

Missa Brevis

For SATB solo voices

Ian Percy

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- I. Kyrie
- II. Gloria
- III. Sanctus
- IV. Agnus Dei

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2017

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As the title suggests, this is a short Mass in four settings (movements) composed for four solo voices (SATB):

- I. Kyrie
- II. Gloria
- III. Sanctus
- IV. Agnus Dei

The score evolved from a pedagogical study through which it was demonstrated to student composers how one could follow conventions of plainchant within a tonal stasis (without accidentals or modulations), yet still sound contemporary in nature, hopefully producing music that sounds timeless instead of being overtly modernistic or retrospective.

The opening plainchant (Kyrie) is written in Phrygian mode and the subtle presence of a sung grace note contemporises the rhythmic and harmonic flavour of the phrase. The simple use of a compound interval for the bass in the first chorus also helps to contemporise the soundworld along with the use of fourth-based harmony and the linear use of whole-tones.

Note: This is currently a work in progress...

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I. Kyrie: (A Reflective Opening Prayer)

Kyrie eleison; Christe eleison; Kyrie eleison

II. Gloria: (In Praise and Celebration)

Gloria in excelsis Deo, et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis
Laudamus te, benedicimus te, adoramus te, glorificamus te.
Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam
Domine Deus, rex caelestis, Deus pater omnipotens.

III. Sanctus: (In Worship and Piety)

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth
Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua
Osanna in excelsis

IV. Agnus Dei: (A Solemn Closing Prayer)

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem

Missa Brevis
for SATB solo voices
I. Kyrie
[An Opening Prayer]

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1 ♩ = 50 **Eternal plea for mercy rit.** . . .

A **a tempo rit.** . . .

[♩ = 40]

B **a tempo**

mp molto legato rubato
Ky-ri-e e-lei____ son Chri-ste e-lei____ son

mp molto legato rubato
Ky-ri-e e-lei____ son Chri-ste e-lei____ son

mp *p* *mp molto legato rubato*
Chri-ste e-lei____ son Ky-ri-e e-lei____ son Chri-ste e-lei____ son

mp molto rubato solo *ritenuto* *p* *molto rubato ostinato chant*
Ky-ri-e e-lei____ son Chri-ste e-lei____ son Ky-ri-e e-lei____ son Chri-ste e-lei____ son Ky-ri-e e-lei - son Chri - ste e-lei - son Chri - ste e-lei - son Chri-ste e-lei - son

rit.

C ♩ = 40

D ♩ = 50 **a tempo**

rit.

E **a tempo rit.**

p *mp* *p* *pp*
Ky-ri-e e-lei____ son lei____ son son_ lei - son

p *pp* *p* *pp* *ppp*
Ky-ri-e e-lei____ son lei - son lei - son

p *pp* *p* *pp* *ppp*
Ky-ri-e e-lei____ son lei - son lei - son

pp *p* *pp* *ppp* *mp molto espress. rubato solo* *ritenuto*
Ky-ri-e e-lei - son Chri - ste e - lei - son lei - son Ky-ri-e e-lei____ son Chri-ste e-lei____ son Ky-ri-e e-lei____ son

[♩ = 40]

F a tempo

rit.

G ♩ = 40 ... Why? ...

mp molto legato rubato

mp molto legato rubato

mp *p* *mp molto legato rubato* *p* *pp* *p*

mp *p* *mp molto legato rubato* *p* *pp* *p*

p *molto rubato ostinato chant* *pp* *p*

Ky-ri - e e - lei son Chri - ste e - lei son Ky - ri - e e - lei son lei son son

Ky-ri - e e - lei son Chri - ste e - lei son Ky - ri - e e - lei son lei - son

Chri - ste e - lei son Ky - ri - e e - lei son ste e - lei - son Chri - ste e - lei son ste e - lei - son Ky - ri - e e - lei son lei - son

Chri - ste e - lei son Ky - ri - e e - lei - son Chri - ste e - lei - son Chri - ste e - lei - son Chri - ste e - lei - son Ky - ri - e e - lei - son Chri - ste e - lei - son

H ... gently fading away ...

I ... An eternal plea for mercy ...

mp *solo* *p* *pp* *mp* *p* *pp* *ppp*

pp *p* *pp* *ppp*

pp *p* *pp* *ppp*

pp *p* *pp* *ppp*

e - lei - son e - lei son e - lei - son e - lei - son lei - son e - lei - son e - lei - son son son

lei son e - - lei - - son e - - - lei - - - son son

lei son e - - lei - - son e - - - lei - - - son son

lei son e - - - lei - - - son e - - - lei - - - son son

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