

BRYAN W. CHRISTIAN

VESPERS

...dona nobis pacem...

for orchestra

2008–9

Instrumentation:

Flute 1 (doubling Bass Flute)
Flute 2 (doubling Piccolo)
Oboe 1
Oboe 2
Clarinet in Bb 1
Clarinet in Bb 2
Bass Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon 1
Bassoon 2

4 Horns in F
straight mute
Trumpet in C 1
harmon mute
Trumpet in C 2
plunger mute
Trombone 1
straight mute, bucket mute
Trombone 2
plunger mute, harmon mute
Tuba
straight mute

Percussion 1

Bass Marimba, Glockenspiel, Vibraphone (shared with Percussion 2)

Percussion 2

Crotales (2 octave chromatic set), *TamTam*, *Pitch Gong* , *Vibraphone* (shared with Percussion 1)

Percussion 3

Timpani, TamTam, Vibraphone (shared with Percussion 4)

Percussion 4

Bass Drum, Pitch Gong(shared with Percussion 2) , *Vibraphone* (shared with Percussion 3)

Piano

Harp

Violin I (3 and 2 part divisi)
Violin II (3 and 2 part divisi)
Viola (2 part divisi)
Cello (2 part divisi)
Contrabass (2 part divisi)

PERFORMANCE NOTES

Flute 1:

In the case that a *Bass Flute* is not acquirable,

- in mm. 148–151 play the tremolo on alto flute. The sounding pitch should be the same.
- in mm. 209–233 the passage should be played by muted bassoon (place a cloth in the bell). If this is not possible, it should be played by solo horn with straight mute. The sounding pitch should be the same.

Percussion:

Pitch gong: if the desired octave is not possible, one octave higher is permissible as a substitute. In this situation to give the sound the depth and resonance of the lower octave, a TamTam should be lightly struck at the same time as substituted pitch gong.

Trumpet 1

In m. 100 it is acceptable for the performer to use a piccolo trumpet.

Harp:

All sounds should be allowed to naturally decay. So that this is not compromised, avoid changing the pedal too early.

Strings:

Extremely high notes in Solo Violin I:

Although these pitches are beyond the fingerboard and lose some definition of pitch, this is the desired sound. The player should be careful when removing his/her finger from the string, particularly after the final note of the piece, as in this position the finger may stick due to the rosin and create an undesired pizzicato. It is best to slide the finger toward the tuning pegs before it is removed from the string or find an alternative to ensuring no extra sound is produced.

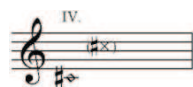
Natural harmonics:

Natural harmonics are notated using the diamond shaped note head to indicate harmonic finger pressure and to indicate where the performer should stop the string. The string on which they are to be played is indicated using a roman numeral and the sounding pitch indicated in parenthesis as seen in the following example.



Non-sounding natural harmonics:

Non-sounding natural harmonics are the sounds produced when a string is stopped with harmonic finger pressure at a nonexistent, or nonresonant, harmonic node. Similar to natural harmonics, non-sounding natural harmonics are indicated with a diamond shaped note head to indicate harmonic finger pressure and to indicate where the performer should stop the string. The string on which they are to be played is indicated using a roman numeral. As the sounding pitch of non-sounding natural harmonics is indeterminate, and may consist of multiple “harmonic-like” sounds, an “x” note head is placed in parenthesis one octave above the stopped node.



VESPERS

$\frac{3}{4}$ ♩ = 42 DISTANT

$\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$

The score is divided into two systems. The first system includes Flute 1-2, Oboe 1-2, B♭ Clarinet 1-2, Bass Clarinet, Bassoon 1-2, F Horn 1-4, C Trumpet 1-2, Trombone 1-2, Tuba, Bass Marimba, Percussion (Crotales, Vibraphone, Bass Drum, Pitch Gong), Piano, and Harp. The second system includes a soloist, Violin I div., Violin II, Viola div., Cello div., and Contrabass. The score features complex rhythmic patterns, including triplets and sixteenth notes, and dynamic markings such as *pp*, *ppp*, *p*, *mp*, *mf*, *f*, and *n*. Performance instructions include *very soft mallets*, *large soft beater*, *motor on high*, *arco (bass bow)*, *on button*, *off button*, and *gradually dampen with fingers*. The tempo is marked as $\frac{3}{4}$ ♩ = 42 DISTANT, with time signature changes to $\frac{2}{4}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ indicated.

REMAINDER OF SCORE UNAVAILABLE TO PREVIEW

for a full score, please send a request to
order@bryanchristian.net