

Cain and Abel

A Dramatic Cantata
for Treble, Alto and Bass/Baritone Soloists,
SATB Choir & Piano

Opus 21

ANDREW DOWNES

LYNWOOD MUSIC

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ANDREW DOWNES: CAIN AND ABEL Opus 21 (1981)

Duration 20'

This Dramatic Cantata, composed in the style of a Greek tragedy, is scored for alto and bass soloists, SATB chorus and piano.

Libretto by Cynthia and Andrew Downes.

Conscience of Adam	treble soloist & SATB chorus
Cain	alto soloist
Adam	bass/baritone soloist

The work was commissioned in 1981, with financial assistance from West Midlands Arts, to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the foundation of the Midland Boy Singers by Peter and Alvena Grant. Andrew Downes was himself a founder member of this choir.

Cain and Abel was first performed in the Kaiser Willhelm Gedachtniskirche, Berlin, by the Midland Boy Singers during their tour of Germany in 1981.

'Like all Downes' music, it was admirably conceived for the medium.'

THE MUSICAL TIMES

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Published by:-

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CAIN AND ABEL

A Dramatic Cantata for Treble, Alto & Bass/Baritone Soloists, SATB Choir & Piano

ANDREW DOWNES

Andante (♩ = 66)

Piano

mp

mp

Molto legato - cantabile

p

PER

(Legato)

(PED)

p

10

p

S
A

CAIN, 'WHERE IS THY BRO-THER A - BEL ? CAIN, WHERE IS HETHY BRO-THER

T
B

mp

Piano

PEP

(15)

CAIN (Aito)

ON A ROCK, HE

S
A

A - BEL - ?

T
B

(molto legato)

Piano

PP

PEP

CAIN

STUCK HIS HEAD ON A ROCK.

Piano (pp)

(PED)

Piano (pp)

(PED)

S A

T B

But WHERE IS HE NOW THY BROTHER A-BEL?

mp

Piano (pp)

(PED)

(25) (bitterly)

CAIN *f* HE WENTO-VERYONDERTO SEE HIS LAMBS, HIS PRECIOUS LAMBS

Piano *mf*

ff

THEY ALLOVE HIS PRE-CIOUS LAMBS, HIS CURSED LAMBS.

ff *fff*

(30)

S
A CAIN, WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO YOUR BROTHER A-BEL? YOUR FATHER IS

T
B *mp*

Piano *p*

S
A

DESPERATE, HE CAN NOT BEAR THIS UN-CERTAIN-TY —

T
B

Piano

This block contains the musical score for the Soprano (S) and Alto (A) voices, and the piano accompaniment. The vocal parts are written in treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are "DESPERATE, HE CAN NOT BEAR THIS UN-CERTAIN-TY —". The piano accompaniment is in a 4/4 time signature and includes a right-hand part with triplets and a left-hand part with chords and bass lines. A dynamic marking of "pp" (pianissimo) is present in the piano part.

PEU

35

mp

CAIN

HOW CAN I EV-ER TEL MY FA — THER,

Piano

This block contains the musical score for the character Cain, starting at measure 35. The vocal part is in treble clef with a key signature of two flats. The lyrics are "HOW CAN I EV-ER TEL MY FA — THER,". The piano accompaniment is in a 4/4 time signature and features a right-hand part with triplets and a left-hand part with chords and bass lines. Dynamic markings include "mp" (mezzo-piano) and "pp" (pianissimo).

(PEU)

CRAIN

TELL HIM WHAT HAPP- ENED ?

S A

YOU MUST

T B

Piano

(pp) (mp)

PED

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40

S A

TELL HIM CRAIN, TELL HIM WHAT HAPPENED

T B

Piano

(pp) pp

PED

CAIN *mf* OH GOD, *P* HOW CAN I E-VER

S A T B YOU MUST TELL HIM WHAT HAPPENED *P*

Piano

(PED)

f TELL HIM.

Go AND TELL HIM.

mp (PP)

(PED)

45

CAIN

mp

How CAN HE EV-ER LIVE WITH -

Piano

P

Laissez vibrer

mp

(PED)

OUT HIS BE-LO - YED SON ?

