

Neil Young, Handel's Messiah

PART I*

OVERTURE

RECITATIVE. (Accompanied - Tenor) Comfort ye, comfort ye My people, saith your God; speak ye
highway for our God.

AIR (Tenor)

Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill made low, the crooked straight and the r

CHORUS And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mou

RECITATIVE. (Accompanied - Bass)

Thus saith the Lord of Hosts:- Yet once a little while and I will shake the heavens and the earth, the
I will shake all nations; and the desire of all nations shall come. The Lord, whom ye seek, shall sud

AIR (Bass) But who may abide the day of His coming? and who shall stand when He
appeareth? For He is like a refiners fire.

CHORUS

And He shall purify the sons of Levi, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness.

RECITATIVE. (Alto)

Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call his name Emmanuel, God with us.

AIR (Alto)

and CHORUS O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up into the high mountain: O thou th

RECITATIVE. (Accompanied - Bass)

For Behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people; but the Lord shall rise
shall be seen upon thee, and the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to
the brightness of thy rising.

AIR (Bass) The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light; and they
that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

CHORUS

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon His shoulder

PASTORAL SYMPHONY

RECITATIVE. (Soprano) There were shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock

RECITATIVE. (Accompanied - Soprano) And lo! the angel of the Lord cam upon them, and the glori

RECITATIVE. (Soprano)

And the angel said unto the, Fear not; for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall b
born this day in the City of David, a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

RECITATIVE. (Accompanied - Soprano) And suddenly there was with the angel a
multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying:-

CHORUS

Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth, goodwill towards men.

AIR. (Soprano)

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! behold, thy King cometh unto

RECITATIVE. (Alto)

Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame

AIR (Alto)

He shall feed His flock like a shepherd: and He shall gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them

AIR (Alto)

Come unto Him, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and He will give you rest. Take His yoke up

CHORUS

His yoke is easy and His burthen is light.

PART II

CHORUS

Behold the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world.

AIR (Alto)

He was despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. He gave His ba

CHORUS

Surely He hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows! He was wounded for our transgressions;

CHORUS

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way. And the Lord hath la

RECITATIVE. (Accompanied - Tenor)

Thy rebuke hath broken His heart; He is full of heaviness. He looked for some to have pity on Him, but there was no man, neither found He any

AIR. (Tenor)

Behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto His sorrow.

RECITATIVE. (Accompanied - Soprano)

He was cut off out of the land of the living; for the transgression of Thy people was He stricken.

AIR (Soprano)

But Thou didst not leave His soul in hell; nor didst Thou suffer Thy Holy One to see corruption.

CHORUS

Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors, and the King of Glory shall c

RECITATIVE. (Tenor)

Unto which of the angels said He at any time, Thou art My Son, this day have I begotten Thee?

CHORUS

Let all the angels of God worship Him.

AIR. (Bass)

Thou art gone up on high; Thou hast led captivity captive, and received gifts for men, yea, even for

CHORUS

The Lord gave the word, great was the company of the preachers.

AIR. (Soprano)

How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good t

CHORUS

Their sound is gone out into all lands, and their words unto the ends of the world.

AIR (Bass)

Why do the nations so furiously rage together, and who do the people imagine a vain thing? The ki

CHORUS

Let us break their bonds asunder, and cast away their yokes from us.

RECITATIVE (Tenor)

He that dwelleth in heaven shall laugh them to scorn; the Lord shall have them in derision.

AIR (Tenor)

Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; Thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.

CHORUS

Hallelujah: for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth. The kingdom of this world has become the kingdom

Part III

AIR (Soprano)

I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth; and though

CHORUS

Since by man came death,

CHORUS

By man came also the resurrection of the dead.

CHORUS

For as in Adam all die,

CHORUS

Even so in Christ shall all be made alive

RECITATIVE. (Accompanied - Bass)

Behold, I tell you a mystery; We shall not all sleep; but we shall all be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet.

AIR. (Bass)

The trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For

RECITATIVE (Alto)

Then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written; Death is swallowed up in victory!

DUET (Alto and Tenor)

O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin, and the strength

CHORUS

But thanks be to God, who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

AIR (Soprano)

If God be for us, who can be against us? who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God

CHORUS

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain, and hath redeemed us to God by His blood, to receive power, and dominion, and glory, and honour, for ever and ever.

Amen.