

# Canticle of Light

By Gary Fagan

## INSTRUMENTATION

- 1 Conductor
- 8 Violin I
- 8 Violin II
- 5 Viola
- 5 Cello
- 5 String Bass

## PROGRAM NOTES

*Canticle of Light* is an uplifting and heroic piece that was conceived and composed as a statement of a relative “return to normalcy” following over two years of quarantine and social distancing, which took a huge toll on virtually every citizen of the world. Thousands of performances in all areas of the performing arts were cancelled, and many music and theater programs suffered from an inability to rehearse in person. Yet, these programs continue to thrive in most areas, and public performances are once again taking place. This piece is a celebration of and tribute to the musicians, dancers, and actors who continued to hone their craft in relative isolation in preparation for the time when they could once again come together to perform for appreciative audiences.

## NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

The opening introduction should be played as legato as possible and should not be rushed. Care will need to be taken at the key change at measure 10, as the players will be moving from two sharps to one flat. The style changes completely at measure 15, and a much more pronounced marcato style should be employed. Be sure the staccato notes in the lower voices are not so short that the pitches cannot be discerned. At measure 23, be sure to keep the level of the staccato eighth notes beneath the melodic material being played by the lower voices. These staccato rhythms will need to be played lightly with a minimal amount of bow pressure. At measure 43, very legato phrasing returns, and directors should feel free to add slurs to the half notes in the lower voices if desired.

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# Canticle of Light

FULL SCORE  
Duration - 3:35

By Gary Fagan (ASCAP)

Moderato ♩ = 96

Violins I

Violins II

Viola

Cello

String Bass

1 2 3 4

5 6 7 8 9



10

Vlns. I *ff*

Vlns. II *ff*

Vla. *ff*

Cello *ff*

Str. Bass *ff*

rit.

10 11 12 13 14

15 Allegretto ♩ = 112

Vlns. I *f*

Vlns. II *f*

Vla. *mf*

Cello *mf*

Str. Bass *mf*

15 16 17

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

18 19 20 21

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

22 23 24 25

*mf*

*f*

I  
Vlns.  
II  
Vla.  
Cello  
Str. Bass

26 27 28 29

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 26 through 29. It features five staves: Violins I and II, Viola, Cello, and String Bass. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). Measures 26 and 27 show a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with accents. Measure 28 begins with a key signature change to two sharps (D major) and includes a four-measure rest for the Cello and String Bass. Measure 29 continues the D major section with a first ending bracket over the final two measures.

I  
Vlns.  
II  
Vla.  
Cello  
Str. Bass

30 31 32

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 30 through 32. It features five staves: Violins I and II, Viola, Cello, and String Bass. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). Measure 30 shows a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with accents. Measure 31 begins with a dynamic marking of *f* and includes a four-measure rest for the Cello and String Bass. Measure 32 continues the *f* section with a first ending bracket over the final two measures.

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

33 34 35 36

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

37 38 39 rit.

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

I  
Vlns.  
II  
Vla.  
Cello  
Str. Bass

40 41 42

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 40, 41, and 42. It features five staves: Violins I and II, Viola, Cello, and String Bass. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The music consists of eighth and sixteenth notes with various articulations and dynamics. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

43 **Andante** ♩ = 72

I  
Vlns.  
II  
Vla.  
Cello  
Str. Bass

*mf legato*  
*p legato*  
*p legato*  
*p legato*  
*p legato*

43 44 45 46

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 43 through 46. It features five staves: Violins I and II, Viola, Cello, and String Bass. The tempo is marked 'Andante' with a metronome marking of ♩ = 72. The dynamics are marked as *mf legato* for Violin I, and *p legato* for Violin II, Viola, Cello, and String Bass. Measure 43 includes a 'V' marking above the first violin staff. Measure 44 has a '4' marking above the second violin staff. Measure 45 has a '4' marking above the viola staff. Measure 46 has a '4' marking above the first violin staff. A '-1' marking is present in the string bass staff at the beginning of measure 44. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

rit. a tempo 50

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

mf

mf

mf

47 48 49 50

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

4

51 52 53

56 a tempo

rit.

-3

-4

I

Vlns.

II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

54 55 56 57 *f*

I

Vlns. *mp*

II *mp*

Vla. *mp*

Cello

Str. Bass

58 59 60 61 (V)

62 <sup>-3</sup> <sup>-2</sup> <sup>V</sup>

Vlns. I *f*

Vlns. II *ff*

Vla. *f*

Cello

Str. Bass

62 63 64 65

66 <sup>-3</sup> <sup>rit.</sup> <sup>-2</sup> 68 *a tempo* <sup>4</sup>

Vlns. I

Vlns. II *f*

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

66 67 68

I  
Vlns.  
II  
Vla.  
Cello  
Str. Bass

69 70 71

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

4

x1

-1

1

This block contains the musical score for measures 69, 70, and 71. It features five staves: Violins I and II, Viola, Cello, and String Bass. The music is in 3/4 time and begins with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and fingering indications (e.g., '4' for a fourth finger, 'x1' for a first finger, and '-1' for a flat). Measure numbers 69, 70, and 71 are printed below the staves.

I  
Vlns.  
II  
Vla.  
Cello  
Str. Bass

72 73 74

*f*

*f*

*f*

*f*

*f*

rit.

(V)

(V)

(V)

(V)

4

(V)

This block contains the musical score for measures 72, 73, and 74. It features the same five staves as the previous block. The music continues with a forte (*f*) dynamic. A 'rit.' (ritardando) marking is present above the first staff in measure 73. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and fingering indications (e.g., '4' for a fourth finger). Measure numbers 72, 73, and 74 are printed below the staves.

75 Allegretto ♩ = 112

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

*f*

75 76 77

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

78 79 80

83

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

81 82 83

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

84 85 86