(PED)

50

HIS GRIEF WILL BE TERRIBLE,

P

Laissez vibrer

(PED)

AS WILL HIS HATE FOR ME

The first system of the musical score consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is written in a treble clef with a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are "AS WILL HIS HATE FOR ME". The piano accompaniment is written in a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The right hand features a complex rhythmic pattern with many sixteenth notes, including two triplet markings. The left hand has a simpler accompaniment with quarter and eighth notes.

(PED)

Two sets of empty musical staves, each consisting of a grand staff (treble and bass clefs), intended for the second system of the score.

mf OH GOD —, OH GOD —,

Laissez vibrar

The second system of the musical score features a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line is in a treble clef with a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are "OH GOD —, OH GOD —,". The piano accompaniment is in a grand staff. The right hand has a complex rhythmic pattern with many sixteenth notes and two triplet markings. The left hand includes a dynamic marking of *p* (piano) and the instruction *Laissez vibrar* (let it vibrate), with a fermata over a chord. A blue watermark "Preview File Only" is visible across the score.

(PED)

Two sets of empty musical staves, each consisting of a grand staff (treble and bass clefs), intended for the third system of the score.

55

CAIN

p *f*

How CAN I E-VER TELL HIM?

mp

YOU MUST TELL HIM WHAT HAPPENED GO AND

mp

YOU MUST TELL HIM WHAT HAPPENED GO AND TELL HIM

mp

YOU MUST TELL HIM WHAT HAPPENED GO AND

mp

YOU MUST TELL HIM WHAT HAPPENED GO AND TELL HIM

Piano *(pp)*

pp

(PEO)

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S
TELL HIM

A
GO AND TELL HIM

T
8 TELL HIM

B
GO AND TELL HIM

Piano

(PP)

(PED)

(ADAM CAN BE SEEN ARRIVING FROM THE DISTANCE)

MP

S
CAIN, ADAM IS COMING. ARE YOU READY TO TELL HIM?

MP

A
CAIN, ADAM IS COMING. ARE YOU READY TO TELL HIM?

MP

T
8 CAIN, ADAM IS COMING. ARE YOU READY TO TELL HIM?

MP

B
CAIN, ADAM IS COMING. ARE YOU READY TO TELL HIM?

(60)

(ENTER ADAM)

ADAM
(Bass Baritone)

mp

CAIN, MY

Piano

Musical score for Adam and Piano, measures 58-64. Adam's part is in bass clef, 3/4 time. Piano accompaniment is in treble and bass clefs. Dynamics include p, pp, and mp. A fermata is present over the piano accompaniment in measure 64.

(65)

SON, WHERE IS YOUR BROTHER AB-EL? I HAVE LOOKED FOR HIM EVERYWHERE, I CANNOT

Musical score for Adam and Piano, measures 65-69. Adam's part is in bass clef, 4/4 time. Piano accompaniment is in treble and bass clefs. Dynamics include p and mp. A large blue watermark "Preview File Only" is overlaid on the score.

FIND HIM — CAIN, I SAW YOU WITH HIM. DID HE NOT

Musical score for Adam and Piano, measures 70-74. Adam's part is in bass clef, 3/4 time. Piano accompaniment is in treble and bass clefs. Dynamics include mp. A circled measure number "70" is above the Adam part in the second measure.

CAIN *mf*
HOW SHOULD I KNOW ABOUT HIM

ADAM
TELL YOU WHERE HE WAS GO-ING ?

Piano
p *f* *pp*

ritto. *ritto.* *ritto.* *ritto.*

PED

75

mp *p*
HE CAN LOOK AF-TER HIM SELF. I KNOW NOTHING, NOTHING.

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CAIN *mf* WHY ALL THIS CONCERN? HE

ADAM *mp* (Urgently) *f* CAIN, COULD YOU NOT HELP ME LOOK FOR YOUR BROTHER

p *mp* *f*

Cain

80

OF-TEN GOES OFF BY HIM-SELF.

mf BUT NEVER FOR AS LONG AS THIS,

pp *mp*

tr *pp* *mp*

ADAM

f *mp*

HE HAS BEEN MISSING, MISSING FOR TWO DAYS.

Piano

f *p*

(Recitative)

p

CAIN, DID I NOT SEE YOU QUARRELLING, QUARRELLING THE DAY HE DISAPPEARED?

pp

Colla Voce

PED

85 (A tempo)

p *mp*

CAIN, TELL ME THE TRUTH, HAVE YOU BEEN

mp *p* *mp*

(tremolo)

Colla Voce

PED

CAIN

ADAM

R-H

Piano

L-H

(PED)

mf *f* *ff*

FIGHTING YOUR BROTHER? TELL ME!

