

Adam Walters

Prayer

for Trombone, Steelpans (Tenor and Double Seconds (one player)),
Loop Machine and Backing Track

Prayer

Instrumentation

Trombone
Tenor Steelpan and Double Seconds Steelpan (one player)

Duration: 7.5 minutes

Performance Note

The two performers should stand on stage with enough distance between them to give a clear impression of there being two separate live sound sources from the front of the auditorium.

A click track is required for both performers.

The backing track should be played through a minimum of four speakers placed to surround the audience. The intended effect is an immersive sonic experience for the listener.

Instructions for starting and stopping the loop machine are given in both the trombone and steelpan parts as the machine can be operated by either player.

Information for Audiences

The following imagined scenario may be read out before a performance or printed in the programme:

A protagonist sits on a forest hillside in Port of Spain early in the morning of Carnival Monday. As birdsong is heard, rhythmic patterns on steelpan suggest fragments of sound floating up the hill from steel orchestras playing downtown. The trombone evokes a chorale and synthesised sounds start to rise out of the texture, suggestive of a prayer being offered up.

Note on the Score and Backing Track

The score indicates the music as heard from live performers, loop machine and backing track. All synthesiser parts in the backing track are taken from Apple's Logic Pro library and their names are given at the beginning of the score.

Birdsong is a defining feature of the soundscape of Trinidad and Tobago. The recording of the dawn chorus in the backing track was made by Aidan Chamberlain in St Ann's, Trinidad on 10th September 2016.

Prayer

Adam Walters

Always understated, as if from behind a veil ♩=56

The musical score is arranged in a system of staves. The top two staves are for Steelpan (Loop 1 and Loop 2), both in treble clef with a key signature of two flats and a 7/4 time signature. The next two staves are for Steel Drums (player's part) and Trombone (player's part), both in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. The Steel Drums part includes a 'Birdsong' box in the first bar. The Trombone part includes a 'Birdsong' box in the first bar and a 'TROMBONE overdub on 4-bar loop 1' instruction starting in the fifth bar, with a *pp* dynamic marking. Below these are three Trombone Loop staves (Loop 1, Loop 2, Loop 3), with Loop 1 also featuring a 'TROMBONE overdub on 4-bar loop 1' instruction and a *pp* dynamic marking. The bottom section consists of five Synth staves: Synth 1 ('Silver Pad'), Synth 2 ('New Romantic'), Synth 3 ('HPF Polysynth'), Synth 4 ('Electric Slumber'), and Synth 5 ('Sub Bass'). Synth 4 includes a *pp* dynamic marking and a melodic line starting in the fifth bar. The tempo instruction 'Always understated, as if from behind a veil ♩=56' is repeated at the bottom of the score.

9

Pan Loop 1 *pp*

PAN overdub on 8-bar loop 1

Live Pan *pp*

PAN overdub on 8-bar loop 1

Live Tbn.

Tbn. Loop 1

Synth 4



13

Pan Loop 1

TROMBONE 4-bar loop 2

Live Pan

TROMBONE 4-bar loop 2

Live Tbn. *pp*

Tbn. Loop 1

Tbn. Loop 2 *pp*

Synth 4

17

Pan Loop 1

Pan Loop 2

p

PAN
8-bar loop 2

Live Pan

sempre p

PAN
8-bar loop 2

Live Tbn.

Tbn. Loop 1

Tbn. Loop 2

Synth 4



19

Pan Loop 1

Pan Loop 2

Live Pan

Tbn. Loop 1

Tbn. Loop 2

Synth 4

21

Pan Loop 1



Musical staff for Pan Loop 1, featuring a sequence of eighth notes in a B-flat major key signature.

Pan Loop 2



Musical staff for Pan Loop 2, featuring a complex rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes.

TROMBONE
4-bar loop 3


Live Pan



Musical staff for Live Pan, featuring a complex rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes.

