Christopher Beardsley

Between Heaven and Earth

for SSAATTBB choir, percussion and harp

CHRISTOPHER BEARDSLEY
Between Heaven and Earth
for Choir, Percussion and Harp

Between Heaven and Earth sets a single line of text from the Book of Revelations (19:17), *I saw an angel standing in the sun*, which is juxtaposed to a line of self-doubt, *And I looked up to the skies and wondered*. This text is set to musical material based on a short fragment taken from a 10/11th century trope setting of the *Gloria in excelsis Deo,* which is intoned by the first tenor at the start of the work.

Performance notes:

1. Opening. The rhythms shown in the Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Bass ad libitum sections are approximate. The performers should whisper the words with normal speech rhythms.

2. Section B to C. To distinguish between the *a* of *an* and the *a* of *angel* the latter is printed thus, ā. Dotted slurs indicate a slow and smooth transition between each note and phoneme or syllable.

3. Section F to G. *Sun* is sung in three contrasting ways.
a) (su)n indicates singing *sun* with a short *s* and *u* thus holding the note on *n* with a nasal sound.
b) Su – n indicates singing *sun* with a long *u* which ends on a nasal *n*.
c) Su(n) indicates singing *sun* with a long *u* and with no *n* on the end.

Duration: approximately 9 minutes

*Percussion requirements:
Crotales, Glockenspiel, Suspended Cymbal, Mark Tree,
Vibraphone, Marimba, Tam-tam

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Slowly (♩=c48)

Solo

c 5 seconds

Soprano

gli altri

pp *whispered**

Repeat ad lib.

I saw an an - gel stand - ing in the sun.

Alto

pp *whispered**

Repeat ad lib.

I saw an an - gel stand-ing in the sun.

Tenor

pp *whispered**

Repeat ad lib.

I saw an an - gel stand-ing in the sun.

Bass

pp *whispered**

Repeat ad lib.

I saw an an - gel stand-ing in the sun.

Crotales

l.v.

f

Harp

gliss.

pp

C♮ D♮ E♮ F♮ G♮ A♮ B♭

bisbigliando

*See note 1

S.

(Solo)

p

3

I

3

A.

T.

B.

Crot.

Hp.

gliss.

gliss.

pp

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S.

A.

T.

B.

Solo

p

3

I_____ saw,_____

Crot.

c 5 seconds

l.v.

mf

p

l.v.

Hp.

gliss.

gliss.

gliss.

gliss.

pp

pp

pp

S.

On cue finish the repeated phrase then stop

After last phrase finishes hold pause for at least 5 seconds

A.

On cue finish the repeated phrase then stop

After last phrase finishes hold pause for at least 5 seconds

T.

c 5 seconds

Solo

p

3

I_____ saw an an - 3 - gel,_____

After last phrase finishes hold pause for at least 5 seconds

On cue finish the repeated phrase then stop

After last phrase finishes hold pause for at least 5 seconds

B.

On cue finish the repeated phrase then stop

After last phrase finishes hold pause for at least 5 seconds

Crot.

l.v.

To Glockenspiel

p

After last phrase finishes hold pause for at least 5 seconds

Hp.

gliss.

pp

On cue finish the repeated phrase then stop

After last phrase finishes hold pause for at least 5 seconds

A

L'istesso tempo (♩=c48)

S.

(Tutti) *p warm*

I saw,

A.

p warm

I saw,

T.

(Tutti) *p warm*

I

B.

(Tutti) *p warm*

I saw,

Glock.

Glockenspiel

p

Hp.

p sonorous E♭

p E♮ B♮

mf E♭ B♭

S.

p I saw, *mf* I saw, *p*

A.

p I saw, *mf* I saw, *p*

T.

p I saw, *mf* I saw, *p*

B.

p I saw, *mf* I saw, *p*

Glock.

To Crotales

Hp.

p E♮ *mf* B♮ F♯ B♭ *p*

B

S. *p sostenuto* a** - n ā - n - ge - l, a - n ā - n - ge - l,

A. *p sostenuto* a** - n ā - n - ge - l, a - n

T. *p sostenuto* a** - n ā - n - ge - l, a - n ā - n - ge - l,

B. *p sostenuto* a** - n ā - n - ge - l, ā - n - ge -

Crotales — l.v. — To Suspended Cymbal

Crot. *mf*

Hp. *p* C♯ B♮

** See note 2

S. ā - n - ge - l, a - n ā - n - ge - l, a - n ā -

A. ā - n - ge - l, a - n ā - n -

T. a - n ā - n - ge - l, a - n ā -

B. l, ā - n - ge - l, a - n ā - n -

S.C.

