

CHORAL OF LOVE

*from "THE SUN BEHIND MY TEARS"
for narrator (optional) and wind band*

Hardy MERTENS

Lyrics :

Junedy LIM

Translations and adaptations :

Rosella CAPRIATA

Harrie REUMKENS

Note to the conductor :

this choral, with or without the attached poems,
can be performed separately

Dedicated to the
Soka Wind Ensemble
and
Mus'art Wind Orchestra,
Singapore

Why does the universe exist?
Making us so small, so insignificant
Among the billions of stars.
And yet unique and special in each cocoon.

What is the most important element in this world?
Love... that which we long for, are hurt by, dwell on.
You and I.
Reflecting images in the mirror.
Sardonically similar and ironically different!

How can I survive this earthly hell?
The cruelty, the bitterness of mankind.
Must I accept fate and fight to bear this burden?

Who am I to question nature, this gift from heaven?
My heart has laughed a thousand summers,
Cried a million winters.
My soul was exalted with joy
And depressed with weariness on this journey.

I gaze into the void as if I am the lost bright star.
When will I find the answers
Whilst searching for the enlightening truth?

Until then I will triumph through my tears.
Thoughtlessness becomes thought,
Hopelessness becomes hope,
Wordlessness becomes word.

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Full recording available on :
CD « OLYMPIC SPIRIT »

CADENZA

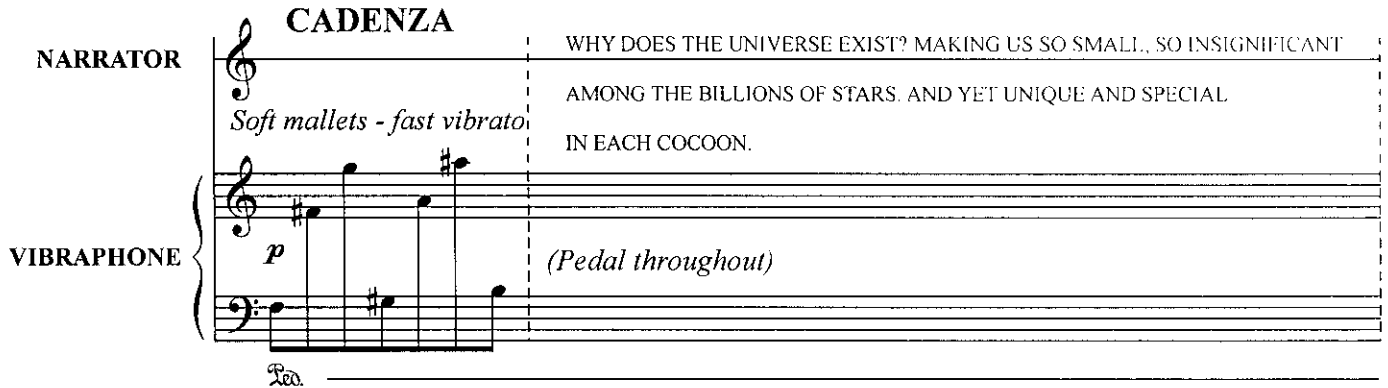
NARRATOR

WHY DOES THE UNIVERSE EXIST? MAKING US SO SMALL, SO INSIGNIFICANT
AMONG THE BILLIONS OF STARS, AND YET UNIQUE AND SPECIAL
IN EACH COCOON.

Soft mallets - fast vibrato

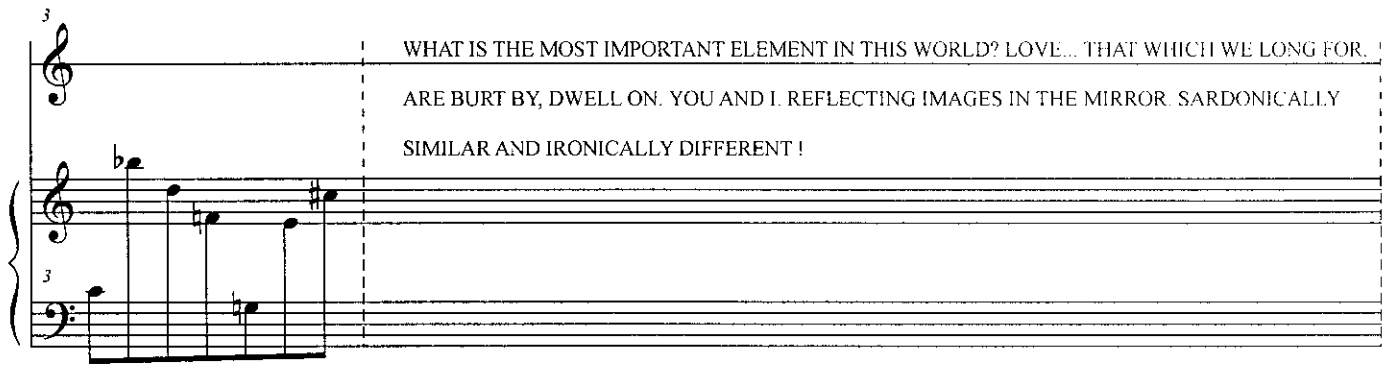
VIBRAPHONE

p (Pedal throughout)



