

*Commissioned by and dedicated to the Master Chorale of South Florida, Brett Karlin, Artistic Director
In loving memory of Roslyn T. Osborne*

Program Notes

Imagined for a Leonard Bernstein 100th celebration given by the Master Chorale of South Florida, ***We Reply*** was inspired by his famous quote about making art in the face of adversity. Brett Karlin had the wonderful idea of incorporating texts from the Jewish sacred prayers *Shema* and *Hashkiveinu*, and so I set out to craft a text that could respond to these many viewpoints. In response, I composed music that bursts forth with rhythmic energy and momentum. Its harmonies clash with the threat of violence, but also surge with an inevitable optimism, propulsion, and joy. Yes, we shall make music unabashedly, even when the walls seem to be closing in all around us, and our song will echo on long after we are gone.

—Dominick DiOrio
July 2018

Text

Hear us, God,
hear our plea,
hear our strife.

Hear us, God,
hear our loss,
hear our pain.

We seek your peace,
we seek your grace.

Hear us, God.
O hear us, God,
hear our plea, hear our strife.

O heal us, God,
heal our loss,
heal our pain.

Guard our going and our coming,
keep us safe in your all-knowing.

In the face of struggle, we reply,
in the face of anguish, we reply,
in the face of violence, we reply:
“We shall love you, God, with all our heart.
We shall love you, God, with all our voice,
with all our heart, with all our voice, with all our soul, with all our joy.
We shall love you, God, we shall love you,
now and forever.”

—Dominick DiOrio

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We Reply

for SATB Chorus (divisi), String Quartet or Ensemble, and Piano

Shema and Hashkiveinu (Hebrew Prayers)
 Adapted by Dominick DiOrio

Dominick DiOrio
 (ASCAP)

With urgency, very fast ♩ = 160

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Piano

With urgency, very fast ♩ = 160

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

Contrabass
 (optional
 with String
 Quartet)

* If string ensemble is used, then first and second violins may play *divisi* throughout.

3

Piano score for measures 3-5. The score includes parts for Pno., Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., and Cb. The key signature is B-flat major. Measure 3 starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measure 4 features a fortissimo piano (*sfp*) dynamic. Measure 5 returns to a forte (*f*) dynamic. The piano part has a melodic line in the right hand and a rhythmic accompaniment in the left hand. The strings play chords and rhythmic patterns.

Pno. *f* *sfp* *f*

Vln. I *f* *sfp* *f*

Vln. II *f* *sfp* *f*

Vla. *f* *p* *fp*

Vc. *f* *p* *fp*

Cb. *f* *sfp* *f*

6

Piano score for measures 6-8. The score includes parts for Pno., Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., and Cb. The key signature is B-flat major. Measure 6 starts with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. Measure 7 features a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measure 8 returns to a fortissimo piano (*sfp*) dynamic. The piano part continues with its melodic and rhythmic lines. The strings play chords and rhythmic patterns.

Pno. *mf* *f* *sfp*

Vln. I *mf* *f* *sfp*

Vln. II *mf* *f* *sfp*

Vla. *f* *p*

Vc. *f* *p*

Cb. *mf* *f* *sfp*

9

Piano score for measures 9-11. The score includes parts for Pno., Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., and Cb. The key signature is B-flat major. Measure 9 starts with a 2/4 time signature. At measure 10, the time signature changes to 3/4. At measure 11, it changes to 2/2. Dynamics include *f*, *mf*, and *sfp*.

12

Piano score for measures 12-14. The score includes parts for Pno., Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., and Cb. The key signature is B-flat major. Measure 12 starts with a 2/2 time signature. At measure 13, it changes to 3/4. At measure 14, it changes to 2/2. Dynamics include *sfp*, *f*, and *fp*.

15

Piano score for measures 15-17. The score is in B-flat major and 2/2 time. It features six staves: Pno., Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., and Cb. The first two measures (15-16) are in 2/2 time, and the third measure (17) changes to 3/4 time. Dynamics include *sfp* and *f*. A large watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid on the score.

