

A Melodrama for Solo Baritone/Actor and Digital Playback

by Christian A. Gentry

Notation

The vocal/actor part maintains a consistent standard of traditional notation, except the moments of soliloquy. Stage directions are purposefully omitted to allow more freedom for the performer; though, most of the theatricality is built in to the notation.

The digital playback notation does not often portray an accurate temporality. Furthermore, there are several idiosyncratic symbols and graphics that visually illustrate the music. These can be used as good markers for the performer.

Performance and Rehearsal Notes

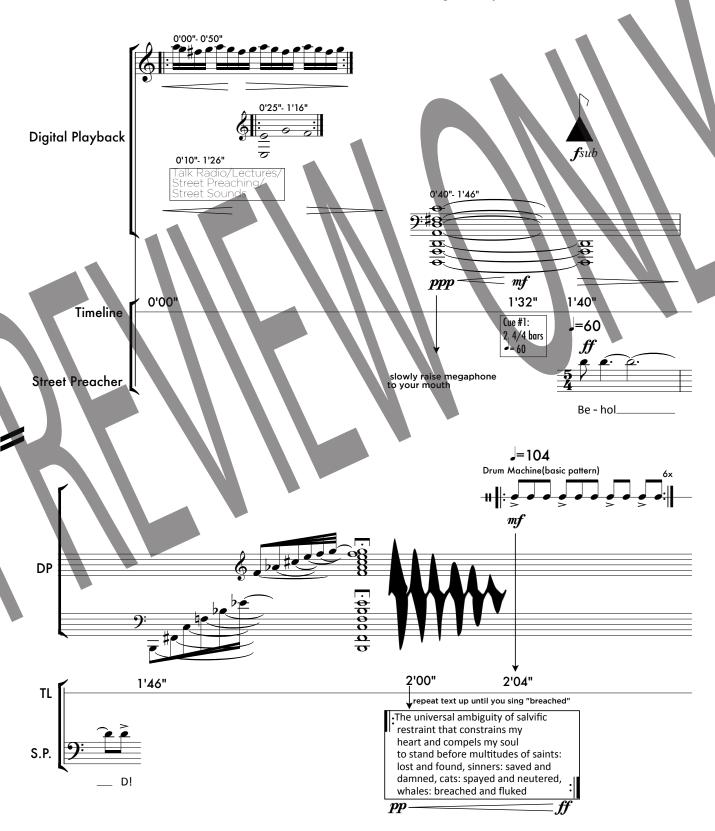
The duration of certain events in the digital playback are not always measured. For best accuracy, adhere to the timeline provided in the middle staff between the digital playback and vocal line. Given the theatrical nature of the piece a use of click track should only be done for rehearsal purposes and not the performance. Most importantly, the performer is required to use a megaphone in certain sections of the piece. For the performer's convenience I provide (upon request) three audio files: I) a master mix of the digital playback with metronome 2) click only 3) master mix only. The master mix only file (behold_mstermix_noclick.wav) is to be used in performance either with a 2.1 aural environment, or diffused across a 4.1 environment.

Program Notes

This piece explores the dramatic space shared between the zealous theatrics of street preaching and the abstract poetics of personal spirituality. The piece draws broadly from field recordings of street preachers, German intellectuals, street musicians, radio talk show hosts and altered MIDI orchestration. It straddles the world between art song and performance art creating a rich musical space for the text to inhabit. I wrote the text as a response to my own religious upbringing and encounters with "others" of (dis)similar faith traditions.

Behold!

A Melodrama for Solo Baritone/Actor and Digital Playback





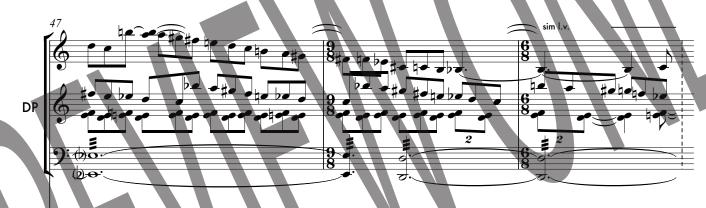












TL 4'27"

