

UCLA
Contemporary Music Score Collection

Title

We're Not Going to Heaven

Permalink

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/7qw612bt>

Author

Mason, Matt A.

Publication Date

2020

We're Not Going To Heaven

-Threnody for Full Orchestra-

Matt A. Mason

2019

Letter to the Conductor

We're Not Going To Heaven is composed in two parts: a screeching and dissonant cacophony and a calm hymn. Likewise, two events in my life led to the creation of this work. In 2016, after the shooting at the Pulse Nightclub in Orlando, Florida, I went to church the following Sunday. Before the service there is an open prayer and I publicly asked the pastor to say a prayer for the victims and their families. The pastor said "No, they weren't going to Heaven anyway." To me, the opening violins represent that shattering of my religious world. After that moment, I stopped going to church. Then in 2019, while walking I stopped to meet a street evangelist proselytizing on the street, but with a much different message. His was a peaceful message saying instead that unless we can pray for and save everyone, then no one is going to Heaven. I wrote this piece as a retelling of that spiritual journey for me. I don't think about this work in a religious way, but instead in the context of building a full and loving community, regardless of religious affiliation. To me, the pianist represents that individual who slowly builds his community around him and makes it of his own design.

Instrumentation

2 Flutes

Oboe

2 Clarinets in Bb

Bass Clarinet

Bassoon

2 Horns in F

Trumpet in C

Trombone

Tuba

Percussion (2 players)

Bass Drum, Tam-tam, Triangle, Suspended Cymbal, Crash Cymbal, Snare Drum, Wind Chimes

Piano

Violin I (Covering Parts I-IV)

Violin II (Covering Parts V-VIII)

Violas

Cello

Contrabass

We're Not Going To Heaven

Threnody

Matt A. Mason

Score

♩ = 66

Flute 1

Flute 2

Oboe

Clarinet in B \flat 1

Clarinet in B \flat 2

Bass Clarinet

Bassoon

Horn in F 1

Horn in F 2

Trumpet in C

Trombone

Tuba

Percussion 1
B. Drum L.V.
ff

Percussion 2
Suspended Cymbal
soft mallets
pp
no cresc.
L.V.

Piano

Violin I
ff

Violin II
ff

Violin III
ff

Violin IV
ff

Violin V
ff

Violin VI
ff

Violin VII
ff

Violin VIII
ff

Viola I
solo
ppp

Viola II
solo
ppp

Cello
solo
ppp

Contrabass
solo
ppp

Choral
mp

Choral
mp

Choral
mp

Choral
mp

This musical score page, numbered 3, contains the following parts and markings:

- Woodwinds:** Fl. 1, Fl. 2, Ob., B♭ Cl. 1, B♭ Cl. 2, B. Cl., Bsn., Hn. 1, Hn. 2, C Tpt., Tbn., Tuba.
- Percussion:** Perc. 1 (with *ff* and *p* markings), Perc. 2 (with *no cresc.* and *L.V.* markings), and High Triangle (open).
- Piano:** Pno.
- Strings:** Vln. I-VIII, Vla. I-II, Vc., Cb.

Key dynamic markings include *ppp*, *mf*, *n*, *pp*, *p*, and *ff*. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and dynamic hairpins.

This musical score page, numbered 4, is for the piece "We're Not Going To Heaven". It features a full orchestral arrangement with the following instruments and parts:

- Woodwinds:** Flute 1 & 2, Oboe, B♭ Clarinet 1 & 2, Bass Clarinet, Bassoon, Horn 1 & 2, Trumpet, Trombone, and Tuba.
- Brass:** Trombone, Tuba, and B. Drum.
- Strings:** Violin I through VIII, Viola I & II, Violoncello (Vc.), and Contrabass (Cb.).
- Percussion:** Percussion 1 and 2.
- Piano:** Piano (Pno.).