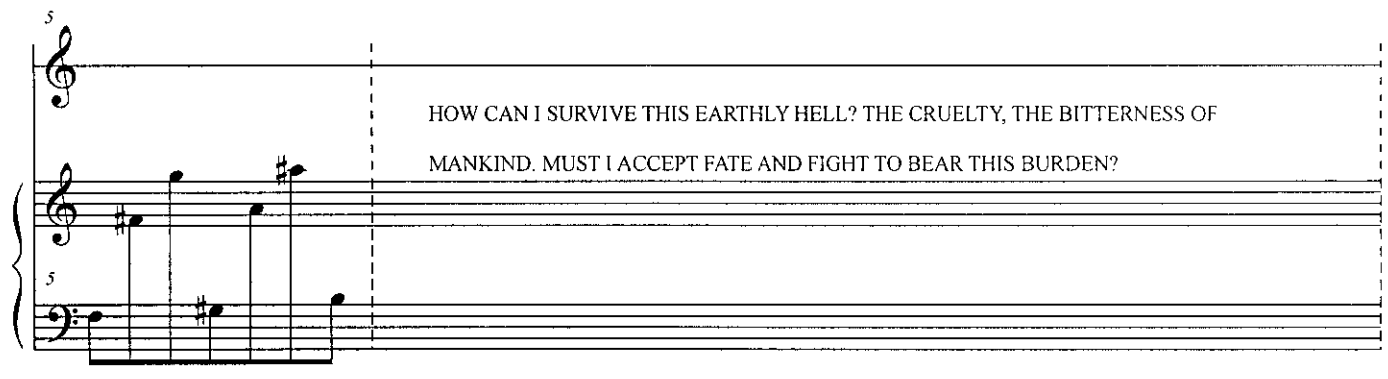
3

WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN THIS WORLD? LOVE... THAT WHICH WE LONG FOR,
ARE BURT BY, DWELL ON. YOU AND I. REFLECTING IMAGES IN THE MIRROR, SARDONICALLY
SIMILAR AND IRONICALLY DIFFERENT !



5

HOW CAN I SURVIVE THIS EARTHLY HELL? THE CRUELTY, THE BITTERNESS OF
MANKIND. MUST I ACCEPT FATE AND FIGHT TO BEAR THIS BURDEN?



7

7

WHO AM I TO QUESTION NATURE, THIS GIFT FROM HEAVEN? MY HEART HAS
LAUGHED A THOUSAND SUMMERS, CRIED A MILLION WINTERS. MY SOUL WAS
EXALTED WITH JOY AND DEPRESSED WITH WEARINESS ON THIS JOURNEY

Detailed description: This system contains measures 7 and 8. The vocal line is a whole note G4. The piano accompaniment consists of a descending eighth-note scale: G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter), B2 (quarter), A2 (quarter), G2 (quarter).

9

9

I GAZE INTO THE VOID AS IF I AM THE LOST BRIGHT STAR. WHEN WILL I FIND
THE ANSWERS WHILST SEARCHING FOR THE ENLIGHTENING TRUTH?

Detailed description: This system contains measures 9 and 10. The vocal line is a whole note G4. The piano accompaniment consists of a descending eighth-note scale: G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter), B2 (quarter), A2 (quarter), G2 (quarter).

11

11

UNTIL THEN I WILL TRIUMPH THROUGH MY TEARS. THOUGHTLESSNESS BECOMES

Detailed description: This system contains measures 11 and 12. The vocal line is a whole note G4. The piano accompaniment consists of a descending eighth-note scale: G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter), B2 (quarter), A2 (quarter), G2 (quarter).

13

13

THOUGHT, HOPELESSNESS BECOMES HOPE, WORDLESSNES BECOMES WORD.

(long hold)

Detailed description: This system contains measures 13 and 14. The vocal line is a whole note G4. The piano accompaniment consists of a descending eighth-note scale: G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter), B2 (quarter), A2 (quarter), G2 (quarter). A dashed vertical line is placed between measures 13 and 14. The piano accompaniment for measure 14 is a long hold on G2.

