
Wait

from *Driven* — *A New Song Cycle*

Music and Lyrics by Joe Archer and Francesco Redica

About

Driven (2022) is a three-character song cycle about moving forward: whether it's blindly following your dreams, questioning which decision to make next, or feeling trapped in reminiscing the past — it's about searching for the answer. The songs form a one act show split into four distinct sections, tied together by original poetry written by Megan Heather Russell which creates a larger overarching narrative to the musical. Workshopped in 2019 at the East Sussex Academy of Music, where the composer and lyricist met as students, and featuring the draft of a storyline which would later be discarded to make way for a more non-linear song-cycle approach, the official premiere of the show took place at 54 Below, New York City, in August 2022.

In performance

'Wait' comes in the middle of the second section, roughly a third of the way through the show. We discover Jess reminiscing on her friends' successes whilst reminding herself that her time will one day come too. Approach this number from a contemporary musical theatre angle — keep your voice bright and forward while still connected to classical singing techniques. In the two 'feels' of the song, the driving $\frac{4}{4}$ and the flowing $\frac{6}{8}$, maintain a consistent and present tone while giving attention to the enunciation. Avoid taking nasality into the modern pop/rock realm, mix it, instead, with the clarity, timbre and quality of a chamber musical.

Lyrics

Wait

from **Driven — A New Song Cycle**

My friend got away,
now her life's going OK,
she's started that business
she's crafted for years.

Sales are now booming,
her dreams they are blooming,
it seems it was worth all the
blood, sweat and tears.

So, I stand unaccomplished but proud,
whilst wishing for things my life has not allowed,
but I'm not afraid,
though I haven't made it I'm gonna.
All in good time...

Just wait, take a breath, close your eyes.
Just wait, when that moment arrives
you will see what you wished life could be,
every dream that you dreamed will be yours,
guaranteed, but for now, this is all I need.

My good friend from college,
who lacked sense and knowledge,
sent me a text saying: 'I'm moving to France!'
Said 'I'm ready to go,
I won big on the lotto,
got over a million out of pure chance.'

Just wait, take a breath, close your eyes.
Just wait, when that moment arrives
you will see what you wished life could be,
every dream that you dreamed will be yours,
guaranteed, but for now, this is all I Need-less to say,

if you need me, I'll wait for you. I'll stay right here,
I will not disappear; it's true.

But when you say that my life
could be more than just charms,
and you tell me the answer lies right in your arms,
then you leave... and you tell me to wait.
So I wait, and I wait, for you.

But after years, when you come back,
I can promise you I won't be there
and I'll tell you to wait,
'cause I'm done shedding tears, you can wait,
I've worked all these years to achieve
what I wished life could be,
and every dream that I dreamed is all mine,
so proceed 'cause for now this is al-right.
Right now, this is all I need.

Wait

from Driven — A New Song Cycle

Music and Lyrics by
Joe Archer & Francesco Redica

Allegro, energetic ♩ = 124

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of three systems of piano accompaniment and vocal lines. The piano part features a consistent bass line of quarter notes in the left hand and a more complex right hand with eighth and sixteenth notes, often including triplets. Chord symbols are placed above the piano staves. The vocal line is in the treble clef and includes lyrics.

System 1: Chords: F(add2), Bb(add2), F(add2), C5/Bb. Dynamics: *f*.

System 2: Chords: F(add2), Bb(add2), C, C(sus4), F5. Lyrics: "My". Dynamics: *f*.

System 3: Chords: F(add2), F(add2), Bbmaj7(no3), C5. Lyrics: "friend got a - way, now her life's going O - K, she's". Dynamics: *mp*.

7 F(add2) B \flat (add2) C C(sus4) F⁵

star - ted that busi - ness she's craf - ted for years.