Hp. F♮ B♭ C♮ D♭

S.
n - ge - - - - l,

A.
ge - - l,

T.
- n - ge - - - - l,

B.
ge - - l,

Suspended Cymbal

S.C.
p
l.v.
mf
To Mark Tree

Hp.
E♯ F♮
gliss.
p
D♮ E♮ F♯

C

Mark tree

Mk. T.
p
gliss.
l.v.

To Suspended Cymbal

Hp.
C♯

Suspended Cymbal

S.C.
p
To Vibraphone
l.v.

Hp.
pp
C♮ F♮ B♮
p
D♭ B♭

Vibraphone

Vib.
p

Hp.
p

D

Vib.

Hp.

p hesitant

poco accel.

cresc.

rit.

f

To Crotales

D♮

E

S.

A.

T.

B.

Crot.

Hp.

mf

p

rall.

I saw an an gel stand - ing in the

I saw an an - gel stand - ing in the

I saw an an - gel stand - ing in the

I saw an an - gel stand - ing in the

A♮ E♮ B♮

F♯ G♯ A♭ B♭

Faster (♩=c60)

F

S. *f pulsing* *p* *f* *f* *f*
(su)n*** (su)n (su)n (su)n

A. *f pulsing* *p* *f* *f* *f*
(su)n*** (su)n (su)n (su)n

T. *f pulsing* *p* *f* *f* *f*
(su)n*** (su)n (su)n su(n)

B. *f pulsing* *p* *f* *f* *f*
(su)n*** (su)n (su)n (su)n

Crotales

Crot. *f*

Hp. *f* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.* *gliss.*

***See note 3

S. *f* *f* *f* *f*
(su)n su - n su - - n su - - n

A. *f* *f* *f* *f*
(su)n (su)n (su)n (su)n

T. *f* *f* *f* *f*
(su)n (su)n (su)n (su)n

B. *f* *f* *f* *f*
(su)n su - - n su - - n su - - n

Crot. To Suspended Cymbal
f

Hp. *gliss.*
f harsh
près de la table
G♮ A♮ B♮

S.

A.

T.

B.

Suspended Cymbal

S.C.

Hp.

(p.d.l.t., non gliss.)

l.v.

molto

G

S. *sub* ***pp*** sun.

A. ***ff*** shout sun!

T. ***ff*** shout sun!

B. ***ff*** shout sun!

S.C. damp! To Crotales

Crot. Crotales

Hp. (nat.) ***p*** ***p*** ***p***

Slower (𝅗𝅥=c48)

S. ***p*** *hesitant* I saw an an - gel stand - ing, saw an an - gel stand - ing in the sun.

A. ***p*** *hesitant* I saw an an - gel stand - ing, saw an an - gel stand - ing in the sun.

T. ***p*** *hesitant* I saw an an - gel stand - ing in the sun.

B. ***p*** *hesitant* I saw an an - gel stand - ing in the sun. ***f*** *rhythmic* And

Crot. To Marimba ***p***

Mar. Marimba ***f*** *rhythmic*

Hp. ***f*** *rhythmic*

H

Faster (♩=c120)

S. *f rhythmic* And I looked up to the

A. *f rhythmic* And I looked up to the

T. *f rhythmic* And I looked up to the skies,

B. I looked up to the skies,

Mar.

Hp. C♯ D♯ G♯ G♮

S. skies, up to the skies And I

A. skies looked up to the skies And I

T. looked up to the skies And I

B. looked up to the skies And I looked up

Mar.

Hp. G♯ G♮ C♮ B♭ D♮ C♯ B♮

S. looked up to the skies, up to the skies

A. looked up to the skies looked up to the

T. looked up to the skies, looked up to the skies

B. to the skies, looked up to the skies

Mar.

Hp. D♯ A♭ F♮ B♭ D♮ E♭ C♮

S. won - dered, and won - dered.

A. skies won - dered, and won - dered.

T. and won - dered, won - dered.

B. and won - dered, won - dered.

Mar.

Hp. F♯ C♯ D♯ E♮ F♮ G♭ A♮ B♮

I

S.

A.

T.

B.

Mar.

mf

Hp.

f bright, poco staccato A♭ C♮ D♭ B♭ D♮ D♭ E♭

S.

A.

T.

B.

Mar.

mf *f*

Hp.

E♮ G♮ D♮

J

S. divisi

mf I saw an an - gel

mf I saw an an - gel

A. divisi

mf I saw and an -

T. divisi

mf an - - - -

mf an - -

B. divisi

Mar.

Hp.

E♭

A♮

S.
(div.)

A.
gel
(div.)
mf
I saw an an - gel

T.
- - - - gel
(div.)
- - - - gel

B.
mf
an - - - - gel
(div.)
mf
an - gel

Mar.

Hp.
F♯ E♮ B♮ F♯

S.
Tutti *mp*
I___ saw_

A.