The score begins at measure 25. The woodwinds and strings play complex rhythmic patterns, often using sixteenth-note runs and triplets. Dynamic markings range from *pp* (pianissimo) to *ff* (fortissimo). The strings feature natural harmonics, with a specific instruction for the Violin I part: "solo natural harmonic" marked *ppp*. The percussion section includes a B. Drum part with dynamic markings of *p*, *mf*, and *f*. The overall texture is dense and rhythmic, characteristic of a modern orchestral score.

This musical score is for the piece "We're Not Going To Heaven" and is page 5 of the score. It is written in 4/4 time and features a variety of instruments. The score is divided into several systems, each containing multiple staves for different instruments. The instruments included are:

- Flute 1 (Fl. 1)
- Flute 2 (Fl. 2)
- Oboe (Ob.)
- Bass Clarinet 1 (B. Cl. 1)
- Bass Clarinet 2 (B. Cl. 2)
- Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.)
- Bassoon (Bsn.)
- Horn 1 (Hn. 1)
- Horn 2 (Hn. 2)
- Trumpet (C Tpt.)
- Trombone (Tbn.)
- Tuba
- Percussion 1 (Perc. 1)
- Percussion 2 (Perc. 2)
- Piano (Pno.)
- Violin I (Vln. I)
- Violin II (Vln. II)
- Violin III (Vln. III)
- Violin IV (Vln. IV)
- Violin V (Vln. V)
- Violin VI (Vln. VI)
- Violin VII (Vln. VII)
- Violin VIII (Vln. VIII)
- Viola I (Vla. I)
- Viola II (Vla. II)
- Violoncello (Vc.)
- Contrabass (Cb.)

The score includes various musical notations such as dynamics (e.g., *pp*, *p*, *mp*, *f*, *ff*, *n*), articulation (accents, slurs), and fingerings (e.g., 6, 3, 5). The piece begins at measure 31. The percussion parts include a snare drum and a tom-tom. The piano part is silent throughout this section. The string parts (Violins, Violas, Violoncello, and Contrabass) play a rhythmic accompaniment with various dynamics and articulations. The woodwind and brass parts feature complex rhythmic patterns and dynamic contrasts.

This musical score is for the piece "We're Not Going To Heaven" and is page 6 of the score. It features a large ensemble of instruments. The score is divided into several systems, with measures 35 through 40 visible. The instruments included are:

- Flutes (Fl. 1, Fl. 2)
- Oboe (Ob.)
- Bass Clarinets (B♭ Cl. 1, B♭ Cl. 2)
- Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.)
- Bassoon (Bsn.)
- Horn 1 (Hn. 1)
- Horn 2 (Hn. 2)
- Trumpet (C Tpt.)
- Trombone (Tbn.)
- Tuba
- Percussion 1 (Perc. 1) and Percussion 2 (Perc. 2)
- Piano (Pno.)
- Violins I through VIII (Vln. I-VIII)
- Viola I and II (Vla. I, Vla. II)
- Cello (Vc.)
- Double Bass (Cb.)

The score includes various musical notations such as dynamics (e.g., *mf*, *ff*, *pp*, *f*, *p*, *mp*, *fp*), articulation (accents, slurs), and performance instructions like "tutti" and "divisi". The percussion part includes a "Crash Cymbal" instruction. The piano part is mostly silent, with some notes in the right hand. The string parts feature complex rhythmic patterns, often with slurs and accents. The woodwind and brass parts have melodic lines with slurs and accents. The overall texture is dense and orchestral.

This musical score is for the piece "We're Not Going To Heaven" and is page 7 of the score. It features a variety of instruments and includes dynamic markings such as *mp*, *ff*, *n*, and *fp*. The score is divided into several systems of staves. The first system includes Flute 1 and 2, Oboe, Bass Clarinet 1 and 2, Bass Clarinet, Bassoon, Horn 1 and 2, Trumpet, Tuba, Percussion 1 and 2, and Piano. The second system includes Violin I through VIII, Viola I and II, and Cello/Double Bass. The score includes complex passages with sixteenth-note runs and sixteenth-note chords, as well as sustained notes and rests. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor) and the time signature is 4/4. The score begins at measure 40.

