

Pao is the name given by Maori to two-lined epigrammatic songs which comment on a wide range of subjects such as love, war, politics or religion; often topical, often improvised. Most of the songs set here were collected in 1864 from Maori prisoners captured during the the land wars in the Waikato area south of Auckland. The couplets are not connected in any way except for the central group, for unaccompanied voice, concerning Pikeri, a character famous at the time for his escapades evading the police; in this instance, enforced separation during a love affair is charted.

The English translations of these pao are used with the kind permission of the late Margaret Orbell, and come from her "Maori Poetry, an introductory anthology (Heinemann, 1978).

Pao was commissioned by the Northumberland-based Syrinx Trio, with financial assistance from Northern Arts; the first performance was given by Syrinx in Newcastle in 1981.

G.W.

Duration: 15 minutes

PAO

Pao translated from Maori by Margaret Orbell

Gillian Whitehead

I ♩ = c 58

Voice

Cl.

Pno

f > *fp* *rapido* (G#) *mp*

depress silently

Ped (3)

Cl.

Pno

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f

11

Voice Tide flow on The love with - in me will not cease

Pno

15

Voice — with the dawn ie hi - na - wa

Pno

f molto sempre

f molto sempre

18

Voice

$\text{A} \quad \text{♩} = \text{c} \ 58$

poco f

Bent be - neath your

$\text{A} \quad \text{♩} = \text{c} \ 58$

f

Pno

Lied

22

Voice

mf

bur den at Wha ngā - nu - i

mp

tra - vel the shore with your sweet - heart

Cl.

poco f

pp

Pno

p

pp

27 *pp*

Voice ie hi - na - wa

Cl. *sub.* *pp* *p* *poco f*

Pno

30 = c 84 *p* He will come back some day. te ma - na - wa.

Cl. *p* *p*

Pno *p*

f

Oh how my love de - ceived me, ee !

poco f

poco f

38

Voice

Cl.

Pno

(♩ = c 84)
libero

rapido

f

f

ff

mp

42 (♩ = c 63)

Voice

Cl.

Pno

What food is there for fight - ing tribes?

out of phase with piano

mp

mp

f

p

complete figure
after clarinet
E is struck.

47

Voice: - *mp* The plants that grow in the fo - rest. Kai mau - na - wa.

Cl. (hands independently) *p*

Pno: *pp*

54

$\text{♩} = \text{c} 76$

Voice: $\frac{11}{8}$ - $\frac{3}{4}$ - -

Cl. $\frac{11}{8}$ - $\frac{3}{4}$ - -

Pno: *mp* *f molto*

59

Voice The pit is dug. Te

Cl.

Pno

63

Voice Rei - naga lies o - pen. The war - riors go hurt - ling down

Cl.

Pno