



SHINING COLD

pour Ondes Martenot, Soprano, Alto et Violoncelle

— 1986 —

Ailsa DIXON
(1932-2017)

Partition

NOTES ON THIS EDITION

This new typeset edition is based on the composer's manuscript score, and on a copy used for the first performance. If you wish to see these sources, do contact Josie Dixon, the composer's daughter, for further information.

From Cynthia Millar's (the Ondes player for the first performance) markings and our own understanding of the piece, we added some suggestions for the interpretation, specific to the Ondes Martenot. These are written in [...]. Of course, those are only suggestions, as the choices will depend on the venue, the individual instrument, and the taste of the players. The composer did not write any specific words or sounds for the soprano part, so it is entirely up to the singer and the ensemble to decide.

Find out more about Ailsa Dixon
www.ailsadixon.co.uk



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"Shining Cold" for Ondes, Soprano, Viola & Cello.

" I gazed upon a cold white valley,
And sent a question out into its silence.
Wind stirred, then gusts revealed a body lying under
snow. As I looked at it, strange sounds came from
another world. The wind rocked my question.
The face smiled up, sun shone in it. Then gusts
of snow covered it up again. My question
lies now on the landscape, half an answer. "

N.B. It's an important point that in old languages
such as Greek and Hebrew, the same word can
be used for (1) breath (2) wind (3) spirit. This piece
is about all three, with the Ondes & Voice
standing mainly for the questioning spirit, and the
strings mainly for the wind. The Soprano, being
the mortal manifestation of the spirit, has to
breathe(!), and all the other players must allow
the music to breathe with her so that the
drawing together of these three words is undisturbed.

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$\text{♩} = c 44$
↗ [D¹²³, C g³]
[Bague]

Ondes Martenot
Soprano
Alto
Violoncelle

mp
mp
mp
mp

6

poco cresc. *mf* *dim.*
mf *dim.*
poco cresc. *mf* *p*
poco cresc. *mf* *p*

12

mf *mf*
mp *mp*

2 [percuté]
bell-like

15

mp

mf
mf

18 bell-like

mf
mf

p
p
p
p

22

urgent

a little softer

urgent

tremolando

mf

p
p
p

mf