

The Water Cycle

Chris Hutchings

Notes

£2/copy, £25 for PDF

Choir parts: at some points the choir divides into three sections. If the altos divide in two, the second alto part is optional: if the sopranos divide in two, the second soprano part is optional.

At the end, four sections would be preferable if possible, but if necessary the second parts could be omitted. If three sections are possible but not four, please retain the second soprano rather than the second alto, and at least a few singers should sing the second soprano "evaporation" at the end (moving from the first soprano part if necessary).

Metallophone/glockenspiel: in some sections, this is marked 8va. These sections could be played by a diatonic glockenspiel if one is available (if so, ignore the 8va for these sections: it may still sound an octave higher than on a metallophone, but that's okay). The metallophone will need to be chromatic, and is notated at sounding pitch. If a chromatic glockenspiel is used throughout, play an octave lower than written where possible.

Xylophone/marimba: two instruments are required. All parts are written at sounding pitch; if you are using standard xylophones, you may need to transpose down by an octave. Xylophone parts are almost entirely on white notes, but will require a Bb for the opening passage and a B natural towards the end, so a change of bars may be required if using diatonic xylophones.

The Water Cycle - Julia Laylander (used with full permission)

precipitation

Once I was a raindrop falling from the sky:
I trickled down a stream into a river rushing by.
The river full of raindrops washed me out to sea,
The currents took me round the world, then sunshine set me free:

It's called *evaporation*, and now I'm in a cloud,
A vapor soaring higher, and feeling very proud,
I'm floating in the troposphere, a lovely place to be:
If you were up this high as well, just think what you could see!

condensation: freezing

But oh! it's very cold up here, my molecules are freezing,
And soon I'll be a snowflake, and maybe I'll start sneezing!
But now I see a mountaintop: I think I'll float on down
And join the other snowflakes in their sparkly frozen town.

When it's springtime and I'm *melting*, and all my friends are, too,
We'll be flowing down the mountainside, in rivers old and new,
Heading for the ocean, but we'll stop along the way,
So all can have enough to drink, each and every day.

My name is always water, you can call me H₂O:
I'm liquid, solid, vapor too, I'm flexible you know!
It's called the water cycle, all these changes I go through.
I do like being water, wouldn't you, wouldn't you?
I do like being water, wouldn't you?

The Water Cycle

The premiere of this piece will be given by Jack Senzig and AppleChor in May 2013 - no other performances may take place until after this. If you wish to order copies for other choirs, please contact the composer directly (chris@hutchingsmusic.co.uk).

Chris Hutchings (music)
Julia Laylander (lyrics)

Repeat tuned percussion notes in boxes for as long as arrow lasts. Each entry should have slightly faster repetitions than the previous one. Durations in seconds are only approximate.

Peaceful (♩ = c. 100)

Metallophone or glockenspiel (written at pitch)

Xylophone or marimba (written at pitch)

Xylophone or marimba (written at pitch)

Piano

(play only in absence of percussion: slowly increase speed of repeated notes)

Sample copy only - not for performance

36" 39" 42" 44" 46" 48" 55"

Met.

Xyl.

Xyl.

Pno.

cresc. poco a poco

cresc. poco a poco

cresc. poco a poco

all increase speed: stop at piano entry

all increase speed: stop at piano entry

all increase speed: stop at piano entry

f

f

f

f

Red

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A *8va*-----, *8va*-----,

Met. *p*

Xyl. *p*

Xyl. *p*

Change B \flat to B \natural if necessary

Change B \flat to B \natural if necessary

A Optional solo *p*

S Pre - ci - pi - ta - tion, pre - ci - pi - ta - tion, pre-ci-pi-ta-tion.

A Optional solo *p*

A Pre - ci - pi - ta - tion, pre-ci-pi - ta - tion, pre-ci-pi - ta - tion.

A

Pno. *p* *cresc.*

Red.

repeat for about 10 seconds, increasing speed to as fast as possible and finishing with a very fast descending arpeggio

7 *accel.* *a tempo*

Pno. *f*

Red.

B
Tutti *mf*

S
Once I was a rain-drop fal-ling from the sky. I trick-led down a hill in-to a ri-ver ru-shing by. The

A
Once I was a rain-drop fal-ling from the sky. I trick-led down a hill in-to a ri-ver rush-ing by. The

B
Pno. *mf*

Pedal ad lib.

