

OLD SURVIVOR

for solo double bass

composed by Michael Maiorana
developed in collaboration with Jason Wells

ca. 14'

www.maioranamusic.com/old-survivor

Program notes:

Old Survivor is the name of a tree in Dr. Aurelia Reinhardt Redwood Regional Park, in Oakland, California. The tree is about 470 years old, and it's the last remaining old growth redwood in the Oakland Hills. The area was logged heavily from 1845-1860, and again from 1906 until 1916, when the park was purchased by Oakland to preserve the remaining redwoods.

This piece is written from the perspective of Old Survivor. It begins with growth and reaching up, until its neighbors are logged. Then the forest begins growing back, somber and reflective but hopeful, until there's logging again, and growing back again. If this piece is about anything, I think it might be about how grief or loss or trauma can change a person, or a community.

Performance notes:

- This piece is about a single tree, Old Survivor, embodied in the bass.
- There should be lots of push and pull in each phrase, lots of rubato.
 - Fermatas are very indeterminate, up to performer's discretion.
- Some lower notes in double stops have slashed noteheads, indicating to play them more lightly, and not necessarily sounding their entire duration

Performance notification:

If you perform this piece, please send me a quick note at michael.a.maiorana@gmail.com to let me know! I can report performances of my music to ASCAP at no cost to the performer to receive performance royalties, which are an important part of my income. Thank you!

Full story walkthrough, section by section, available here:

(feel free to disregard and do your own thing)

www.maioranamusic.com/old-survivor-full-story

Old Survivor

For Solo Double Bass

Inspired by Dr. Aurelia Reinhardt Redwood Regional Park

Developed in collaboration with Jason Wells, bassist

Michael Maiorana

slowly, freely
allow some harmonics in

Tempo rubato

♩ = 60

I II

p <> p sim. *mp*

11

p < mf > *p* *mf*

P ad lib. D drone, light and ringy

17

mf *p*

lightly, bouncily

23

mp *mf* *mp*

accel. poco a poco - - - -

27

mf *fp* *f*

more legato

♩ = 92

grungy tone

ord.

33

gliss. *rall.* *mp*

ad lib. D drone

2 $\text{♩} = 96$
poco marcato, delicately unhurried, melancholy legato

38 *p*

42 $\text{♩} = 126$
poco marcato a little more lively a little faster

42 *mp* *p* *mf*

50 a little slower

50 *mp* *mf* *mp*

60 $\text{♩} = 96$
more rubato

60 *p* *mp* *pp* *mf*

70 darker tone

70 *mf* *p dolce*

77 pizz.
let notes ring

77 *mf* forlorn *p dolce* *p*

91 **accel.** - - - - ♩ = 112

106 **arco** **accel. poco a poco**

p *ad lib.* lower note, create an effect like pizz resonance
maybe play lower note as an 8th note, or light dbl stop?

mf
♩ = 180
♩ = 60

121

mp *mf*

134 **poco accel.** - - - - ♩ = 216
♩ = 72 **poco accel.** - - -

ad. lib D light and ringy
or play as 8th note on downbeat, or a grace note

146 ♩ = 240
(♩ = 80) **more rubato** **ord.**

f > **mf** **f**

160 **rall.** **ghostly, unsure** ♩ = 60

extra rubato

173 *gliss.* *port.*
mp *pp*

181 *more solid* *darker tone*
mf *pp* *mp* *f* *mf* *mp dolce* *p*

187 *ord.*
(it's ok to sacrifice tone for vigor)
♩ = 92
mp

191 *mf*

194

197 *f*

200 *mp* *mf*

203 *mp*

206 *mf*

209 *p*

212 bring out top note

mf *f*

215

f

219 fuller, raw sound

f

222

225 *rall.*

ff

228 long pause

p

6

230 $\text{♩} = 96$

mp mf

Musical notation for measures 230-232 in bass clef, 12/8 time signature. Measure 230 starts with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. Measure 232 ends with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The music features eighth and sixteenth notes with slurs.

233

f mp

Musical notation for measures 233-234 in bass clef. Measure 233 is marked forte (*f*), and measure 234 is marked mezzo-piano (*mp*). The music consists of eighth notes with slurs.

235 **rall.** **a tempo**

f mf mp p

Musical notation for measures 235-237 in grand staff. Measure 235 is marked **rall.** (rallentando). Measure 236 is marked **a tempo**. Dynamics include forte (*f*), mezzo-forte (*mf*), mezzo-piano (*mp*), and piano (*p*).

238

mf mp p mp p

Musical notation for measures 238-240 in bass clef. Dynamics include mezzo-forte (*mf*), mezzo-piano (*mp*), piano (*p*), mezzo-piano (*mp*), and piano (*p*).

241 **molto rall.**

pp mp pp

Musical notation for measures 241-243 in bass clef. Measure 241 is marked **molto rall.** (molto rallentando). Dynamics include pianissimo (*pp*), mezzo-piano (*mp*), and pianissimo (*pp*).

244 $\text{♩} = 66$ **poco rit.**

mf p pp ppp

Musical notation for measures 244-247 in grand staff. Measure 244 is marked $\text{♩} = 66$. Measure 247 is marked **poco rit.** (poco ritardando). Dynamics include mezzo-forte (*mf*), piano (*p*), pianissimo (*pp*), and pianissimo (*ppp*).