WHAT ARE YOU SUGG-

CAIN

R-H

L-H

(PED)

90

f *mp* *p*

EST-ING? ARE YOU ACC-USING ME OF SOMETHING? I CAN NOT STAND IT, LEAVE ME AL-

-17-
(CAIN BEGINS A SLOW EXIT)

RIT. -----

CAIN

- ONE

Piano

P

(PEO)

Much slower

(EXIT CAIN) (95) Faster (♩ = 80-84)

I WILL GO AND LOOK FOR HIM.

PP

(100)

ADAM

Piano

105

ADAM

I CAN NOT HELP IT, BUT I SUS —

Piano

Musical notation for measures 105-109. The Adam part is on a single staff with a bass clef. The Piano part is on a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). Measure 105 starts with a bass clef and a 3/4 time signature. The piano accompaniment features a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand and a single eighth note in the left hand. The Adam part has a melodic line with a triplet of eighth notes in measure 105 and a quarter note in measure 106. The lyrics "I CAN NOT HELP IT, BUT I SUS —" are written below the Adam staff.

110

—PECT MY OWN SON — WHY DO I NOT TRUST HIM ?

Musical notation for measures 110-114. The Adam part is on a single staff with a bass clef. The Piano part is on a grand staff. Measure 110 starts with a 3/4 time signature. The piano accompaniment has a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand and a quarter note in the left hand. The Adam part has a melodic line with a triplet of eighth notes in measure 110 and a quarter note in measure 111. The lyrics "—PECT MY OWN SON — WHY DO I NOT TRUST HIM ?" are written below the Adam staff. A "mp" dynamic marking is present above measure 110.

RIT ———

A tempo (♩ = 80-84)

WHY IS HE SO DIS-TANT FROM ME ?

Musical notation for measures 115-119. The Adam part is on a single staff with a bass clef. The Piano part is on a grand staff. Measure 115 starts with a 3/4 time signature. The piano accompaniment has a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand and a quarter note in the left hand. The Adam part has a melodic line with a triplet of eighth notes in measure 115 and a quarter note in measure 116. The lyrics "WHY IS HE SO DIS-TANT FROM ME ?" are written below the Adam staff. A "P" dynamic marking is present above measure 115. A "pp" dynamic marking is present above measure 117. A "C" time signature change is indicated above measure 118.

115

ADAM

HE WAS ACTING SO STRANGELY, SOMETHING HAS HAPPENED BETWEEN THEM

120

ADAM

Soprano (S)

Alto (A)

Tenor (T)

Bass (B)

Piano

I KNOW IT.

HE WAS ACTING SO STRANGELY

YOU ARE RIGHT TO BE ANXIOUS

YOU MUST FIND OUT WHAT

(125)

S mp **f**
You MUST FIND HIM

A mp **f**
You MUST FIND HIM

T mp **f**
HAPPENED You MUST FIND HIM

B mp **f**
WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO A - BEL. You MUST FIND HIM

ADAM **f**
WHY HAVE MY SONS ALWAYS QUARRELLED?

130

ADAM

CAIN WHEN HE WAS FIRST BORN WAS SWEET AND LOVING.

Poco rit

mp *f* mp *p*

BUT WHEN A - BEL CAME HE CHANGED, HE HAS ALWAYS BEEN JEALOUS OF HIS BRO - THER

135 Slower (♩ = 63)

mf

SOPRANOS (CHORUS)

AD - AM. AD - AM. HAVE YOU NEVER THOUGHT THAT YOU COULD BE TO BLAME ?

Piano

ALTOS (CHORUS) *mp*
AD-AM, ARE YOU SURE THE FAULT IS WITH CAIN?

TENORS + BASSES (CHORUS) *p*
AD-AM, WHAT WENT

Piano *p*

140

ADAM *legato mp*
WHAT COULD I HAVE DONE? I HAVE

TENORS + BASSES (CHORUS)
WRONG, COULD YOU HAVE STOPPED IT?

Piano *pp*

145

ADAM

TRIED TO BE A GOOD FA - THER TO MY CHIL - DREN.