16 *accel.* *rit.*

S
ri-ver full of raindrops washed me out to sea, The cur-rents took me round the world, then sun-shine set me free.

A
ri-ver full of raindrops washed me out to sea, The cur-rents took me round the world, then sun-shine set me free.

16 *accel.* *rit.*

Pno.

The Water Cycle

a tempo

20

Xyl. *p*

Xyl. *p*

S *mp* *a tempo* *p*
It's called e - va - po - ra - tion, e - va - po - ra - tion,

A *mp* *a tempo* *p*
It's called e - va - po - ra - tion, e - va - po - ra - tion,

Pno. *mp* *a tempo* *p*

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for 'The Water Cycle', page 5. It features four staves: two for Xylophone (Xyl.), one for Soprano (S), one for Alto (A), and one for Piano (Pno.). The score begins at measure 20. The Xyl. parts play a rhythmic pattern of quarter notes in 3/4 time, marked *p*. The vocal parts (S and A) sing the lyrics 'It's called e - va - po - ra - tion, e - va - po - ra - tion,' with triplets and a 4-measure phrase. The Piano accompaniment features chords and triplets, marked *mp* and *a tempo*. The key signature has one flat, and the time signature changes from 3/4 to 4/4 at the end of the page.

24 *8va-* **Slow and graceful** (♩ = 50) C move to chromatic metallophone

Met. *p*

S *p* **Slow and graceful** (♩ = 50) C

e - va - po - ra - tion, and now I'm in a cloud, a

A *p*

and now I'm in a

Pno. *pp* **Slow and graceful** (♩ = 50) C

Leg.

28 *piu accel.* **Dance-like** (♩ = c. 70) *mp*

S va-por soa-ring high-er, and fee-ling ve - ry proud. I'm floa-ting in the tro-po-sphere, a

A cloud, a va-por soa-ring high-er, and fee-ling proud, floa-ting in the tro-po-sphere, a

Pno. *piu accel.* **Dance-like** (♩ = c. 70) *mp*

Leg.

31

S
love-ly place to be. *Optional solo* *p* If you were up this high as well, just think what you could see! *Tutti*

A
love-ly place to be, *Optional solo* *p* If you were up this high as well, just think what you could see! *Tutti*

Pno.

31

p

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for 'The Water Cycle', page 7. It features three staves: Soprano (S), Alto (A), and Piano (Pno.). The Soprano and Alto parts have lyrics: 'love-ly place to be. If you were up this high as well, just think what you could see!'. The Piano part provides accompaniment. Performance markings include 'Optional solo' and 'p' (piano) for both vocal parts, and 'Tutti' for the end of the section. A measure number '31' is indicated at the start of each staff. The key signature has one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 6/8.

D

(♩=♩) (♩. = c. 40) *piu accel.* (♩=♩)

Met. *p cresc.* *mf dim.*

Xyl. *p cresc.* *mf dim.*

35 Xyl. *p cresc.* *mf dim.*

D

(♩=♩) (♩. = c. 40) *cresc.* *piu accel.* *mf* (♩=♩)

S Con-den - sa - tion, con-den - sa - tion, con-den - sa - tion. *mf*

A *mp cresc.* Free - zing, free - zing, (ng)

D

(♩=♩) (♩. = c. 40) *piu accel.* (♩=♩)

Pno. *mf*

E Wintry (♩ = c. 70)

39 Met. *pp*

39 Xyl. *pp*

39 Xyl. *pp*

E Wintry (♩ = c. 70)

39 S *mp*
But oh! it's ve - ry cold up here, ——— My

39 A *mp*
But oh, it's ve - ry cold up here, ——— My

E Wintry (♩ = c. 70)

39 Pno. *p* *mf* *p*

42

Met. 

Xyl.  if Ab is unavailable, play E instead

Xyl.  if Ab is unavailable, play E instead

S  *cresc. poco a poco*
 mo - le - cules are free-zing, And soon I'll be a snow-flake, and

A  *cresc. poco a poco*
 mo - le - cules are free-zing, And soon I'll be a snow-flake, and

Pno.  *mf* *p* *cresc. poco a poco*

Musical score for 'The Water Cycle' starting at measure 44. The score includes parts for Metallophone (Met.), Xylophone (Xyl.), Soprano (S.), Alto (A.), and Piano (Pno.).


