

CLOUDSPLITTER

I. Trial

II. Pilgrimage

III. Prophecy

IV. Continuance / Finale

Performed by:

Dave Adewumi - trumpet

Diana Allan - horn

Kevin Ayres - horn

Iván Barenboim - alto clarinet

Gina Benalcazar - bass trombone

Mariel Bildsten - trombone

Matthew Jaimes - horn

Aaron Meicht - trumpet, music director

Emma Reber - horn

TJ Robinson - trombone

Carolina Gomez - costume design

Benjamin Mayock - poster design / videography

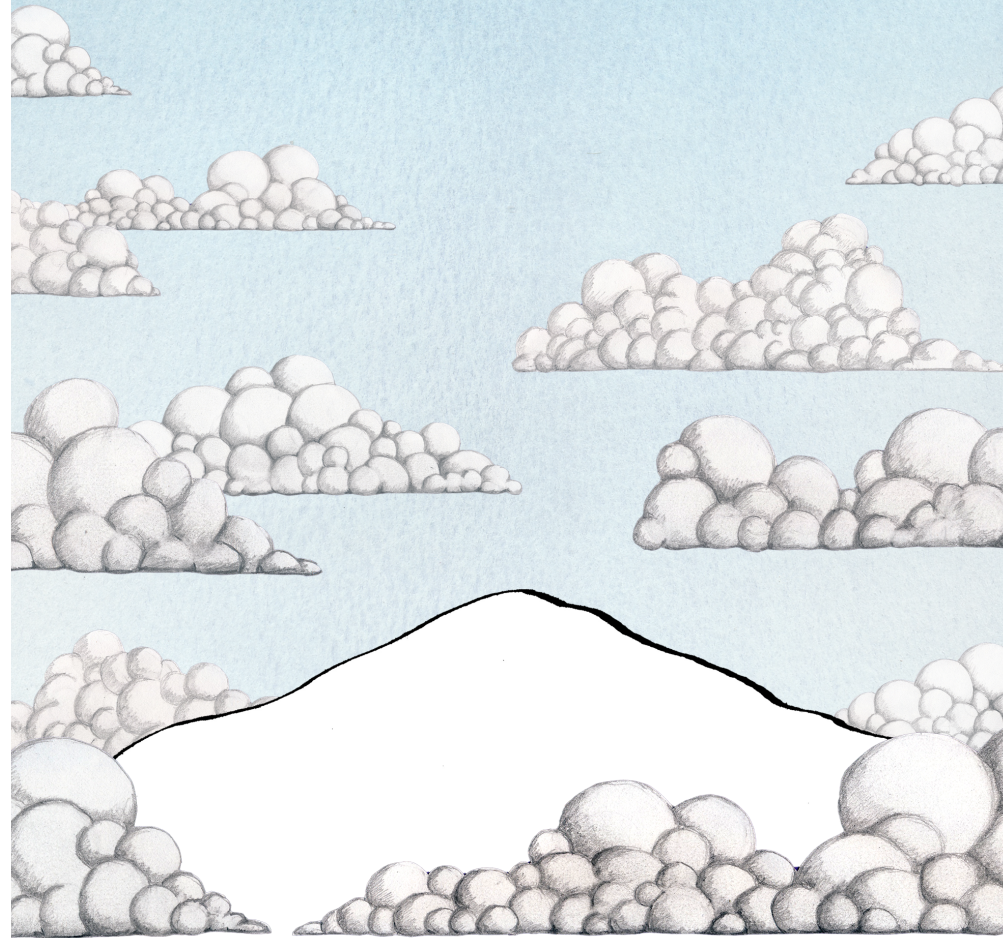
John P. Hastings - concept

Much of the 20 acres of Isham Park will be used as the performers begin dispersed throughout the park. Slowly, over the course of the 30 minute performance, they will come together in small groups and then finally into a complete ensemble, a visual and aural harmony. The audience should feel free to walk around, sit, or spread out a blanket and listen to the performance.

The performance is centered around the mythic persona of radical abolitionist John Brown. On the night of October 16, 1859, Brown and his followers assaulted the U.S. Arsenal at Harper's Ferry, planning to use the captured arms in a campaign for the liberation of the slaves in the South. He was later hanged for his crime. This action came to be seen as a precursor to the Civil War. John Brown's favorite hymn, "Blow, Ye The Trumpets, Blow!", as well as the Civil War era march "John Brown's Body" (also known as "The Battle Hymn of the Republic") will be used as centering devices for the performance, reference points used to construct the harmonic and melodic content of the musical work, though abstracted and reconfigured. The title Cloudsplitter (taken from Russell Bank's novel about John Brown) alludes to the highest point in New York State (Mt. Marcy) also known as Tahawus, a word some translate as "Cloudsplitter." The Brown farmstead, and his final resting place, lie in a valley near Mt. Marcy, close to Lake Placid, NY.

- John P. Hastings

A free, public, outdoor performance for brass ensemble.



Cloudsplitter is made possible in part with public funds from Creative Engagement, supported by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council and administered by LMCC. This project was also supported, in part, by a Foundation for Contemporary Arts Emergency Grant, a grant from the Make Music Alliance, and by individual donors. Thank you!

We want to acknowledge that this performance takes place on the traditional land of the Lenape and Wappinger Peoples past and present, and honor with gratitude the land itself and the people who have stewarded it throughout the generations. This calls us to commit to continuing to learn how to be better stewards of the land we inhabit as well.

CLOUDSPLITTER

Sun. June 20, 2021 at 11a & 12p | Isham Park, Inwood
Mon. June 21, 2021 at 7:30p | Manhattan

for more information please visit johnphastings.org/cloudsplitter