

Dániel Péter Biró

Messages

2001-2002 / 2025

Messages
For Orchestra
Dániel Péter Biró
(2021-2022/2025)

Instrumentation

Piccolo

Flute

Oboe

Cor Anglais

E Flat Clarinet

Bass Clarinet

Bassoon

4 Horns in F

2 Trombones

Timpani

2 Percussionists

(Timpani, Woodblock, Snare Drum, Bass Drum, 3 Tom-Toms)

Harp

Strings

Messages for orchestra was originally written in 2001-2002 and premiered at a reading session of the New Jersey Symphony at Princeton University on May 8, 2002.

The first piece is dedicated to Sándor Toth, a Hungarian philosopher and family friend, who survived the Buchenwald concentration camp and communist labor camps in Romania. Despite his experiences, he always longed to go back to Romania. This piece is written in his memory.

Aliah means “ascension” in Hebrew. The word also refers to being called up to read the prayer before reading the Hebrew Bible in the Jewish Torah reading ceremony. Here certain phrases emulate the sound of Jewish cantillation melodies.

Yeridah means “descension” In Hebrew. In certain contexts, the word can mean “betrayal” and even “downfall.” This movement reacts to the second movement in terms of its inversion of its musical gesture and expression.

A *Matryoshka* is a Russian nesting doll. Here overlapping heterophonic layers integrate and recontextualize material from previous movements.

Dániel Péter Biró

6 **rall.** 1 ♩ = 104 **rall.**

Picc. *ppp* *ff* *fff*

Fl. flutter tongue *ppp* *sub. f* *fff* *sub. ppp* *mp* 4:3

Ob. *ppp* *f* *fff* *mp*

C. A. *ppp* *ppp* *p* *ppp* *mp*

E♭ Cl. *ppp* *ppp* *p* *ppp* *mp* 4:3

B. Cl. *pp* *ppp* *mp*

Bsn. 1 *ppp* *ppp* *p* *ppp* *mp*

Bsn. 2 *ppp* *p*

Hn. 1 *ppp*

D Tpt. without mute *mf* *fff* plunger mute *p* *ppp*

C Tpt. *mf* *fff*

W.B. Wood Block *f* *fff* *mf* Δ 4:3

S. D. *mp* *mp* go to Crot.

Hp. harmonic *f* *ff* *ff* *mp > p*

Vln. I Solo **rall.** 1 ♩ = 104 **rall.** solo *f* *ppp* *fff* *pp* *mp* *tasto* *3*

Vln. I tutti *p* *pp* *fff* *pp* *mp* *tasto* *3*

Vln. II tutti, 1/2 col legno tratto senza vibr. nat. *mp* *ppp* *p* *pp* *fff* *mp* *pp* *ppp* *pont.*

Vla. tutti, 1/2 col legno tratto senza vibr. nat. *mp* *ppp* *p* *pp* *mf* *pp* *tutti, pont.*

Vc. tutti, 1/2 col legno tratto senza vibr. nat. *p > pp* *arco ord. tasto* *pppp* *ppp* *pp* *tasto* *pont.*