Met. and **Xyl.** parts consist of rhythmic patterns with dynamic markings of *p* (piano).

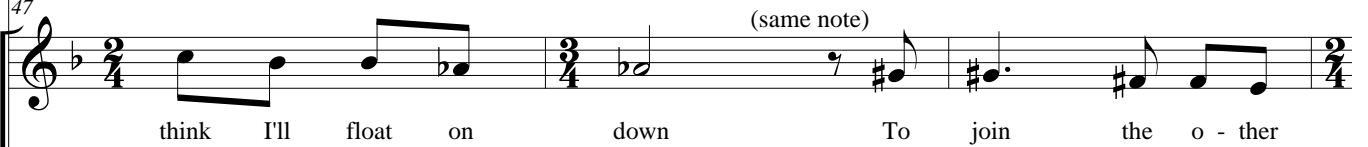
S. and **A.** parts have the following lyrics: "may-be I'll start snee-zing! But now I see a moun-tain-top, I". The Soprano part includes dynamic markings of *mp* (mezzo-piano).


Pno. part includes dynamic markings of *mp*, *f* (forte), and *mp*. It features a piano introduction with a *rit.* (ritardando) marking and a *sva-* (sustained) marking over a long note in the first system.


The score is divided into four measures, with time signatures of 3/4 and 2/4.

47

Met. 

S 

A 

Pno. 

50

Met. 

S 

A 

Pno. 

55

Pno.

mp

59

S

p

When it's spring-time and I'm mel-ting, and all my friends are, too, We'll be

A

p

When it's spring-time and I'm mel-ting, and all my friends are, too,

59

Pno.

p

63 *mp*

S flo - wing down the moun - tain - side, in ri - vers old and new,

A We'll be flo - wing down the moun - tain side, in ri - vers old and new.

63 *cresc.* *mp*

Pno.

66 *rit.*

S Hea - ding for the o - cean, but we'll stop a - long the way So all can have e - nough to drink,

A Hea - ding for the o - cean, but we'll stop a - long the way, So all can have e - nough to drink,

66 *rit.*

Pno.

G

Tempo I (♩ = c. 100)

Met.

Xyl.

Xyl.⁶⁹

G

mf Tempo I (♩ = c. 100)

S

A

each and e - v'ry day. My name is al - ways wa - ter, you can call me H - 2 - O. I'm

each and e - v'ry day. My name is al - ways wa - ter, you can call me H - 2 - O. I'm

G

Tempo I (♩ = c. 100)

Pno.

mf

72

S
li - quid, so - lid, va - por too, I'm fle - xi - ble you know! It's called the wa - ter cy - cle, all these

A
li - quid, so - lid, va - por too, I'm fle - xi - ble you know! It's called the wa - ter cy - cle, all these

Pno.

75 *mp cresc.*

S
chan - ges I go through, I do like be - ing wa - ter, would - n't you, would - n't you? I

A
chan - ges I go through, *mp cresc.* I do like be - ing wa - ter, would - n't you? I

Pno. *cresc.*

The Water Cycle

H A little slower (♩ = c. 80) *mp* but not in strict time

mf do like be - ing wa - ter, would - n't you?

mf do like be - ing wa - ter, would - n't you?

H A little slower (♩ = c. 80) but not in strict time

mp let ring

0" 5" 10" 25" 35"

80 *p* *8va* to silence

Xyl. to silence

Xyl. to silence

S *p* Pre - ci - pi - ta - tion E - va - po - ra - tion to silence

A Con - den - sa - tion Free - zing *pp* *f* *ppp* Small group with rainsticks to silence

Pno. *p* to silence

Start with group 1 (glockenspiel/metallophone and first soprano). Keep repeating, and a few seconds later, add group 2 (xylophones and altos); keep repeating and a few seconds later, group 3 (piano and second soprano). After 20-30 seconds, fade the three groups out as the rainsticks fade in over about 10 seconds, then fade out the rainsticks.