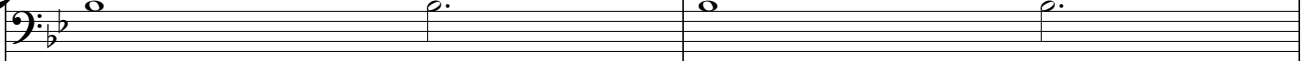
TROMBONE
4-bar loop 3

Live Tbn.




Musical staff for Live Tbn. in bass clef, featuring a long note with a slur and a *pp* dynamic marking.

Tbn. Loop 1



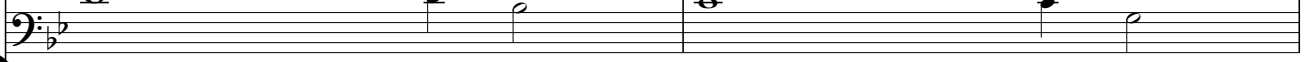
Musical staff for Tbn. Loop 1, featuring a long note with a slur.

Tbn. Loop 2



Musical staff for Tbn. Loop 2, featuring a long note with a slur.

Tbn. Loop 3



Musical staff for Tbn. Loop 3, featuring a long note with a slur.

Synth 4



Musical staff for Synth 4, featuring a sustained chord with a slur.

23

Pan Loop 1

Pan Loop 2

Live Pan

Live Tbn.

Tbn. Loop 1

Tbn. Loop 2

Tbn. Loop 3

Synth 4

Turn off TROMBONE and PAN overdubs at end of bar 24

Turn off TROMBONE and PAN overdubs at end of bar 24

This musical score page contains seven staves. The top two staves, 'Pan Loop 1' and 'Pan Loop 2', are in treble clef with a key signature of two flats. 'Pan Loop 1' contains a simple melodic line with quarter notes and rests. 'Pan Loop 2' contains a dense, rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The third staff, 'Live Pan', is also in treble clef and contains a complex rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The fourth staff, 'Live Tbn.', is in bass clef and contains a melodic line with a slur over two measures. The fifth staff, 'Tbn. Loop 1', is in bass clef and contains a single note with a slur. The sixth staff, 'Tbn. Loop 2', is in bass clef and contains a single note with a slur. The seventh staff, 'Tbn. Loop 3', is in bass clef and contains a single note with a slur. The eighth staff, 'Synth 4', is in treble clef and contains a sustained chord. Two text annotations are placed between the 'Live Pan' and 'Live Tbn.' staves, indicating that the Trombone and Pan overdubs should be turned off at the end of bar 24.

25

Pan Loop 1

Pan Loop 2

Live Pan

Live Tbn.

mp legato

Tbn. Loop 1

Tbn. Loop 2

Tbn. Loop 3

Synth 4

Synth 5

pp

27

Pan Loop 1

Pan Loop 2

Live Tbn.

Tbn. Loop 1

Tbn. Loop 2

Tbn. Loop 3

Synth 4

Synth 5

29

Pan Loop 1

Pan Loop 2

Live Pan

mf legato

Tbn. Loop 1

Tbn. Loop 2

Tbn. Loop 3

Synth 4

Synth 5



31

Pan Loop 1

Pan Loop 2

Live Pan

Tbn. Loop 1

Tbn. Loop 2

Tbn. Loop 3

Synth 4

Synth 5

p

33

Pan Loop 1
very gradual cresc.

Pan Loop 2
very gradual cresc.

Live Pan
mp very gradual cresc.

Live Tbn.
open
mp very gradual cresc.

Tbn. Loop 1
very gradual cresc.

Tbn. Loop 2
very gradual cresc.

Tbn. Loop 3
very gradual cresc.

Synth 4
very gradual cresc.

Synth 5
very gradual cresc.

The musical score is arranged in a vertical stack of staves. The top two staves are for Pan instruments (Loop 1 and Loop 2), both in treble clef with a key signature of two flats. The next three staves are for Tuba instruments (Live Pan, Live Tbn., and three loops), all in bass clef with a key signature of two flats. The bottom two staves are for Synthesizers (Synth 4 and Synth 5), both in treble clef with a key signature of two flats. The score is divided into two measures by a vertical bar line. The first measure contains the initial notes and dynamics for each part. The second measure continues the progression, with some parts (Live Pan, Live Tbn., and Synth 4) showing sustained notes or chords. The overall dynamic is marked as 'very gradual cresc.' for most parts, and 'mp very gradual cresc.' for the Live Pan part.