Db. *p* *ppp* *p* *pizz.*

13 $\text{♩} = 108$ *rall.* $\text{♩} = 92$ **2**

Picc. *mf* *ff* *f* *fff*

Fl. flutter tongue *pp* *mf* *ff* *f* *fff* flutter tongue *p* *ppp* *pp* *ppp*

Ob. *pp*

C. A. *pp* *fff* *mp* *ppp*

E♭ Cl. *pp* *fff* *mf*

B. Cl. *pp* *mp* *ppp* *p* *ppp* *pp* *ppp*

Bsn. 1 *pp* *f* *pp* *mp* *ppp* *p* *ppp* *pp* *ppp*

Bsn. 2 *mf* *pp* *mp* *ppp* *p* *ppp*

Hn. 1 *fff* *mf* *pp* *ppp*

Hn. 2 mute *ff* *mf*

Hn. 3 mute *f* *ppp*

Hn. 4 mute *mf* *ppp*

D Tpt. *mp* *ppp*

Tbn. 1 *mp* *ppp* *p* *ppp* solo

Tbn. 2 mute *mp* *ppp*

B. Tbn. mute *mp* *ppp*

Tba. *mp* *ppp* *mp* *ppp*

Timp. *ppp* *ppp* *ppp* damp

W.B. *ff* *fff* *mf* *mp* *p*

S. D. Crotales *ff* *ff* go to S. D.

Hp. *mp* *p* *pp*

$\text{♩} = 108$ *rall.* $\text{♩} = 92$ **2**

Vln. I *ppp* *ff* *f* *pp* *mp* *ppp* solo

Vln. II *p*

Vla. *ppp*

Vc. *ppp* *f* *p* *mp* *ppp* div. *tasto*

Db. *mp* *ppp* *p* *ppp* *pp* *ppp* arco

attacca

$\text{♩} = 120$ rall. $\text{♩} = 100$

22 3

Picc. *mf* *fff* *ff* *ppp*

Fl. *mf* *f* *ff* *ppp*

Ob. *mf* *fff* *mf* *ppp*

C. A. *mf* *f* *mf* *ppp* *ppp*

E♭ Cl. *p* *fff* *f* *pp* *ppp*

B. Cl. *p* *pp*

Bsn. 1 *mf* *ff* *p* *pp* *ppp*

Bsn. 2 *mf* *ff* *p* *pp*

Hn. 1 without mute *mf* *ff* *f* *ff*

Hn. 2 without mute *mf* *ff* *f* *ff*

Hn. 3 *f* *ff* *ff* *fff*

Hn. 4 without mute *ff* *ff* *ff* *fff*

D Tpt. *p* *f* *ppp* *ff*

C Tpt. *f* *f* *ff*

Tbn. 1 *ppp* *ff* *ff* *fff*

Tbn. 2 *ff* *ff* *ff* *fff*

B. Tbn. without mute *ff* *p* *ppp* *fff*

Tba. *fff* *fff*

Timp. *f* *fff*

W.B. *mf* *ff*

S. D. Snare Drum go to B. D. *ppp* *f* *ff* damp *mp* *ppp*

Hp. *fff*

$\text{♩} = 120$ rall. $\text{♩} = 100$

3 3

Vln. I *mf* *fff* *p* *fff* on G string *tasto*

Vln. II *mf* *fff* *p* *fff* on G string *tasto*

Vla. *mf* *fff* *f* *fff* *tasto* *nat.*

Vc. *mf* *fff* *nat.* *Bartok pizz. (let ring)* *damp*

Db. *mf* *ff* *fff*

Tempo *rall.* **Tempo** *poco rall.*

$\text{♩} = 150$

1

Piccolo *pp* *ppp*

Flute flutter tongue *ppp* *mp*

Oboe *mf* *pp* *p* *ppp*

Clarinet in Eb *ppp* *mp*

Bassoon 1 *mf* *ppp*

Bassoon 2 *mf* *ppp*

Trombone 1 solo *mp* *mf* *ppp*

Trombone 2 *mf* *ppp*

Bass Trombone *mf* *ppp*

Tuba

Timpani *mp*

Wood Block *mf* go to W. B.

Snare Drum snare off *p* *pp* *p* *pp* *pp*

Harp *ff* *f* *mf*

Violin I Stands 1-4 *mp* *ppp* *ppp*

Violin I Stands 5-8 *mp* *ppp* *mf*

Violin II Stands 1-4 *ppp* *mp* *pp*

Violin II Stands 5-8 *ppp* *f* *p*

Viola con sord. *mf* *pp* tutti 1/2 col legno nat. → pont. *p* *ppp*

Violoncello *ppp* *pp* *ppp* tutti 1/2 col legno nat. → pont. *pp* *p*

Double Bass con sord. arco *ppp* *p* *ppp*

rall. **Meno Mosso** (♩ = 192)