9 B \flat (add2) F(add2) B \flat maj7(no3)

Sales are now boo - ming, her dreams they are bloo - ming, it

11 F(add2) B \flat (add2) C C(sus4) F(add2) Fmaj7(add9)/A dolce

seems it was worth all the blood, sweat and tears. So, I

13 $B\flat(\text{add}2)$ $F\text{maj}7(\text{add}9)/A$

stand un - ac - comp - lished but proud, whilst

dolce

And. \wedge *sim.*

15 $B\flat(\text{add}2)$ $F\text{maj}7/A$

wish - ing for things my life has not al - lowed, but

Poco più lento ♩ = 112

17 Dm^7

I'm not a - fraid, though I ha - ven't made it I'm

19 G⁷ B^b5(add2) C(add4)

gon - na. All in good time... Just

p

Open up ♩. = 72

22 B^b(add2) Fmaj7 B^b(add2)

wait, take a breath, close your eyes. Just wait, when that

f

red. *sim.*

25 Fmaj7/A A^b(add2) E^bmaj7/G

mo - ment ar - rives you will see what you wished life could be, ev - 'ry

28 $A\flat(\text{add}2)$

$E\flat\text{maj}7/G$

dream that you dreamed will be yours, guaranteed, but for

$\text{♩} = 64$

30 $Fm^9(\text{add}4)$

$E\flat(\text{add}2)/G$

now, this is all I

p

Tempo primo $\text{♩} = 124$

32 $F(\text{add}2)$

$B\flat(\text{add}2)$

$F(\text{add}2)$

$C^5/B\flat$

C_{sus}

need.

f

34 F(add2)

B \flat (add2)

C C(sus4)

C F

My

36 F(add2)

B \flat (add2)

F(add2)

C 5 /B \flat

C(sus4)

good friend from col - lege, who lacked sense and know - ledge,

mf

38 F(add2)

B \flat (add2)

C C(sus4)

C F 5 (add2)

sent me a text saying: 'I'm mo - ving to France!' Said 'I'm

40 F(add2) Gm7(sus4) F(add2)/A Bbmaj7 C⁵ C(sus4)

rea - dy to go, — I won big on the lot - to, — got

42 F(add2) Bbm(add2) C C(sus4) C F Am⁷

o - ver a mil - lion — out of pure chance.' Just

Open up ♩ = 72

44 Bbm(add2) Fmaj7

wait, take a breath, close your eyes. Just

Red. \wedge sim.

46 B \flat (add2)

Fmaj7/A

wait, when that mo - ment ar - rives you will

This system contains two measures of music. The vocal line starts with a quarter rest in measure 46, followed by a quarter note in measure 47. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a bass line with quarter notes in the left hand. Chords are indicated as B \flat (add2) and Fmaj7/A.

48 A \flat (add2)

E \flat maj7/G

see what you wished life could be, ev - 'ry

This system contains two measures of music. The vocal line begins with a quarter rest in measure 48, followed by a quarter note in measure 49. The piano accompaniment continues with eighth-note patterns in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. Chords are indicated as A \flat (add2) and E \flat maj7/G.

50 A \flat (add2)

E \flat maj7/G

dream that you dreamed will be yours, gua - ran - teed, but for

This system contains two measures of music. The vocal line starts with a quarter note in measure 50 and ends with a quarter rest in measure 51. The piano accompaniment features eighth-note patterns in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. Chords are indicated as A \flat (add2) and E \flat maj7/G. Measure 51 includes a double bar line and a repeat sign.

♩ = 66

52

Fm⁹(add4)

E_b(add2)/G

now, this is all I

p *mf*

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for measures 52-54. It features a vocal line in 12/8 time and a piano accompaniment in 4/4 time. The piano part has a steady eighth-note bass line in the left hand and chords in the right hand. Dynamics range from piano (*p*) to mezzo-forte (*mf*). The key signature has one flat (B-flat).

Tempo primo ♩ = 124

54

Dm⁷(sus4)

F(add2)

Need - less to say, if you need me, I'll wait for

f

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for measures 54-55. The tempo is marked 'Tempo primo' with a quarter note equal to 124. The key signature has one flat. The piano accompaniment features a complex rhythmic pattern with triplets and accents. Dynamics include *f* (forte). The vocal line has triplet markings over the first two measures.