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A Moderately slow

1st Flute

2nd Flute

Oboe

Bassoon

1st B♭ Clarinet

2nd B♭ Clarinet

3rd B♭ Clarinet

Bass Clarinet

1st E♭ Alto Saxophone

2nd E♭ Alto Saxophone

B♭ Tenor Saxophone

E♭ Baritone Saxophone

1st B♭ Trumpet

2nd & 3rd B♭ Trumpets

1st F Horn

2nd & 3rd F Horns

1st C Trombone

2nd & 3rd C Trombone

B♭ Euphonium

B♭ Bass

Timpani

The musical score is written for a full orchestra. It begins with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a time signature of 4/4. The tempo is marked 'Moderately slow'. The score is divided into measures, with dynamic markings such as *mf*, *pp*, *ff*, and *p* indicating the volume. The instruments listed on the left are: 1st Flute, 2nd Flute, Oboe, Bassoon, 1st B♭ Clarinet, 2nd B♭ Clarinet, 3rd B♭ Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, 1st E♭ Alto Saxophone, 2nd E♭ Alto Saxophone, B♭ Tenor Saxophone, E♭ Baritone Saxophone, 1st B♭ Trumpet, 2nd & 3rd B♭ Trumpets, 1st F Horn, 2nd & 3rd F Horns, 1st C Trombone, 2nd & 3rd C Trombone, B♭ Euphonium, B♭ Bass, and Timpani. The score includes a variety of notes, rests, and dynamic markings, with some measures featuring accents and hairpins.

B

Fl. *pp* *mf* *ff* *fff*

Ob. *pp* *mf* *ff* *fff*

Bsn. *pp* *mf* *ff* *fff*

Bb Cl. *pp* *mf* *ff* *fff*

Bass Cl. *pp* *mf* *ff* *fff*

Alto Sax. *pp* *mf* *ff* *fff*

Ten. Sax. *pp* *mf* *ff* *fff*

Bar. Sax. *pp* *mf* *ff* *fff*

Trp. *fff* *fff*

F Hrn. *pp* *mf* *ff* *fff*

C Trb. *mf* *ff* *fff*

Bb Euph. *mf* *ff* *fff*

B Bass *mf* *ff* *fff*

Timp. (Let sound) *pp* *mf* *ff*



Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

B♭ Cl.

Bass Cl.

Alto Sax.

Ten. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Trp.

F Hrn.

C Trb.

B♭ Euph.

B♭ Bass.

Timp.

C



Fl. *one* *pp* *ff* *mf* *pp* *mf* *pp*

Ob. *one* *pp* *ff* *mf* *pp* *mf* *pp*

Bsn. *one* *pp* *ff* *mf* *pp* *mf* *pp*

B. Cl. *one* *ff* *pp* *mf* *pp*

Bass Cl. *one* *ff* *mp* *mf* *mp*

Alto Sax. *one* *ff* *pp*

Ten. Sax. *one* *ff* *pp*

Bar. Sax. *one* *ff* *pp*

Trp. *one* *ff*

F Hrn. *one* *ff*

C Trb. *one* *ff*

B. Euph. *one* *ff*

B. Bass *one* *ff*

Timp. *one* *ff*

21 *pp*

Fl. *All* *ff* *pp* *ppp*

Ob. *All* *ff* *pp* *ff* *pp*

Bsn. *All* *ff* *pp* *ff* *pp*

B. Cl. *All* *ff* *pp* *ppp*

Bass Cl. *All* *ff* *pp* *ppp*

Alto Sax. *All* *ff* *pp* *ff* *pp*

Ten. Sax. *All* *ff* *pp* *ff* *pp*

Bar. Sax. *All* *ff* *pp* *ff* *pp*

Trp. *ff* *All* *ff* *pp*

F Hrn. *ff* *pp* *ff* *pp*

C Trb. *ff* *All* *ff* *pp*

B. Euph. *ff* *pp*

B. Bass *ff* *pp*

Timp. *ff* *pp* *ff* *pp*

Fl. *pp*

Ob. *pp*

Bsn. *pp*

B. Cl. *pp*

Bass Cl. *pp*

Alto Sax. *pp*

Ten. Sax. *pp*

Bar. Sax. *pp*

Trp. *pp* — *ff*

F Hrn. *pp* — *ff*

C Trb. *pp* — *ff*

B. Euph. *pp* — *ff*

B. Bass *pp* — *ff*

Timp. *pp*

44

G

FL.

Ob.

Bsn. *p* *f* *p* *f* *p*

B. Cl.

Bass Cl.

Alto Sax.

Ten. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Trp.

F Hrn. *p* *f* *p* *p* *f* *p*

C Trb. *p* *f* *p* *p* *f* *p*

B. Euph. *p* *f* *p* *f* *p*

B. Bass

Timp. *sfz p* *fff*

