

Going to the Sun

Snapshots from Glacier National Park



For Oboe and Bassoon

Music by
Jenni Brandon

Jenni Brandon Music



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Going to the Sun for oboe and bassoon explores the beauty of Glacier National Park in Montana. When Jennifer Gookin Cavanaugh approached me about writing a work, she told me how much she has always loved visiting the park and that it had been a family tradition for many years. Both Jennifer and Elizabeth Ball Crawford, who premiered this work, taught at the University of Montana at the time of writing this work. I thought it fitting to write a work that highlighted the performers' close connection to the area in which they lived.

As I began to spend time with hiking books, topographical maps, and pictures taken by many visitors to the park over the years, I knew that a work about a journey through this park would be a great way to share not only Jennifer's memories, but also the many travelers on the Going to the Sun Road. Those fifty miles across the park bring the visitor in contact with lakes, weeping walls, animals, meadows, the Continental Divide, and the power of the glacier that now moves closer and closer to extinction due to climate change.

The work is in one movement; however, it is broken into several sections. I liked the idea of telling these stories like looking back at snapshots you might take on your vacation to remind you of these natural and manmade wonders:

Early morning on the Road
Fifty miles begin...
Sunrise on Lake McDonald
Driving the Loop
The Weeping Wall
Stepping onto Jackson Glacier Overlook
Jackson Glacier
Sunset at the end of The Road

The oboe and bassoon are great story-telling instruments, lending their voices and character to each of these sections, painting the landscape with texture, range, and song. And while the vastness and beauty of this park is too big to capture in any work of music, it is my hope that the listener can travel this road with us through this natural wonder and remember the importance of supporting our National Parks.

This work was commissioned by Jennifer Gookin Cavanaugh with the support of a grant from the Provost's Office at the University of Montana and Elizabeth Ball Crawford with the support from the Great Falls Symphony Orchestra. They premiered the work during the International Double Reed Society Conference in Columbus, Georgia in June 2016.

Additional Co-Commissioners include:

Laura Medisky

Nermis Mieses - Bowling Green State University

Susan Nelson - Bowling Green State University,
Bassoon Chamber Music Composition
Competition Chair.

Jenni Brandon (b. 1977) is an award-winning composer. Many ensembles perform her commissioned music both nationally and internationally. She enjoys engaging with performers and audiences, often giving talks about the business of music and the art of collaboration. As a conductor, she has led both church and community choirs and she makes guest appearances to conduct her works. She is also active as a mezzo-soprano.

Recordings of her works appear on the Delos, Albany, Centaur, MSR Classics, and Longhorn labels. Her CD, *Songs of California: Music for Winds and Piano*, was nominated for the 10th Independent Music Awards. Jenni is the recipient of numerous other awards including the Sorel Medallion, the American Prize for Choral Composition, the Women Composers Festival of Hartford International Composition Competition, and the Bassoon Chamber Music Composition Competition. She is published by Boosey & Hawkes, Santa Barbara Music Publishing, Imagine Music, Graphite, TrevCo, and Jenni Brandon Music.

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Going to the Sun Mountain, 1932.
Going to the Sun Road gets its name from this mountain – construction of the road pictured here not long before the road was dedicated in 1933.

Lake McDonald – carved out by glaciers, it is the largest lake in the park



Weeping Wall – a man-made phenomenon made from carving out the Going to the Sun Road. In early spring water rushes and flow out the side of this wall and onto the road below.

Going to the Sun: Snapshots from Glacier National Park

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Early morning on The Road

$\text{♩} = 136$

Ob. *mp*

Bsn. *mp*

Ob. *mf*

Bsn. *mf*

Ob. *mp*

Bsn. *p*

Ob. *mf*

Bsn. *mf*

Ob. *f*

Bsn. *f*

rit.

decresc.

p

33 **B** a tempo

Ob.

Bsn.

38 poco a poco accel. molto rit.

f

f 3

Ob.

Bsn.

C Fifty miles begin...

$\text{♩} = 144$

43

Ob.

Bsn.

48 smooth; flowing forward

mf

Ob.

Bsn.

52

mp

mf

Ob.

Bsn.

56 slight rit. a tempo

f

f

Ob.

Bsn.

59 **D**

Ob. *mf* *rall.* *p* *a tempo with forward motion*
poco a poco cresc.

Bsn. *mf* *p* *poco a poco cresc.*

63

Ob. *rit.*

Bsn.

67

Ob. *f* *a tempo* *sub. p*

Bsn. *f* *sub. p*

71

Ob. *sub. p*

Bsn. *sub. p*

75

Ob. *mf*

Bsn. *mf*

Going to the Sun

with growing excitement

77 **E**

Ob. *mp* *p* *poco a poco cresc.*

Bsn. *mp* *p* *poco a poco cresc.*

82

Ob.

