

elegy for the displaced
luctus profugis
for strings and vibraphone

Karim Al-Zand
(2016)

INSTRUMENTATION:

vibraphone
strings
(minimum: 44332)

DURATION:

ca. 5 minutes

PERFORMANCE NOTE:

The vibraphone should be placed center stage, roughly between the halves of the orchestra.

The current European refugee crisis began in 2015, when tens of thousands of migrants fled their war ravaged countries to seek asylum in the West. Displaced families, primarily from Syria (but also from Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya and other areas of conflict), travelled long distances and endured perilous journeys to reach safe destinations in Germany, Italy, Sweden and France, among other EU nations. The most dangerous routes have included maritime crossings of the Eastern Mediterranean to ports in Greece and Italy. Over 3,000 migrants are estimated to have perished at sea in 2015 alone. The reception of refugees in the EU has been mixed. While some of the new immigrants were welcomed initially, many have encountered xenophobia and an increasingly hostile environment. In the United States, which arguably has played the largest role in catalyzing the migration, the reaction has been characterized politically by inaction and fear-mongering. Governors in 26 states (including Texas) have refused to settle Syrian asylum seekers. Since 2013, the US has resettled fewer than 2,000 refugees, 0.05% of the total. Canada and Germany have settled over 19 times that number.

*Arma virumque cano, Troiae qui primus ab oris
Italiam, fato profugus...*

I sing of arms and the man—the one who first came
from the shores of Troy to Italy, exiled by fate.

Virgil, *Aeneid*, Book I

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Grave; somber, mournful ♩=44

OSTINATO

Vibraphone

pp (throughout)

Violin I
1, 2, 3, 4

Violin II
5, 6, 7, 8

Viola
1, 2, 3

Cello
1, 2, 3

Contrabass
1, 2

forlon sul IV 2, 3, 4

pp

5, 6, 7

8

pp

1 pizz.

pp

2, 3

pp

⑦

Vibes

Solo

Vln. I

2, 3, 4

p

5, 6, 7

8

p

Vln. II

1

2, 3

p

Vla.

1, 2

2

3

p

Vc.

pizz.

p

Cb.

p

plaintive

1 solo

p

arco

* Quiet but persistent; calibrate dynamics with the strings throughout, but always stay slightly below their volume.

† Play all melodic and accented grace notes on the beat.

12

Vibes

2, 3, 4

--- tutti insistent

Vln. I

mp

Vln. II (div.)

mp

Vla.

1, 2

3

mp

Vc.

1, 2

3

arco

mp

unis.

Cb.

1 pizz.

mp

18

Vibes

Vln. I (div.)

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

mf

cresc.

poco f

f

espres.

unis.

div.

2 arco

unis. arco

24 rit. — — a tempo

Vibes

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

mus. score

30

ritardando - - - - -

Vibes

Solo

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

1, 2

3

1, 2

3

1

2 pizz.

div. a 3

div.

(35) a tempo, ma un poco più mosso

Vibes *mf* *suddenly sunny*
 Vln. I *mf* *suddenly sunny*
 Vln. II *mf*
 Vla. *mf*
 Vc. *mf* 1 pizz. 2, 3 arco div.
 Cb. *mf* 1 pizz. 2, 3

(39) ritentuto - - - - - a tempo (tenuto)

Vibes *mf* *suddenly sunny*
 Solo Vln. I *mf* *suddenly sunny*
 Vln. II (div.) *mf*
 Vla. *mf*
 Vc. *mf* 1 2 3 unis. arco
 Cb. *mf* 1 2 3 arco

43 tempo primo

Vibes

Solo Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Solo Vc.

Cb.

musical notation including notes, rests, triplets, dynamics (poco f, f), and articulation marks (pizz., div., unis.)

48

Vibes

Solo

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Solo

Vc.

Cb.

poco rit.