S
A

T
B

A - DAM, You

p

Piano

150

S
A

AL - WAYS GAVE MORE LOVE TO A - BEL. WHEN HE WAS BORN YOU

T
B

Handwritten musical markings: four slanted lines (trills or accents) positioned below the Tenor and Bass staves.

S
A

CEASED TO NO-TICE CAIN, YOUR SON ——— YOUR

T
B

Piano

P

PED

155

S
A

PRE-FER-ENCE FOR A-BEL HAS CAUSED GREAT SOR-ROR TO CAIN:

T
B

3

(Held back a little)

160

HE AL-WAYS LOVED YOU WITH ALL HIS HEART ———

PP

(Very Smoothly)

mp

S

AT THE AL-TAR OF SA-CRI-FICE

mp

A

AT THE AL - TAR OF

mp

T

AT THE AL - TAR OF SAC-RI-FICE

mp

B

AT THE AL - TAR OF

Molto legato

Piano

P

PED

Empty musical staves for vocal or instrumental parts.

165

S
You Ex-AL - TED A - BEL, AND PRAISED HIS LAMBS ———

A
SAC-RI-FICE YOU Ex - AL - TED A - BEL, AND PRAISED HIS

T
8 You Ex-AL - TED A - BEL, AND PRAISED HIS LAMBS ———

B
SAC-RI-FICE YOU Ex - AL - TED A - BEL, AND PRAISED HIS

(P)

(PED)

Empty musical staves for piano accompaniment.

mf

S
A
T
B

LAMBS ———

NOT A WORD FOR

mf

NOT A WORD FOR

mf

NOT A WORD FOR

mf

NOT A WORD FOR

Piano

P

f

170

S
A
T
B

CAIN —, POOR CAIN WHO WORKS SO HARD IN THE FIELDS

Piano

P

(175)

S
A

T
B

Piano

f mp pp

3

PED

S
A

T
B

P

A - DAM, YOUR NE - GLECT OF CAIN HAS -

(180)

DES - TROYED YOUR FAM - I - LY

mf

A little slower ($\text{♩} = 58$)
With foreboding

ADAM

THIS IS SO TRUE, I HAVE IGNORED WHAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING.

S
A

T
B

Piano

mp

PED

Preview File Only

(CAIN APPEARS IN THE DISTANCE)

ADAM

I HAVE BEHAVED SO BADLY TO MY SON. WHAT HAVE I

P

185

Piano

(PED)

(ADAM TURNS AND SEES HIM)

Slower

mp

CAIN

AB-EL IS DEAD FATHER: HE IS

ADAM

DONE ——— ?

Piano

(PED)

190

f

mp

CAIN

DEAD.

WE QUARRELLED, THE WORST QUARREL WE EVER HAD.

HE

Piano

(PED)

195

HIT ME.

I HIT HIM SO HARD HE FELL, STRUCK HIS HEAD ON A ROCK, DIED THERE.

Piano

(PED)

CAIN

I TRIED TO SAVE HIM, BUT IT WAS TOO LATE. I HAVE CARRIED HIS BODY, AND

Piano

(PED)

200

LAID IT AT THE ALTAR OF SACRIFICE. IF ONLY IT WERE ME LYING THERE

(PED)

205

pp p mp mf f ff fff

(PED)

PED

(CAIN TURNS AND LEAVES)

ADAM

mp

MY SON AB-EL, DEAD? LY.ING AT THE AL-TAR OF

Piano

(210)

SAC-RI-FICE. CAN IT BE TRUE?

P

AM I

PED

DREA.MING?

MY

PED

* Bracketed rests show that although the fingers are taken off the keys, the chord is held on through the rest by the sustaining pedal.

ADAM

SON, MY BE-LO-VED, BE-LO-VED SON

Piano

(PP) (7) (7) (7) (7) (7) (7)

(PED)

LIES DEAD AT THE ALTAR OF SAC-RI-FICE

(7)(3) (-) (-)

(PED)

215

ADAM

R.H. (7) (Molto legato) (PP)

Piano P (PP)

L.H. (7) (PP)

(PED)

P Smoothly and peacefully

SOPRANOS (CHORUS)

A - BEL IS AT PEACE , HE LIES WITH THE

(PP)

(PP)

(PED)

SOPRANOS
(CHORUS)

FA ——— THER ———

R.H.

Piano

L.H.