56

C/E

C/E_b

F/C D_b

you.

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for measures 56-57. The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic pattern as the previous block. The vocal line has a fermata over the word 'you.'. The key signature has one flat.

58 $Dm7(sus4)$ $F(add2)$

I'll stay right here, I will not dis - ap - pear; it's

60 $G(add4)$ $G(sus4)$ G $G(sus4)$ G

true. But when you

62 $Dm7(sus4)$ $D\flat maj7(\#5)$

say that my life could be more than just charms, and you

64 $F(\text{add}2)/C$ $F(\text{add}2)/C^b$

tell me the an - swer lies right in your arms, then you

66 $B^b(\text{add}2)$ Dm^7

leave... and you tell me to wait. So I

p

Red.

70 B^b $C(\text{add}4)$ Dm^7 $C(\text{sus}4)$ C

wait, and I wait, for you. But af - ter

Red.

years, when you come back, I can

poco accel.

pro - mise you I won't be there and I'll tell you to

Open up ♩. = 72

Db(add2)

Abmaj7

wait, 'cause I'm done shed - ding tears, you can

f

sim.

80

D \flat (add2)A \flat maj7/C

wait, I've worked all these years to a -

82

C \flat (add2)G \flat maj7/B \flat

- chieve what I wished life could be, and ev - 'ry

84

C \flat (add2)G \flat maj7/B \flat

dream that I dreamed is all mine, so pro - ceed 'cause for

86 $A\flat m^9$ $G\flat(\text{add}2)/B\flat$

now this is al - right. Right

p

Detailed description: This system contains measures 86 and 87. The vocal line is in 12/8 time, with lyrics "now this is al - right. Right". The piano accompaniment is in 12/8 time, starting with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The key signature has three flats. Measure 86 features a half note in the vocal line and a half note in the piano line. Measure 87 features a half note in the vocal line and a half note in the piano line. The piano part consists of chords and some melodic movement in the right hand, and a steady bass line in the left hand.

88 $A\flat m^6$ $G\flat(\text{add}2)/B\flat$

now, this is all I

pp

dolce

Detailed description: This system contains measures 88 and 89. The vocal line is in 4/4 time, with lyrics "now, this is all I". The piano accompaniment is in 4/4 time, starting with a pianissimo (*pp*) dynamic and a *dolce* marking. The key signature has three flats. Measure 88 features a half note in the vocal line and a half note in the piano line. Measure 89 features a half note in the vocal line and a half note in the piano line. The piano part consists of chords and some melodic movement in the right hand, and a steady bass line in the left hand.

Allegro, energetic $\text{♩} = 124$

90 $A\flat(\text{add}2)$ $D\flat(\text{add}2)$ $A\flat(\text{add}2)$ $E\flat^5/D\flat$ $E\flat(\text{sus}4)$

need

f *cresc.*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 90 and 91. The vocal line is in 4/4 time, with the lyric "need". The piano accompaniment is in 4/4 time, starting with a forte (*f*) dynamic and a *cresc.* marking. The key signature has three flats. Measure 90 features a half note in the vocal line and a half note in the piano line. Measure 91 features a half note in the vocal line and a half note in the piano line. The piano part consists of chords and some melodic movement in the right hand, and a steady bass line in the left hand.

92 $A\flat(\text{add}2)$ $D\flat(\text{add}2)$ $E\flat$ $E\flat(\text{sus}4)$ $E\flat$ $A\flat^5$

ff

Detailed description: This system contains measures 92 and 93. The piano accompaniment is in 4/4 time, starting with a fortissimo (*ff*) dynamic. The key signature has three flats. Measure 92 features a half note in the piano line. Measure 93 features a half note in the piano line. The piano part consists of chords and some melodic movement in the right hand, and a steady bass line in the left hand.