

The whale

Deep in the green glides a great creature
Out of the grey rolls a long shoulder
Up from the blue blows a spout of water
Into the green slides a mighty mover

The whale dives
The whale glides
And the whale sings

Sheena Phillips

Whalesong Overture

Sheena Phillips

The suite starts with an other-worldly aleatoric improvisation of whalesong sounds (based on real humpback whale recordings). Each singer takes one of the numbered lines below, both coming in and repeating the line in their own time, for roughly 20 seconds, or as long as desired, until the conductor cues the 4/4 crescendo into No. 1 The Whale.

1. *p*
ooh_____ ooh_____ etc

2. *p* Gliss.
nnngg_____ nnngg_____ etc

3. *p*
mm_____ mm_____ (hummed) etc

4. *p* Gliss.
ooh_____ ooh_____ etc

5. *p* Glissando
aw_____ aw_____ (nasal) etc

Throughout these whalesong improvisations, the keyboard plays a quiet tremolo drone, with a sudden crescendo (when the conductor decides it is time to move on) over four beats to the start of No. 1 *The Whale*.

p = 84 attacca No. 1 *The Whale*

The Whale

words and music by Sheena Phillips

$\bullet = 84$ majestically

piano / steel drums

mf

7 *mf*

S1
Deep in the green glides a great crea - ture

S2
Deep in the green glides a great crea - ture

A1
Deep in the green glides a great crea - ture

A2
Deep in the green glides a great crea - ture

the whale 2

12

S1
S2
A1
A2

Out of the grey rolls a

12 3/4 2/4 4/4 3/4 2/4

18

S1
S2
A1
A2

long shoul - der

18 2/4 4/4 3/4 2/4 4/4

the whale 3

23

S1
Up from the blue blows a spout of wa - ter

S2
Up from the blue blows a spout of wa - ter

A1
Up from the blue blows a spout of wa - ter

A2
Up from the blue blows a spout of wa - ter

28

S1
mf
In - to the green slides a

S2
mf
In - to the green slides a

A1
mf
In - to the green slides a

A2
mf
In - to the green slides a

the whale 4

34

S1
might - y mov - er

S2
might - y mov - er

A1
might - y mov - er

A2
might - y mov - er



39

S1
mf
oh and deep in the green

S2
mf
Deep in the green glides a great

A1
mf
oh and deep in the green

A2
mf
Deep in the green glides a great

39

mp



the whale 5

43

S1
glides a crea - ture

S2
crea - ture Out of the

A1
glides a crea - ture

A2
crea - ture Out of the

48

S1
oh and out of the grey

S2
grey rolls a long shoul - der

A1
oh and out of the grey

A2
grey rolls a long shoul - der

48

the whale 6

52

S1 rolls a shoul - der oh and

S2 Up from the blue

A1 rolls a shoul - der oh and

A2 Up from the blue

52

57

S1 up from the blue blows some wa - ter

S2 blows a spout of wa - ter

A1 up from the blue blows some wa - ter

A2 blows a spout of wa - ter

57

the whale 7

62

S1
oh and in - to the green

S2
In - to the green slides a might - y

A1
oh and in - to the green

A2
In - to the green slides a might - y

62

mp

67

S1
slides a might - y mov - er the whale

S2
mov - er The whale

A1
slides a might - y mov - er

A2
mov - er

67

(start gliss. on beat 4)

(start gliss. on beat 4)

the whale 8

72

S1
dives the whale glides

S2
dives The whale glides

A1
oh the whale dives and the

A2
oh the whale dives and the

72

77

S1
the whale sings

S2
And the whale sings

A1
whale glides and the whale

A2
whale glides and the whale

77

the whale 9

82

S1
and sings _____ sings _____

S2
and sings _____ sings _____

A1
sings _____ and _____ sings _____

A2
sings _____ and _____ sings _____

82

87

S1

S2

A1

A2

optional:
add vocal whale sounds
as at the start

87

87

rit.

mf

87