(PED)

SOPRANOS

P

YOU WILL SEE HIM A GAIN IN

(PED)

220

SOPRANOS (CHORUS)

HEAV'N

R.H.

Piano

L.H.

(PED)

S
A

T
B

YOU NEED NOT GRIEVE FOR

R.H.

L.H.

PED

S
A

3 mp

A - BEL YOUR SON ———— TURN YOUR THOUGHTS IN-STEAD TO

T
B

R.H.

(PP)

Piano

L.H.

(PP)

(PED)

S

mf > mp

CAIN ——— WHO AS LONG AS HE LIVES MUST CARRY THE BUR-DEN OF HIS

A

mf mp

CAIN WHO AS LONG AS HE LIVES MUST CARRY THE BURDEN OF HIS GUILT

T

mf

CAIN ——— WHO AS LONG AS HE LIVES MUST CARRY THE BUR-DEN

B

mf

CAIN ——— WHO AS LONG AS HE LIVES MUST CARRY THE

225

S *P*
GUILT.

A

T *PP*
OF HIS GUILT.

B
BUR-DEN OF HIS GUILT.

Piano *PPP*
(7) (7)

PEDE

S *PP*
A ——— DAM, WHEN YOU GO TO THE AL-TAR OF

T B

Piano
(7) (-)

(PED)

(ADAM KNEELS) faster (♩ = ♩)

230

ADAM

S
A

T
B

Piano

PPP

mp ON GOD

SA ——— CRI FICE, PRAY FOR CAIN ———

(1) (2)

PED

ADAM

WHAT HAVE I DONE ? THIS GRIEF IS ALL MY DO - ING .

235

mp HOW CAN I EVER HEAL THE WOUNDS OF MY FAMILY ? HOW CAN I EVER

240

LIVE WITH THIS GUILT ? FOR I AM MORE GUILTY THAN

(SUNG FROM THE CHORUS)

245

SOLO TREBLE

Musical staff for Solo Treble. The staff contains a few notes, including a half note G4 and a quarter note A4. The lyrics "A — DAM YOUR" are written below the staff.

ADAM

Musical staff for Adam. The staff contains a few notes, including a half note G4 and a quarter note A4. The lyrics "CAN" are written below the staff.

Piano

Piano accompaniment for measure 245. The left hand plays a bass line with a triplet of eighth notes (G3, F3, E3) and a quarter note (D3). The right hand plays a treble line with a triplet of eighth notes (G4, A4, B4) and a quarter note (C5). The dynamics are marked "pp" and "(?) (=)".

PED

SOLO TREBLE

Musical staff for Solo Treble. The staff contains a sequence of notes: G4, A4, B4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. The lyrics "TASK IS CLEAR : YOU MUST RE — BUILD YOUR FAM . ILY ,

Piano accompaniment for measure 246. The left hand plays a bass line with a triplet of eighth notes (G3, F3, E3) and a quarter note (D3). The right hand plays a treble line with a triplet of eighth notes (G4, A4, B4) and a quarter note (C5). The dynamics are marked "(pp)" and "(?) (=)".

(PED)

250

Musical staff for Solo Treble. The staff contains a sequence of notes: G4, A4, B4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. The lyrics "YOU MUST HELP CAIN TO LIVE WITH HIS

Piano accompaniment for measure 250. The left hand plays a bass line with a triplet of eighth notes (G3, F3, E3) and a quarter note (D3). The right hand plays a treble line with a triplet of eighth notes (G4, A4, B4) and a quarter note (C5). The dynamics are marked "(pp)" and "(?) (=)".

(PED)

SOLO TREBLE

GUILT _____ IN - CREASE YOUR FAM - I - LY _____,

Piano

(PP) (3) (a) (PPP) (3) (a) (3)

(PED)

AP (255)

AND BRING HIM BACK IN - TO THE FOLD _____

(PPP) (3) (a) (3) (3)

(PED)

(260)

THIS TERRI - BLE DAY _____ WILL NE - VER BE FOR -

PPP (3) (a) (3) (a) (3) (a)

PED -

SOLO TREBLE

Piano

(PPP)

(a) (a) (a)

(PED)

265

E - VER PRAY FOR PEACE

(f) (a) (f) (a)

(PED)

(PPP)

(f) (a) (f) (a) (7)(f) (a)

(PED)

a niente

DURATION 20 MINUTES APPROX