This page of a musical score, numbered 8, is titled "We're Not Going To Heaven". It features a full orchestral arrangement with woodwinds, strings, and percussion. The score is divided into four systems, each containing multiple staves for different instruments. The woodwind section includes Flutes 1 and 2, Oboe, Clarinets in Bb and B, Bassoon, Horns 1 and 2, Trumpets, Trombones, and Tubas. The string section includes Violins I through VIII, Violas I and II, Violoncello (Vc.), and Contrabass (Cb.). The percussion section includes Percussion 1 and 2, with a specific instruction for a "Suspended Cymbal". The score is marked with dynamics such as *p* (piano) and *ff* (fortissimo), and includes various musical notations like slurs, accents, and articulation marks. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The page number "8" is located at the top left, and the title "We're Not Going To Heaven" is centered at the top.

This page of a musical score, numbered 9, is for the piece "We're Not Going To Heaven". It features a full orchestral arrangement with woodwinds, brass, percussion, and strings. The score is divided into three systems, each with a 4/4 time signature. The first system (measures 51-54) is marked *psub.* and includes sixteenth-note passages for woodwinds and strings. The second system (measures 55-58) is marked *ff p* and features a dynamic shift. The third system (measures 59-62) is marked *ff p* and includes a change to 3/4 time. The woodwind section includes Flutes 1 & 2, Oboe, Clarinets in Bb and B, Bassoon, Horns 1 & 2, Trumpets, Trombones, and Tuba. The percussion section includes Percussion 1 (Suspended Cymbal) and Percussion 2 (with drum sticks). The string section includes Violins I-VII, Violin VIII, Viola I & II, Violoncello (Vc.), and Contrabass (Cb.). Performance instructions include *sul D* and *sul G* for strings, and *ff* and *mf* for dynamics. The score is written in a standard musical notation style with various articulations and dynamic markings.

This page of a musical score, numbered 10, is for the piece "We're Not Going To Heaven". It features a full orchestral arrangement with woodwinds, strings, and percussion. The score is written in 4/4 time and includes various dynamics such as *ff* (fortissimo), *f* (forte), *p* (piano), and *pp* (pianissimo). The woodwind section includes Flutes 1 and 2, Oboe, Clarinets in Bb and Bb, Bass Clarinet, Bassoon, Horns 1 and 2, Trumpets in C, Trombones, and Tuba. The string section consists of Violins I through VIII, Violas I and II, Viola, and Cello. The percussion section includes Percussion 1 and Percussion 2. The score is marked with a measure number of 54 at the beginning of the first system. The woodwinds and strings play complex rhythmic patterns, often with slurs and accents. The percussion provides a steady, rhythmic accompaniment. The overall texture is dense and dynamic, characteristic of a full orchestral work.

This musical score is for the piece "We're Not Going To Heaven" and is page 11. It features a large ensemble of instruments and a choral section. The instruments include Flutes 1 and 2, Oboe, B♭ Clarinets 1 and 2, Bass Clarinet, Bassoon, Horns 1 and 2, Trumpets, Trombones, Tuba, Percussion 1 and 2, Violins I through VIII, Violas I and II, Violoncello, and Contrabass. The score is divided into measures, with a key signature of one flat and a time signature of 3/4. The music is marked with various dynamics such as *p*, *pp*, *mp*, *mf*, *f*, and *ff*. The choral section is marked "Choral" and includes lyrics. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and articulation marks. The percussion part includes a specific instruction: "mf swipe cymbals with brushes".