Pno. *sfp* *sfp* *f*

Vln. I *sfp* *sfp* *f*

Vln. II *sfp* *sfp* *f*

Vla. *fp* *sfp* *f*

Vc. *fp* *sfp* *f*

Cb. *sfp* *sfp* *f*

18

Piano score for measures 18-20. The score is in B-flat major and 2/2 time. It features six staves: Pno., Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vc., and Cb. The first two measures (18-19) are in 2/2 time, and the third measure (20) changes to 3/4 time. Dynamics include *sfp*, *f*, and *p*. A large watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid on the score.

Pno. *sfp* *f*

Vln. I *sfp* *f*

Vln. II *sfp* *f*

Vla. *p* *f*

Vc. *p* *f*

Cb. *p* *f*

20

S
A
T
B

Pno.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

ff *sfp* *sfp* *ff*

ff *sfp* *sfp* *ff*

ff *sfp* *sfp* *ff*

ff *sfp* *sfp* *ff*

ff *sfp* *sfp* *ff*

ff *sfp* *sfp* *ff*

23 *fp* *fp* *fp*

S
Hear us, God,

A
Hear us, God,

T
Hear us, God,

B
Hear us, God,

Pno.
f

Vln. I
f *mf*

Vln. II
f *mf*

Vla.
p

Vc.
p

Cb.
f *mf*

28 *mf* *f*

S — hear our plea,

A — hear our plea,

T — hear our plea,

B — hear our plea,

Pno. *sf* *sfp* *f*

Vln. I *sim.* *sf* *sfp* *f*

Vln. II *sim.* *sf* *sfp* *f*

Vla. *f* *p* *fp*

Vc. *f* *p* *fp*

Cb. *sim.* *sf* *sfp* *f*

31

S
hear our strife.

A
hear our strife.

T
hear our strife.

B
hear our strife.

Pno.

Vln. I
mf *sf* *sfp*

Vln. II
mf *sf* *sfp*

Vla.
f *p*

Vc.
f *p*

Cb.
mf *sf* *sfp*

34 *mf* *f*

S Hear us, God, *f*

A Hear us, God, *f*

T *mf* Hear us, God, *f*

B Hear us, God, *f*

Pno. *f* *sfp*

Vln. I *f* *mf* *sfp*

Vln. II *f* *mf* *sfp*

Vla. *fp* *fp*

Vc. *fp* *fp*

Cb. *f* *mf* *sfp*

37

S *mf* *sf*
hear our loss, hear our

A *mf* *sf*
hear our loss, hear our

T *mf* *sf*
hear our loss, hear our

B *mf* *sf*
hear our loss, hear our

Pno. *sfp* *f* *sfp*

Vln. I *sfp* *f* *sfp*

Vln. II *sfp* *f* *sfp*

Vla. *fp* *fp* *fp*

Vc. *fp* *fp* *fp*

Cb. *sfp* *f* *sfp*

40 *f* *f sempre*

S pain. We seek your

A pain. We seek your

T pain. We seek your

B pain. We seek your

Pno. *sfp* *sfp* *f*

Vln. I *sfp* *sfp* *f*

Vln. II *sfp* *sfp* *f*

Vla. *fp* *sfp* *f*

Vc. *fp* *sfp* *f*

Cb. *sfp* *sfp* *f*

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score, page 13, starting at measure 40. It features a vocal quartet (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and an orchestra. The vocal parts are in a key with two flats and a 2/2 time signature. They sing the lyrics "pain." followed by a rest, and then "We seek your". The vocal parts are marked with a forte (*f*) dynamic and a *f sempre* instruction. The piano part consists of a rhythmic accompaniment of chords, marked with *sfp* (sforzando piano) and *f* (forte) dynamics. The string parts (Violins I & II, Viola, Violoncello, and Contrabass) provide a rhythmic and harmonic foundation, with dynamics ranging from *fp* (fortissimo piano) to *f* (forte). A large, diagonal watermark reading "Copyrighted Material" is overlaid on the score.