

## VA PENSIERO

by Giuseppe Verdi

Preceded by instrumental trio & arranged for SATB chorus with strummed accompaniment by Cornelius Cardew

### Programme note:

When Verdi's 'Chorus of Hebrew Slaves' ('Va Pensiero' from the opera 'Nabucco' 1842) was originally performed the people of Milan took the plight of the Jews in exile as an allegory of their own oppression under the Austrian Empire. I see in it now an allegory of the plight of the modern composer isolated from the broad masses (whose activity should be his main source of inspiration) in the Establishment's Ivory Tower for New Music. This version was first performed at the English premiere of Christian Wolff's 'Burdocks' on 28<sup>th</sup> March 1972.

*Un Pensiero*. Instrumental Trio (any 3 appropriate instruments) followed by SATB chorus with strummed accompaniment.

The first system of musical notation consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The tempo is marked as  $\text{♩} = 96$ . The music features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. A blue watermark "Preview File Only" is visible across the page.

The second system of musical notation continues the piece with two staves. It maintains the same key signature and tempo. The notation includes various rhythmic values and rests, with some notes beamed together.

The third system of musical notation continues the piece with two staves. The notation includes various rhythmic values and rests, with some notes beamed together.

The fourth system of musical notation continues the piece with two staves. The notation includes various rhythmic values and rests, with some notes beamed together. A dynamic marking of  $f$  (forte) is present at the end of the system.

The fifth system of musical notation continues the piece with two staves. It features a prominent bass line with repeated eighth notes in the left hand. Dynamic markings of  $f$  (forte) and  $p$  (piano) are used throughout the system.

The sixth system of musical notation continues the piece with two staves. It features a prominent bass line with repeated eighth notes in the left hand. Dynamic markings of  $f$  (forte) and  $p$  (piano) are used throughout the system.

espr.

tacet al fine

rit. -----

tacet al fine

S A

*unis*

*p* SPEED YOUR JOURNEY MY THOUGHTS & MY LONG — INGS SPEED YR JOURNEY TO MOUNTAIN &

T B

*unis*

Guitars  
Banjos  
Ukeleles  
etc

Pick ↓ ↑ ↑

*p* F (low register)

3 3 3 3 sim.

\* [ Gm G7

C7 / / / F / G7 /

VALLEY WHERE THE SWEET SCENTED AIR BREATHES FRA — GRANCE OER THE HOMES THAT WE KNEW LONG A —

F C C7 ] [ F Gm F C7 ]

C7 / / / F / / / C7 / / / F / C7 /

\* Use bracketed chord sequences only if all players can manage them

GO TO THE WATERS OF JORDAN BEAR GREETING TO THE DOWN FALLEN TEM- PLES OF

F / / / C / G7 / E / G7 / C / G7 /

SI-ON OH MY COUNTRY SO FAIR & SO WRETCHED OH RE- MEMBRANCE OF JOY & OF

[ F Gm F C7 ]  
 C7 / / / F / / / C7 / / / F / C7 /

WOE *f* GOLDEN HARPS OF THE PROPHETS OH TELL US *pp* WHY SO SI- LENT YE HANG ON THE

*f* (high register)

F / 4 2 C / / / G / C / G7 / / /

WILLOW *f* ONCE A- GAIN SING THE SONGS OF OUR HOME- LAND *pp* SING A- GAIN OF THE DAYS THAT ARE

[ F c ]  
 C / / / / / / / G / C / G7 / / /

PAST WE HAVE DRUNK OF THE CUP OF AFFLICTION & HAVE SHED BITTER TEARS OF RE-

C / / / C7 / Fm / C / / / C7 / Fm /

PENTANCE OH JEHOVAH INSPIRE US WITH COURAGE SO THAT WE MAY ENDURE TO THE

unms f unis

C7 / 4 3 F / / / C7 / / / [ F Gm F C7 ]

(low register)

LAST SO THAT WE MAY EN-DURE TO THE LAST SO THAT WE MAY EN-DURE TO THE

F A7 Dm F7 Bb Bdim F C7 F A7 Dm F7 Bb Bdim F C7 ]

F / / / Bbb / C7 / F / / / Bbb / C7 /

LAST MAY ENDURE TO THE LAST

pp

F / / / 3 3 3 3

pp