

Music: Rob Godman

Text: ee cummings

*if there are any heavens my mother will*

For SATB choir and electroacoustic sound

**DEMO ONLY**

For Philip Mead and St. Augustine's Singers

*REVISED VERSION – FEBRUARY 2020*

...and for my Mum

## *if there are any heavens my mother will*

For SATB choir (minimum 16 voices, 4 to each part) and electroacoustic sound

Text: ee cummings Music: Rob Godman

Duration – 4 minutes 40 seconds to 5 minutes 20 seconds

### Notes on performance:

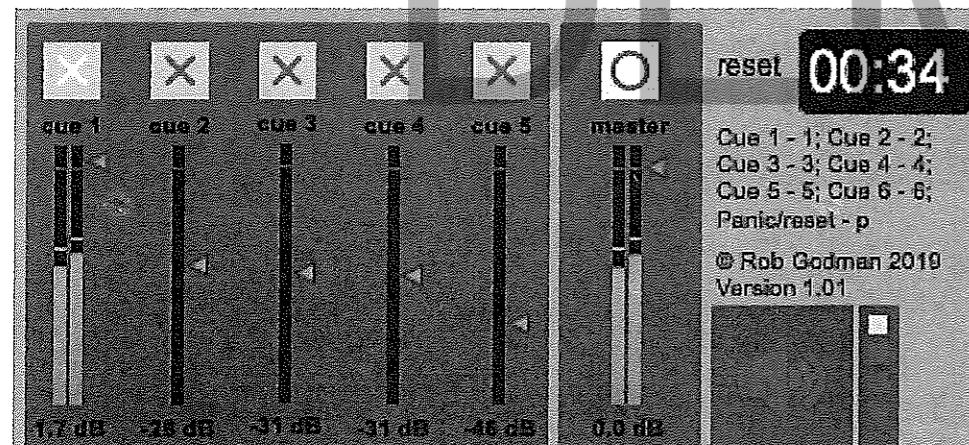
Soprano line – to be sung very evenly (values of quavers, maintain quaver = 156), without vibrato, as if it were a chant. Quaver groupings indicate a slight stress to the first beat of the group (although not as much as a full accent).

Alto/Tenor/Bass lines – where singers are required to sing at asynchronous tempi, choose a tempo for yourself and maintain it (do not synchronise with others in the section). Continue repeating the cell for the duration of the line.

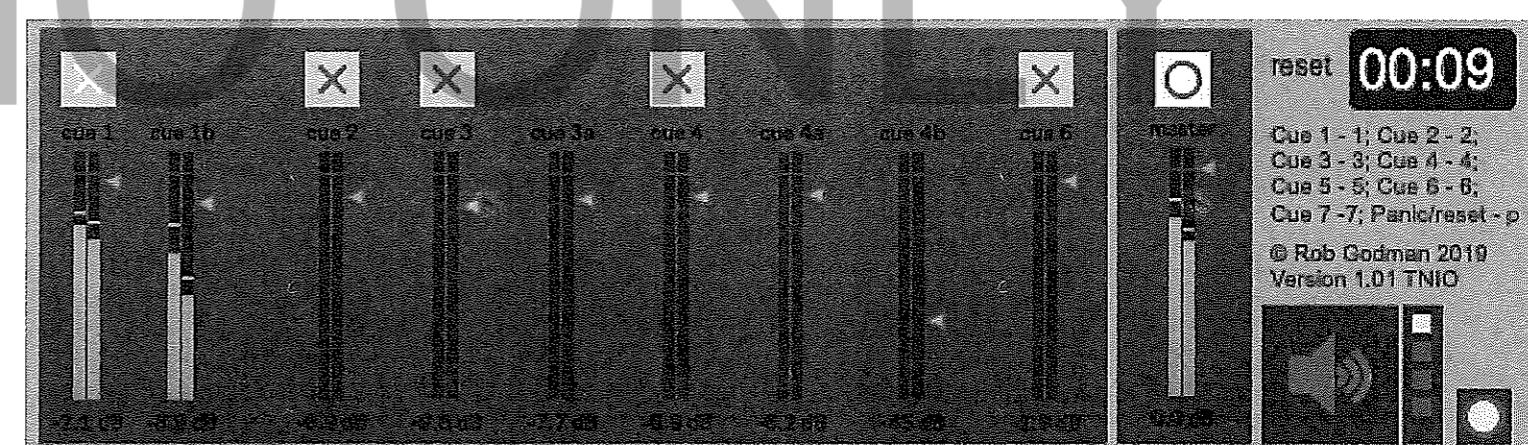
Bar lengths are given in seconds – 11", 13" etc. The conductor should adhere to these durations as closely as possible. Bar lengths with durations in brackets are more approximate and can be used as indicators.

