markings such as dynamics (p, mp), articulations, and performance instructions like "pizz." and "C to E♭". The instruments are arranged in staves across the page, with some instruments appearing in multiple staves (e.g., Horn 1.2 and Horn 3.4).

133

Picc.

Fl.

Ob.

C.A.

Cl. (B♭)

B. Cl.

Bsn.

Hn. 1.2. (F)

Hn. 3.4. (F)

Tpt. 1.2. (B♭)

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Timp.

S. D.

B. D.

Vi. 1

Vi. 2

Vla.

Vcl.

Cb.

E♭ to E♯

139

Picc.

Fl.

Ob. *p*

C.A.

Cl. (B \flat)

B. Cl.

Bsn. *p*

Hn. 1.2. (F) *p*

Hn. 3.4. (F) *p*

Tpt. 1.2. (B \flat)

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Timpani

Hp. *p*

Vi. 1 *mp*

Vi. 2 *p*

Vla. *p*

Vcl. *p*

Cb.

cresc.

mp

cresc.

mf

1. 3

3

pizz.

mf

cresc.

pizz.

mf

cresc.

pizz.

mf

cresc.

cresc.

mf

cresc.

144

149

Picc. -

Fl. -

Ob. -

C.A. -

Cl. (B♭) -

B. Cl. -

Bsn. -

Hn. 1.2. (F) -

Hn. 3.4. (F) -

Tpt. 1.2. (B♭) -

Tbn. 1 -

Tbn. 2 -

B. Tbn. -

Tuba -

Timp. -

Hp. -

VI. 1 -

VI. 2 -

Vla. -

Vc. -

Cb. -

(tacet al fine)

p

f

mf

B♭ *F♯* *B♯* *cresc.* *F♯* *B♭*

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

154

Fl.

Ob.

C.A.

Cl. (B \flat) *ff*

B. Cl. *f*

Bsn. *mf* dim. *p* *mp*³

Hn. 1.2. (F)

Hn. 3.4. (F)

Pt. 1.2. (B \flat)

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Timpani

Hp. *ff* D, C, B,
E, F \sharp , G, A

Vl. 1 *ff* *f* *mf* dim. *p*

Vl. 2 *ff* *f* *mf* dim. *mp* *p*

Vla. *ff* *f* *mf* dim. *mp* *p*

Vc. *ff* *f* *mf* *mp* *p*

Cb. *ff* *f* *mf* *mp* *p*

160 **I**

Fl.

Ob.

C.A.

Cl. (B_b)

B. Cl.

Bsn.

Hn. 1.2. (F)

Hn. 3.4. (F)

Tpt. 1.2. (B_b)

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Timp.

Hp.

Vl. 1

Vl. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

solo

mf cantabile

p

p

I

pp

pp

pp

pp

pp

167

Fl.

Ob.

C.A.

Cl. (B♭)

B. Cl.

Bsn.

Hn. 1.2. (F)

Hn. 3.4. (F)

Tpt. 1.2. (B♭)

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Timp.

Hp.

Vl. 1

Vl. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

181

Fl.

Ob.

C.A.

Cl. (B \flat)

B. Cl.

Bsn.

Hn. 1.2. (F)

Hn. 3.4. (F)

Tpt. 1.2. (B \flat)

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Timp.

Cym.

Hp.

Vl. 1

Vl. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

K

195

Fl.

Ob.

C.A.

Cl. (B \flat)

B. Cl.

Bsn.

Hn. 1.2. (F)

mf

Hn. 3.4. (F)

Tpt. 1.2. (B \flat)

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Timp.

Hp. *f*

K

unis.

VI. 1 *f*

VI. 2 *f*

Vla. *f*

arco

Vc. *f*

arco

Cb. *f*

202

Fl.

Ob.

C.A.

Cl. (B_b)

B. Cl.

Bsn.

Hn. 1.2. (F)

Hn. 3.4. (F)

Tpt. 1.2. (B_b)

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Tuba

Timpani

Hp.

Vi. 1

Vi. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

p

dim.

pp

pizz.

dim.

arco

ppp

dim.

pp

dim.

pp