

Ocean:

An Improvised Song Cycle

Composed by whoever is performing.

Lyrics by whoever wrote the texts used.

Suggestions by Jonathan Hannau and Thomas Alaan

This score for Ocean: An Improvised Song Cycle is a suggestion of how one might improvise a performance about the ocean. It is also a record of our performance at the inaugural concert of the EcoVoice Festival at the University of Illinois Chicago on the evening of July 8, 2022.

Performers should feel free to do as they please. The number of movements and performers might change, the instrumentation swapped out, or any number of alterations. Performers could even take the opportunity to perform a cycle about the sun, a climate activist, or composting. The options are infinite. Performers have our permission to do as they please. We only ask that the performance be meaningful to them and their audience.

- Jonathan Hannau and Thomas Alaan (2022)

Suggested Performance Method

Movement I

At the time of performance, find a recent news article or scientific writing about “ocean.” Read the title and a few paragraphs aloud so everyone can hear and get a sense of what the article is about. Use that as inspiration for the first movement.

Movement II

Select a photograph related to the ocean. After looking at the photo and talking through what you see, use that as inspiration for this second movement.

Note: For our performance on July 8, 2022, we asked our audience ahead of time to select their favorite of four photos we supplied.

Movement III

Select a poem, essay, or other literary work. Read the text or an excerpt aloud so everyone can hear. Use that as inspiration for the first movement.

Note: For our performance on July 8, 2022, we asked our audience ahead of time to select their favorite of three texts we supplied.

Ocean


An Improvised Song Cycle

Lyrics by whoever wrote the texts used.

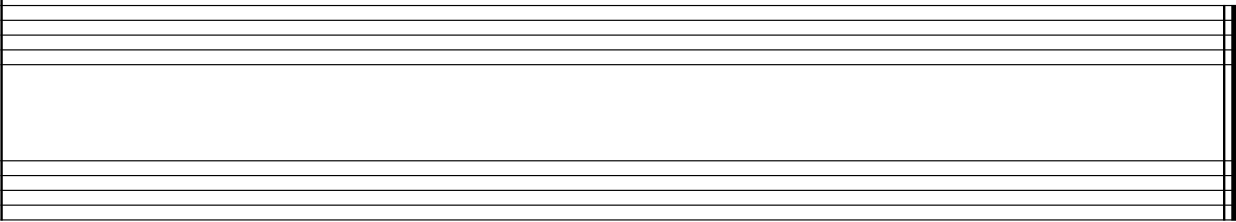
Composed by whoever is performing.
Suggestions by Jonathan Hannau and Thomas Aláan

Movement I

Voice



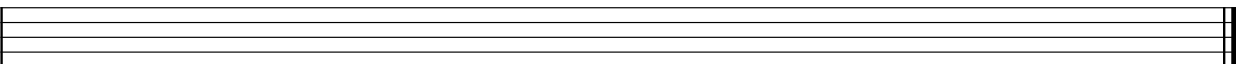
Piano



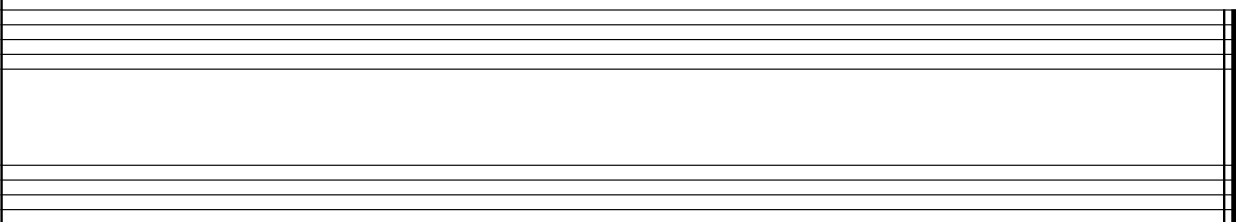
Movement I consists of a single system of music. It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is represented by a single five-line staff. The piano accompaniment is represented by two five-line staves, with a brace on the left side grouping them together. Both the vocal and piano staves are currently empty, indicating that the music is to be improvised.

Movement II

Voice



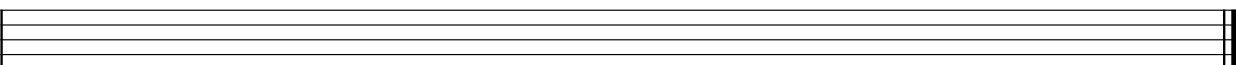
Piano



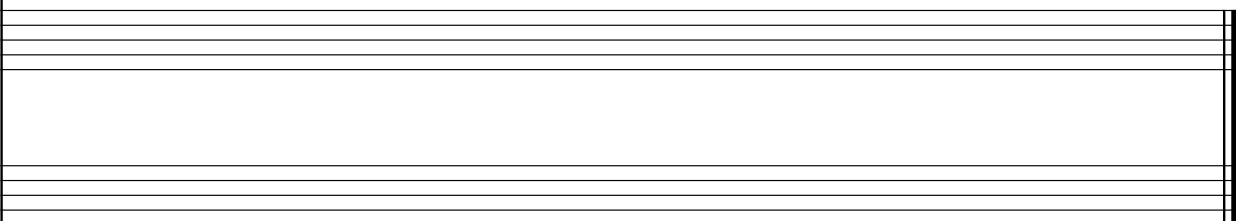
Movement II consists of a single system of music. It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is represented by a single five-line staff. The piano accompaniment is represented by two five-line staves, with a brace on the left side grouping them together. Both the vocal and piano staves are currently empty, indicating that the music is to be improvised.

Movement III

Voice



Piano



Movement III consists of a single system of music. It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is represented by a single five-line staff. The piano accompaniment is represented by two five-line staves, with a brace on the left side grouping them together. Both the vocal and piano staves are currently empty, indicating that the music is to be improvised.