2

10

Picc. *pp* *ppp* *p*

Fl. *mp*

Ob. *mp*

C. A. *ppp*

E♭ Cl. *ppp* *p* *ppp*

B. Cl. *ppp* *pp* *ppp* *p*

Bsn. 1 *pp* *ppp*

D Tpt. flutter tongue *pp* *ppp*

W.B. Crotales *mf* go to T.-toms Tom-toms soft *mp* *pp* *pp*

S. D. *pp* go to B. D.

Hp. *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

rall. **Meno Mosso** (♩ = 192)

2

Vln. I Stands 1-4 *p* *pp*

Vln. I Stands 5-8 *p* *pp*

Vln. II Stands 1-4 *ppp* *p* *pp* *mp* *pizz.*

Vln. II Stands 5-8 *p* *pp* *mp* *pizz.*

Vla. solo, arco ord. *ppp* *mp* *tutti, pizz.*

Vc. *ppp* *ppp* *tutti* *p*

Db. arco ord., tasto *pp* *ppp*

16

pp *mp* *pp* **rall.** **Tempo** **poco rall.**

Picc. *pp* *mp* *pp*

Fl. *pp* *mf* *pp*

Ob. *pp* *pp* *ppp* *mf* *pp*

C. A. *p* *ppp*

E♭ Cl. *mp* *ppp* *mp*

B. Cl. *ppp* *mf* *p*

Bsn. 1 *p* *ppp* *pp* *mp* *ppp*

Bsn. 2 *mf* *3* *p*

Hn. 1 *pp* *mf* *ppp*

Hn. 2 *p* *mf* *ppp*

Hn. 3 *p* *mf* *ppp*

Hn. 4 *mf* *ppp*

Tbn. 1 *ppp* *mp* *ppp*

Tbn. 2 *ppp* *mf* *ppp*

Timp. *pp*

Tom-t. *mf* *5:3* *pp*

S. D. *p* *pp*

Hp. *p* *mf* *mp* *p*

Vln. I Stands 1-4 *mp* *ppp* **rall.** **Tempo** **poco rall.** *tasto* *ppp*

Vln. I Stands 5-8 *mp* *ppp* *tasto* *ppp*

Vln. II Stands 1-4 *p* *pp* *mf* *pp* *tasto* *ppp*

Vln. II Stands 5-8 *p* *pp* *mf* *pp* *tasto* *ppp*

Vla. *p* *pp* *ppp* *arco, tasto*

Vc. *pp* *mp* *mp* *ppp* *3* *ppp*

Db. *p* *ppp* *pp* *mp* *ppp* *div.* *mp* *ppp* *solo* *ppp*

3 rall.

♩ = 75

attacca

20

Picc. *pp* *pppp*

Fl. *pp* *ppp*

Ob. *pp* *ppp*

C. A. *pp* *ppp*

E♭ Cl. *pppp*

B. Cl. *pppp*

Bsn. 1 *pp* *ppp*

Hn. 1 *pp* *pppp*

Timp. *ppp*

Tom-t. *pp* *ppp* go to W. B. Wood Block *mp*

B. D. *ppp*

3 rall.

♩ = 75

Vln. I Solo *p* *pp*
solo senza sord., pont.

Vln. II Solo *p* *ppp*
solo senza sord., pont.

Vla. *p* *ppp*

Vc. Solo *p* *ppp*
solo senza sord., pont.

Db. *p*

1 $\text{♩} = 120$ *rall.* **2** $\text{♩} = 60$

Piccolo
Flute
Oboe
Cor Anglais
Clarinet in B \flat
Bass Clarinet in B \flat
Bassoon 1
Bassoon 2
Horn 1 in F
Horn 2 in F
Harp

1 $\text{♩} = 120$ *rall.* **2** $\text{♩} = 60$

Violin I Solo
Violin I Stands 1-3
Violin I Stands 4-6
Violin I Stands 7,8
Violin II Stands 1,2
Violin II Stands 3,4
Violin II Stands 5,6
Violin II Stand 7
Viola
Violoncello
Double Bass

rall.

3

4

Picc. 8

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. *mp* *ppp* *mp* *ppp*

B. Cl. *pp*

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

Hn. 1 *mp*

Hn. 2 *mf* *mp*

Hn. 3 *mf* *mp*

Hn. 4 *pp*

Tbn. 1 *pppp*

Timp. *p*

W.B. *f*

Hp. *p* *mf* *mp* *pp*

rall.

