

pax penetralis (peace passing through)

for chorus and string orchestra

Mark Winges (2007)

texts: Layman P'ang, Anonymous Navaho, I Ching, Rumi

Minimum string forces: 5 – 4 – 2 – 2 – 1, a larger string ensemble is desirable

Traditional accidental usage: accidentals carry through the measure

duration: 7 – 8 minutes

pax penetralis (peace passing through)

When the mind is at peace,
the world too is at peace.

-- Layman P'ang (c. 740 – 808)

trans. Stephen Mitchell

translation used by permission of Michael Katz,
agent for Stephen Mitchell

I ask all blessings,
I ask them with reverence,
of my mother the earth,
of the sky, moon, and sun my father.

the essence of life
the source of all happiness

All is peaceful, all in beauty,
all in harmony, all in joy.

-- Anonymous Navaho (19th / 20th cent.)

Where Everything Is Music

Don't worry about saving these songs!
And if one of our instruments breaks,
it doesn't matter.

We have fallen into the place
where everything is music.

even if the whole world's harp
should burn up, there will still be
hidden instruments playing.

So the candle flickers and goes out.
We have a piece of flint, and a spark.

The singing art is sea foam.
The graceful movements come from a pearl
somewhere on the ocean floor.

Poems reach up like spindrift at the edge
of driftwood along the beach, wanting!

They come
from a slow and powerful root
that we can't see.

Stop the words now.
Open the window in the center of your chest,
and let the spirits fly in and out.

-- Rumi (1207 – 1273)

trans. by Coleman Barks

translation used by permission of Coleman Barks

T'ai – Peace

Peace. The small departs,
the great approaches.

.....

No plain not followed by a slope.
No going not followed by a return.

.....

The wall falls back into the moat.
Use no army now.

-- I Ching

for The San Francisco Choral Society - Robert Geary, director
pax penitralis (peace passing through)

Mark Wings
(2007)

hushed ♩ = 76 - 80

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

hushed ♩ = 76 - 80

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

Contrabass

6

S. *p* When _____ the

A. *p* When _____ the

T. *p* When _____ the

B. *p* When _____ the

Vln. I *ppp*

Vln. II *ppp* div.

Vla. *ppp*

Vc. *ppp*

Cb. *ppp*

11

S.
mind is at peace the world_ world_ too_ is at peace

A.
mind is at peace the world_ world_ too_ is at peace

T.
mind is at peace the world_ world_ too_ is at peace

B.
mind is at peace the world_ world_ too_ is at peace

Vln. I
pp *sempre pp* *p*

Vln. II
pp *sempre pp* *p*

Vla.
pp *sempre pp* *p*

Vc.
pp *sempre pp* *p*

Cb.
sempre pp *p*

pax penetralis

19

A sing this phrase 3 times, then go immediately to the next phrase* *pp*

S. 

I ask all blessings — I ask them with reverence

— sing this phrase 3 times, then go immediately to the next phrase* *pp* — sing this phrase 3 times, then go immediately to the next phrase

A. 

I ask all blessings — I ask them with reverence

T. 

B. 

* Sing the phrase / text as indicated. Voices should begin at the same time, but should not stay together - some slightly slower, some slightly faster - and should not coordinate with the other voice parts or the strings. The idea is to create a constant, soft, indistinct texture.

Note that the beginning of the next soprano / alto phrase will not be together, and may not bear any resemblance to the way the music is notated in the score.

A

Vln. I 

Vln. II 

Vla. 

Vc. 

Cb. 

B

S. *sing once and hold last note*
of my moth-er the earth
of the sky moon and sun_my fa-ther
*sing this phrase 3 times**
sempre pp

A. *sing once and hold last note*
of my moth-er the earth
of the sky moon and sun_my fa-ther
*sing this phrase 3 times**
sempre pp

T. *peace* *the small*

B. *peace* *the small*

*as before: begin together but do not oordinate.

B

Vln. I *sul tasto* *pizz.*
pp *p* *mp*

Vln. II *sul tasto* *pizz.*
pp *p* *mp*

Vla. *pizz.*
mp *p* *mp*

Vc. *tutti, pizz.*
mf *p* *mp*

Cb. *pizz.*
p *mp*