

# This Land is Not

Open score in 4 parts for any instruments

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This structure was inspired by the performance practice in shape note singing, where singers may choose any part and each part is of equal importance. The opening melody is based on a bird song heard during the summer of 2019 in West Virginia and the harmonic framework draws from laments in traditional Serbian singing. The closing choral is based on the song “Arkansas” from the *Sacred Harp*.

# This Land is Not

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## I Out of time

leader only

follow the leader

One

Two

Three

Four

## II

12

move independently  
drone with occasional flourishes on these notes

continue to keep the first note as drone center  
add additional notes to melodic improv and expand

continue, increasing frequency and length  
of melodic phrases

1

2

3

4

### III $\text{♩} = 60$

Parts 1, 2, and 3 play these cells in any order, beginning sparsely and building in duration. Play anywhere in your range and extend phrases across your range ad lib.

Part 1 players enter first one at a time. After they have all entered, Part 2 players begin entering, followed by Part 3 players similarly.

Part 4 players play the written melody in unison, repeating 2 or 3 times as seems right for collective building of energy. Then everyone move to IV on cue.

1, 2, 3

4

8

### IV

$\text{♩} = 60$  In time, as written

36

1

2

3

4

8