

See, darkness covers the earth

revelation 21:9
for cello and computer

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Revelation 21:9-14

One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, "Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb." And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God. It shone with the glory of God, and its brilliance was like that of a very precious jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. It had a great, high wall with twelve gates, and with twelve angels at the gates. On the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel. There were three gates on the east, three on the north, three on the south and three on the west. The wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

Book of Revelation 21:9-14, New International Version

About the piece

In a previously composed piece for bass clarinet and later cello and computer, I found inspiration to do a reconstruction and add a layer of a choir. That is this piece.

The original was titled "one of the seven angels" and is a quote from the Book of Revelation. In that piece I wanted to compose a slow-evolving piece, a ballade, it became for me a very positive piece, although in a more introvert way.

"See, darkness covers the earth" is actually a series of other quotes that the first title refer to in various ways. The bible is interesting in that way, that many texts actually are referring to other, older ones to give credibility to the newer.

It turns out that the references to me felt very contemporary and had to do with the current trends in society and that meant that I could both recompose something old, use new old texts that referred to an old piece of mine and construct a very contemporary and important piece that may both say something about our time and give hope for a better future.

The original piece was composed to Mattias Eklund

First performed by Mattias Eklund at Malmö Academy of Music 2010

This version was made for Johan Magnus Sjöberg and Mattias Rodrick in 2017.

Duration: approx. 10 min

Text:

See, darkness covers the earth
and thick darkness is over the peoples,
Ezia 60:2

Yet I am not silenced by the darkness,
by the thick darkness that covers my face.
Job 23:17

...the people living in darkness have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned."
Matthew 4:16
All texts from NIV

12

co - vers the earth the earth co - vers the earth

co - vers the earth the earth co - vers the earth

co - vers the earth the earth co - vers the earth

co - vers the earth the earth co - vers the earth

Vlc

12

p

tr

molto vibr.

18

p

See dark - ness co - vers the earth. the earth. And thick

See dark - ness co - vers the earth. the earth. And thick

See dark - ness co - vers the earth. the earth. And thick

See dark - ness co - vers the earth. the earth. And thick

Vlc

18

tr

mp

24 *mf* *p*

dark-ness, dark-ness dark - ness is o - ver is o - ver the peo - les.

dark-ness, dark-ness dark - ness is o - ver is o - ver the peo - les.

dark-ness, dark-ness dark - ness is o - ver is o - ver the peo - les.

dark-ness, dark-ness dark - ness is o - ver is o - ver the peo - les.

Vlc 24 *mf* *p* *mp* *tr* *tr* *molto vibr.*

29 *p*

and thick — dark-ness is o - ver the peo - ples —

and thick — dark-ness is o - ver the peo - ples —

and thick — dark - ness is o - ver the peo - ples

and thick — dark - ness is o - ver the peo - ples

Vlc 29 *niente*

33 *p cresc. poco a poco*

Yet I am not — Yet I am not — si-lenced by the dark-ness, by the thick
 Yet I am not — Yet I am not — si-lenced by the dark-ness, by the thick
 Yet I am not — si - lenced by the thick —
 Yet I am not — si - lenced by the thick —

Vlc 33 *p*

38 *mf mp*

dark - ness that co - vers my face — Yet I am not am not
 dark - ness that co - vers my face — Yet I am not am not
 dark - ness that co - vers my face — Yet I am not am not
 dark - ness that co - vers my face — Yet I am not am not

Vlc 38 *molto vibr.*

43

si - lenced. not si - lenced. The peo - - - ple

si - lenced. not si - lenced. The peo - - - ple

si - lenced. not si - lenced. The peo -

si - lenced. not si - lenced. The peo -

mp

Vlc

mp

48

The peo - ple li - ving in peo - ple li - ving in

The peo - ple li - ving in peo - ple li - ving in

ple peo - ple li - ving in peo - ple li - ving in

ple peo - ple li - ving in peo - ple li - ving in

Vlc

tr *tr* *molto vibr.*

mf

ritardando

53 *f* *p*

dark li - ving in in dark - - - ness dark - ness

dark li - ving in in dark - - - ness dark - ness

8 dark li - ving in in dark - - - ness dark - ness

dark li - ving in in dark - - - ness dark - ness

Vlc 53

in tempo ♩ = ca 60

57 *p* *f*

have seen a great light have seen a great light a great

have seen a great light have seen a great light a great

8 have seen a light have seen a great light

have seen a light have seen a great light

Vlc 57 *tr* *molto vibr.* *f*

61 *mf*

light have seen a great light; on those li - ving in the sha - dow

light have seen a great light; on those li - ving in the sha - dow

great light have seen a great light; on those li - ving in the in the

great light have seen a great light; on those li - ving in the in the

Vlc

mf *f*

ritardando -----

66

sha - - - dow in the in the sha - dow in the sha - dow in the sha - dow of

sha - - - dow in the in the sha - dow in the sha - dow in the sha - dow of

sha - - - dow in the sha - dow sha - dow of

sha - - - dow in the sha - dow sha - dow of

Vlc

mf

in tempo ♩ = ca 60

f

71

death on those li-ving on those li-ving in the sha - dow in the sha-dow of death sha-dow of death

death on those li-ving on those li-ving in the sha - dow in the sha-dow of death sha-dow of death

death a light has dawned — a light has dawned a light has dawned

death a light has dawned — a light has dawned a light has dawned

Vlc

71

f

unmeasured (rubato)

ff

75

a light has dawned a light has dawned

a light has dawned a light has dawned

a light has dawned a light has dawned

a light has dawned a light has dawned

Vlc

75

fff *f* *fff*

in tempo ♩ = ca 60

unmeasured (rubato)

mf

pp

79

A light has dawned.

A light has dawned.

A light has dawned.

A light has dawned.

Vlc

79

mp (rit)

86

Vlc

86

p *pp*