35

Pan Loop 1

Pan Loop 2

Live Pan

Live Tbn.

Tbn. Loop 1

Tbn. Loop 2

Tbn. Loop 3

Synth 2

Synth 3

Synth 4

Synth 5

mp gradual cresc.

37

Pan Loop 1

Pan Loop 2

Live Pan

Live Tbn.

Tbn. Loop 1

Tbn. Loop 2

Tbn. Loop 3

Synth 1

Synth 2

Synth 3

Synth 4

Synth 5

mp gradual cresc.

38

Pan Loop 1

Pan Loop 2

Live Pan

Live Tbn.

Tbn. Loop 1

Tbn. Loop 2

Tbn. Loop 3

Synth 1

Synth 2

Synth 3

Synth 4

Synth 5

39

Pan Loop 1

Pan Loop 2

Live Pan

Live Tbn.

Tbn. Loop 1

Tbn. Loop 2

Tbn. Loop 3

Synth 1

Synth 2

Synth 3

Synth 4

Synth 5

41

Pan Loop 1

Pan Loop 2

Live Pan

Live Tbn.

Tbn. Loop 1

Tbn. Loop 2

Tbn. Loop 3

Synth 1

Synth 3

Synth 4

Synth 5

f sost.

f

f

f

f

f

f

f

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for measures 41 and 42. It features ten staves. The top two staves are Pan Loop 1 and Pan Loop 2, both in treble clef. The next two are Live Pan and Live Tbn., both in treble clef. The following three are Tbn. Loop 1, Tbn. Loop 2, and Tbn. Loop 3, all in bass clef. The bottom three are Synth 1 (treble clef), Synth 3 (treble clef), and Synth 5 (bass clef). Synth 4 is in treble clef but contains sustained chords. Dynamics are marked as *f* or *f sost.* throughout.

43

Pan Loop 1

Pan Loop 2

Live Pan

Live Tbn.

Tbn. Loop 1

Tbn. Loop 2

Tbn. Loop 3

Synth 1

Synth 4

Synth 5

Turn off trombone loops at end of bar 44

Turn off trombone loops at end of bar 44

Detailed description: This page of a musical score covers measures 43 and 44. It features nine staves. The top two staves, Pan Loop 1 and Pan Loop 2, are in treble clef with a key signature of two flats. Pan Loop 1 contains a simple melodic line with quarter notes and rests. Pan Loop 2 features a more complex, rhythmic pattern with sixteenth notes and eighth notes. The Live Pan staff is in treble clef and contains a series of chords, mostly triads and dyads, with some notes beamed together. The Live Tbn. staff is in bass clef and contains a simple melodic line with quarter notes. The three Trombone Loop staves (Loop 1, Loop 2, Loop 3) are in bass clef and each contains a single note held for the duration of the measure, with a slur over the note. The Synth 1 staff is in treble clef and contains a simple melodic line with quarter notes. The Synth 4 staff is in treble clef and contains a sustained chord with a slur over it. The Synth 5 staff is in bass clef and contains a simple melodic line with quarter notes. Annotations 'Turn off trombone loops at end of bar 44' are placed to the right of the Live Pan and Live Tbn. staves.

45

Pan Loop 1

Pan Loop 2

Live Pan

Live Tbn.

Synth 1

Synth 4

Synth 5

mp

p

mp



47

Pan Loop 1

Pan Loop 2

Live Pan

Live Tbn.

Synth 4

Synth 5

Turn off pan loops at end of bar 48

più p

p

Turn off pan loops at end of bar 48

più p

Turn off pan loops at end of bar 48

p

49

Live Pan

Live Tbn.

Tbn. Loop 1

Synth 4



53

Live Pan

Live Tbn.

Synth 4

più p *pp* **Birdsong**

pp *più p* *pp* *a niente* **Birdsong**

pp *a niente*