3

4

Vln. I Solo

Vln. I Stands 1-4 *sub. ppp* *pp* *sub. ppp* *p* *sub. ppp* *mp* *sub. ppp*

Vln. I Stands 5-8 *ppp* *ppp*

Vln. II Solo *ppp* *ppp*

Vln. II Stands 1-4 *ppp*

Vln. II Stands 5-8 *pizz.* *f* *f* *mf*

Vla. Solo *mf*

Vla. *con sord.* *div., pont.* *mf*

Vc. *con sord.* *div., pont.* *mf*

Db. *mp* *pp* *ppp* *mp*

5 rall.

Picc. *ppp*

Fl. *ppp*

Ob. *ppp*

E♭ Cl. *p* *ppp*

Hn. 1 *pp*

Hn. 2 *ppp*

Hn. 4 *p* *ppp*

D Tpt. *mp* *pp*

C Tpt. *p* *pp* plunger mute

Tbn. 1 *p* *pp*

Tbn. 2 *p* *pp* mute

B. Tbn. *p*

Timp. *ppp* *ppp* *col legno*

W.B. *ppp*

5 rall.

Vln. I Solo *ff* *ppp* *sub. f* *ppp* *sub. mf* *ppp* *sub. mp*

Vln. I Stands 1-4 *mf* *sub. ppp* *mp* *sub. ppp* *p* *sub. ppp*

Vln. I Stands 5-8 *mp* *ppp*

Vln. II Solo *ff* *ppp* *sub. f* *ppp* *sub. mf* *ppp* *sub. mp*

Vln. II Stands 1-4 *mp* *ppp*

Vln. II Stands 5-8 *mp* *p* *pp* *ppp*

Vla. Solo *p*

Vla. *ppp*

Vc. *ppp* div.

Db. *ppp*

1 *rall.* = 72 *rall.* = 60

2 *rall.* = 60

Piccolo
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Eb
Bass Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon 1
Bassoon 2
Horn 1 in F
Horn 2 in F
Horn 3 in F
Horn 4 in F
Trumpet in D
Trumpet in C
Trombone 1
Bass Trombone
Timpani
Wood Block
Harp

1 *rall.* = 72 *rall.* = 60 *div.*

2 *rall.* = 60

Violin I Stands 1.2
Violin I Stands 3.4
Violin I Stands 5.6
Violin I Stands 7.8
Violin II
Viola
Violoncello
Double Bass

3 flutter tongue **Stretto** 4 **Tempo** **molto rall.** ♩ = 50

Picc. *ff* *mp ff* *mp ff* *mp* *p* *pp* *p* *pp* *p > pp* *p* *pp* *p* *pp* *ppp* *pppp*

Fl. *ff* *p* *pp* *p > pp* *p* *pp* *p* *pp* *ppp* flutter tongue *pppp*

Ob. *ppp* *mf* *f*

C. A. *ppp* *f*

E♭ Cl. *pppp* *ppp* *pppp*

B. Cl. *ppp* *f*

Bsn. 1 *ppp* *f*

Bsn. 2 *ppp* *f*

Hn. 1 *ppp* *f* *p > pp*

Hn. 2 *ppp* *f*

Hn. 3 *ppp* *f*

Hn. 4 *ppp* *f*

D Tpt. *pppp* *f* *p > pp*

C Tpt. *mp* *f*

Tbn. 1 *mp* *f*

B. Tbn. *mp* *f* *p > pp*

Tba. *ppp*

Timp. *mp* *f*

W.B. *f* *mp* *f* *mp*

B. D. *f* damp. damp. damp. *mp*

Hp. *f* *f* *fff* *mp*

3 **Stretto** 4 **Tempo** **molto rall.** ♩ = 50

Vln. I *ff* *p* *ff > p* *ff* *ff* *mp* *ppp* *pp* *p* *ppp* solo

Vln. II *f* *mp*

Vla. *mp* *pp* solo

Vc. *pppp*

Db. *p > pp* solo