### Electroacoustic Sound:

An application compiled in Max is provided for cuing sounds (Mac OS 10.14 onwards). Use the Mac keyboard (Cue 1 = 1, Cue 2 = 2 etc.). Cue 1 will be considerably louder than the opening acoustic bass sounds (which should 'emerge' from within the bell resonance) and will decay over the duration of the piece. If performing both '*if there are any heavens my mother will*' and '*thing no is(of*', toggle the 'u' key to choose which application to make active (a flashing light in either application indicates which is selected). Diffusion is two channels (a multi-speaker array may be used).



*if there are any heavens my mother will*



*thing no is(of*

For Philip Mead and St. Augustine's Singers  
...and for my Mum

Music: © Rob Godman March 2019  
Poem: © ee cummings 1931

if there are any heavens my mother will(all by herself)have  
one. It will not be a pansy heaven nor  
a fragile heaven of lilies-of-the-valley but  
it will be a heaven of blackred roses  
my father will be(deep like a rose  
tall like a rose)

standing near my

(swaying over her  
silent)  
with eyes which are really petals and see

nothing with the face of a poet really which  
is a flower and not a face with  
hands  
which whisper  
This is my beloved my

(suddenly in sunlight

he will bow,

& the whole garden will bow)

**ee cummings**

SENZA TEMPO (30")

Soprano: *Sotto voce, evenly and very still, as if a chant, without vibrato.*  $\text{♩} = 156$

Alto: *pp*

Tenor: *pp* *ee-*

Bass: *pp ee ee* *ee ee*

EA Sound: *(?)* *(G)* *hell* (bell resonance) slow diminuendo *(0'30")*

*[CUE 1]*

*\* Each singer chooses a tempo +/- 10% of  $\text{♩} = 44$ . Maintain pulse and pitch. Avoid sync with singers within section.*

S: *(5)* *3"* *pp* *7 7* *have one* *pp* *It will not be a pan-sy hea-ven nor* *ee-* *(1'00")*

A: *pp ha-*

T: *7* *7*

B: *7* *7*

EA: *7* *7*

*(10)* *5"* *a* *a fra-ile hea-ven of li-lies of the val-ley but* *a-* *7"*

S: *it will be a hea-ven of black-red ro-ses* *11"* *my fa-ther will be* *15* *3"* *deep like a rose tall like a rose* *5"* *stan-ding near my*

A: *ee-* *7* *mi-* *7* *de-* *7* *a-*

T: *7* *7*

B: *7* *7*

EA: *7* *7*

*(1'30")*

DEMO ONLY

\* Each singer chooses a tempo  $\pm 10\%$  of  $\text{♩} = 72$ . Maintain pulse and pitch. Avoid sync with singers within section.

13"

S: JPP (sudden-ly in sun-light he will bow)

A: PP su —

A: PP su —

A: PP su —

T: —

B: —

EA: —

13"

(40)

(30")

\* den-  
PP den-  
\* gar-  
PP gar-

and the whole gar-den will bow)

TENOR OFF

(2'57")

(pendulum pulse 1)

[CUE 2]

DEMO ONLY

11"

7"

(25")

(25")

S: —

A: —

T: —

B: —

EA: —

10TH MARCH 2019  
GULDEN MORDEN

ALL  
STOP

10TH MARCH 2019  
GULDEN MORDEN

11" (3'40") (pendulum) [CUE 3]

7" (3'58") (pendulum pulse 2) [CUE 4]

(25") (pendulum pulse 3) [CUE 5]

(25") (pendulum pulse 4) (bell resonance fade to nothing) [CUE 6]

(4'12") (4'48")

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