T.
(div.)
p
I saw an an - - - - gel

p
I saw an an - - gel

B.
(div.)
p
I saw an an-gel

p
I saw an an-gel

Mar.
p

Hp.
D♯ G♯ B♭
F♮
G♮ A♭ *p*
C♯ F♯
E♮ B♮ C♮
mp

K

S.
p
I saw

A.
Tutti *mp*
I___ saw___
p
I saw

T.
Tutti *mp*
an an - gel___
I saw

B.
Tutti *mp*
an an - gel___
I saw

Mar.
p *cresc.*

Hp.
D♮ B♭ A♮ E♭ F♮
p *cresc.*

S. an an - gel stand - ing in the

A. an an - gel stand - ing in the

T. an an - gel stand - ing in the

B. an an - gel stand - ing in the

Mar.

Hp.

S. sun in the sun, sun.

A. sun in the sun, sun.

T. sun, in the sun, sun.

B. sun, in the sun, sun.

Mar.

Hp. A♮ B♮

L

(♩=♪)

S.

A.

T.

B.

Mar.

Hp.

Gb Ab Bb

mf

S.

I saw an an - - -

A.

I saw an an -

T.

I saw an an - -

B.

I saw an an - gel stand - ing in the sun I saw an an -

Mar.

Hp.

S. gel stand - - - ing in

A. - - - gel stand - - - ing in

T. - gel stand - - - ing in

B. gel stand - ing in the sun I saw an an - gel stand - ing

Mar.

Hp.

(♩♪=♩♪)

S. the sun I saw an an - gel

A. the sun I saw

T. the sun I saw

B. in the sun I saw an an - gel I saw an

Mar.

Hp.

S. stand - ing in the sun I saw an an - gel stand - ing in the

A. an an - - - gel I

T. an an - - - gel I saw an an - gel

B. an - - gel stand - - ing in

Mar.

Hp.

S. sun I saw an an - gel stand - ing in the sun

A. saw an an - gel stand - ing in the sun

T. stand - ding in the sun

B. the sun.

Mar.

Hp. Cb Db

22

M

S.

A.

T.

B.

Mar.

Hp.

p

I

sub *p*

A♮ B♮

mf *brittle*

A♯ A♭

C♮ B♭

E♮ A♯ B♮

(♩=♪)

Eb G♮ A♭ G♯ A♯ C♯

(♩=♪)

S.

A.

T.

B.

Mar.

Hp.

F♯

D♮ G♮ A♮

C♮ F♮

p *sonorous*

D♭ E♭

rit.

long

To Vibraphone

N

Slowly, hesitant (♩=c48)

S.

Solo

p 3 3

I saw I saw

gli altri

pp *pp*

I saw, I saw

A.

Solo

p 3 3

I saw I saw

gli altri

pp *pp*

I saw, I saw

T.

Solo

p 3 3

I saw I saw

gli altri

pp *pp*

I saw, I saw

B.

Solo

p 3 3

I saw I saw

gli altri

pp *pp*

I saw, I saw

Vib.

Hp.

arp. sim.

p 3 3

Gb

(non arp.)

pp G♮ A♮ E♮ *pp*

O **L'istesso tempo, molto legato**

S. Tutti ***p*** *sostenuto*
an an - - - - - -

A. Tutti ***p*** *sostenuto*
an an - - gel stan - -

T. Tutti ***p*** *sostenuto*
an an - - - gel

B. Tutti ***p*** *sostenuto*
an an - - - - - - gel stan -

Vib. Vibraphone
p

Hp. (non arp.)
sf ***p*** E♭ (harm.) G♮ B♮ A♭

S. - gel stand - ing in the

A. ding in the

T. stand - - ing in the

B. - - - - ding in

Vib.

Hp. G♭ B♭ D♭ D♮ B♮ E♮ B♭

S.
A.
T.
B.
Vib.
Hp.

mf
sun,
the
To Tam-tam
D♯
D♭ F♯ G♭ A♮ B♭

Suddenly faster (♩=c120)

p
f
sun.
3
T.-t.
Tam-tam
To Vibraphone
mf
gliss.
F♮ G♮

P

Slow (♩=c60)

S. *p poco*
stand - ing

A. *p poco*
stand - ing

T. *p poco*
stand - ing

B. *p poco*
stand - ing

Vib.

Hp. *p pulsing*

S. *p*
and still

A. *p*
and still

T. *p* 3
and still

B. *p* 3
and still still

Vib. 3 *p*

Hp. D♮ E♮ F♯

Slower (♩=c48)

rit.

S. *p* still I won -

A. *p* still I I won -

T. *p* still won - - -

B. *p* still I won - - -

Vib.

Hp. *p* bisbigliando

S. - dered.

A. - dered.

T. dered.

B. dered.

Vib.

Hp. D♭F♮G♭♭ *gliss.* *rapid* ***pp*** (non gliss.) ***p***