Bsn.

86

Ob. *f* *ff*

Bsn. *f* *ff*

slight rit. a tempo

91

Ob. *sub. p* *f* *mp*

Bsn. *sub. p* *f* *mp*

96

Ob. *f* *ff*

Bsn. *f* *ff*

molto rit.

F Sunrise on Lake McDonald

♩=60 with some freedom

100

Ob. *p*

Bsn. *p* *mp* *mp*

104 freely

Ob. *mf* *p*

Bsn. *mf* *p*

108 slight accel. slight rit. **G** a tempo

Ob. *mf* *f* *mp*

Bsn. *mf* *f* *mp*

112 slight accel. rit. a tempo slight rit.

Ob. *f* *mp*

Bsn. *f* *mp*

116 a tempo rit. a tempo poco a poco accel.

Ob. *p* *mp* *p* *mp*

Bsn. *p* *mp*

120 **H** ♩=120

Ob. *mf* *f*

Bsn. *mf* *f*

125 slowing

Ob. *p*

Bsn. *mp* *p*

129 **I** $\text{♩} = 72$
 with sudden forward motion poco a poco accel. molto rit.

Ob. *pp* *mf*

Bsn. *pp* *mf*

134 **J** $\text{♩} = 88$
 Driving The Loop

Ob. *p* *mp* poco a poco cresc.

Bsn. *mp* poco a poco cresc.

137

Ob. slight rit. a tempo poco a poco accel.

Bsn. *f*

141 **K** $\text{♩} = 120$
 The Weeping Wall
 A few drops of water...

Ob. *sub. p*

Bsn. *sub. p*

Freely, overlapping

146

Ob. *sub. p* *mp*

Bsn. *mp*

154

Ob. *mf*

Bsn. *mp* *mf*

poco a poco accel.

Going to the Sun

161 **slowing** **L** a tempo

Ob. *mp* *p* *sub. p*

Bsn. *mp* *p*

169 **a tempo** **accel.**

Ob. *mp* *mp*

Bsn. *mp* *mp*

177 **M** $\text{♩} = 132$ **Playful, flowing water**

Ob. *mp* *mf*

Bsn. *mp* *mp*

183 **rit.** **N** a tempo

Ob. *mp* *mf*

Bsn. *mp* *mf*

190

Ob. *mf* *f*

Bsn. *mp* *f*

196

Ob. *mf* *sfp* *f*

Bsn. *mf* *sfp* *f*

Going to the Sun

a tempo

204 **O**

Ob. *sub. p* *poco a poco cresc.* *mf*

Bsn. *sub. p* *poco a poco cresc.* *mf*

210

Ob. *f*

Bsn. *f* *f*

217 *poco a poco accel.* **P**

Ob. *sub. p* *mp*

Bsn. *sub. p* *mp*

224

Ob. *mp* *poco a poco dim.*

Bsn. *p* *poco a poco dim.*

230

Ob. *p*

Bsn. *p*

235 *slowing* *molto rit.*

Ob. *sub. p* *p* //

Bsn. *sub. p* *p* //

Stepping onto Jackson Glacier Overlook

241 **Q** = 66
vastly, with some freedom

shimmering
(Timbral trill)
tr

Ob. *mf* *p*

Bsn.

244

Ob. *mf* *p* *mf* *sub. p* *mf*

Bsn.

247

slight rit.

Ob. *mp* *mf* *mp*

Bsn.

250 **cadenza - freely**

rit.

Ob. *p* *mf* *f*

Bsn.

Jackson Glacier

Going to the Sun

R $\text{♩} = 66$
ord. *Regally*

253
Ob. *p* *mf* (Timbral trill) *sub. p* *f*
Bsn. *mf* *sub. p* *f*

257
Ob. *p* *mf* *f* *p*
Bsn. *p* *mf* *f* *p*

261
Ob. *mf* *sub. p* *f*
Bsn. *mf* *sub. p* *f*

264
Ob. *sub. mp* *mf* *sub. mp* *mf*
Bsn. *sub. mp* *mf* *sub. mp* *mf*

267 *melting away...* *rit.* *with resignation*
Ob. ord. *mp*
Bsn. *mp*

270 ♩=66 Sunset at the end of The Road

Ob. *mp* *mf*

Bsn. *mp* *mp* *mp* *mf*

273

Ob. *mp* *f* *mp* *p*

Bsn. *mp* *mf* *f* *mp*

277

Ob. *mf* *f* *f*

Bsn. *p* *mf* *f*

3 *accel.* *rit.*

281 a tempo slight accel.

Ob. *mp* *mf* *mp*

Bsn. *mp* *mf* *mp*

284 rit. a tempo slowing

Ob. *f* *mp*

Bsn. *f* *mp*