This musical score page, numbered 12, is for the piece "We're Not Going To Heaven". It features a full orchestral arrangement with the following instruments and parts:

- Flutes (Fl. 1, Fl. 2):** Play a melodic line with dynamics ranging from *mf* to *ff*.
- Oboe (Ob.):** Provides a sustained harmonic background.
- Clarinet 1 (B♭ Cl. 1) and Clarinet 2 (B♭ Cl. 2):** Play a rhythmic accompaniment.
- Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.):** Plays a melodic line with dynamics from *mp* to *ff*.
- Bassoon (Bsn.):** Plays a rhythmic accompaniment with dynamics from *mp* to *ff*.
- Horn 1 (Hn. 1), Horn 2 (Hn. 2), and Trumpet (C Tpt.):** Play sustained harmonic notes.
- Tuba (Tuba):** Provides a low-frequency harmonic support.
- Percussion (Perc. 1, Perc. 2):** Perc. 1 plays a steady rhythm, while Perc. 2 includes a Snare Drum part.
- Violins (Vln. I-VIII):** Play sustained harmonic notes with dynamics from *f* to *mp*. A "stay on sul G" instruction is present.
- Viola I (Vla. I) and Viola II (Vla. II):** Play sustained harmonic notes with dynamics from *f* to *mp*. A "divisi" instruction is present.
- Cello (Vc.):** Plays a melodic line with dynamics from *f* to *mp*.
- Double Bass (Cb.):** Plays a melodic line with dynamics from *mf* to *f*.

The score includes various musical notations such as dynamics (*mf*, *ff*, *p*, *mp*), articulation (accents), and performance instructions like "stay on sul G" and "divisi".

This musical score is for the piece "We're Not Going To Heaven" and is page 13 of the score. It features a full orchestral arrangement with the following instruments and parts:

- Flutes (Fl. 1, Fl. 2):** Both parts play a melodic line with triplets and sixteenth-note patterns. Dynamics range from *ff* to *mf*.
- Oboe (Ob.):** Plays a melodic line with triplets and sixteenth notes, starting at *p*.
- Bass Clarinets (B♭ Cl. 1, B♭ Cl. 2):** Both parts play a melodic line with triplets and sixteenth notes, starting at *ff p*.
- Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.):** Plays a melodic line with sixteenth notes, starting at *f*.
- Bassoon (Bsn.):** Plays a melodic line with sixteenth notes, starting at *p*.
- Horn 1 (Hn. 1) and Horn 2 (Hn. 2):** Both parts play a melodic line with sixteenth notes, starting at *mf* and *f* respectively.
- Trumpet (C Tpt.):** Plays a melodic line with sixteenth notes, starting at *mf* and *f* respectively.
- Trombone (Tbn.):** Plays a melodic line with sixteenth notes, starting at *f*.
- Tuba:** Plays a melodic line with sixteenth notes, starting at *f*.
- Percussion 1 (Perc. 1):** Features a Tam-Tam instrument, starting at *pp*.
- Percussion 2 (Perc. 2):** Features a Crash Cymbal, starting at *mf* and *f*.
- Violins (Vln. I-VII):** All parts play a melodic line with sixteenth notes, starting at *mf* and *p* respectively.
- Viola I (Vla. I) and Viola II (Vla. II):** Both parts play a melodic line with sixteenth notes, starting at *mf* and *p* respectively.
- Violoncello (Vc.):** Plays a melodic line with sixteenth notes, starting at *ff* and *p*.
- Double Bass (Cb.):** Plays a melodic line with sixteenth notes, starting at *ff* and *p*.

The score includes various musical notations such as triplets, sixteenth notes, and dynamic markings. The percussion parts include specific instructions for Tam-Tam and Crash Cymbal. The string parts feature a melodic line with sixteenth notes and dynamic markings. The woodwind parts feature melodic lines with triplets and sixteenth notes. The brass parts feature melodic lines with sixteenth notes and dynamic markings.

Loud, Fast, Continuous Noise

73

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Ob.

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B. Cl.

Bsn.

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

C Tpt.

Tbn.

Tuba

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Pno.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vln. III

Vln. IV

Vln. V

Vln. VI

Vln. VII

Vln. VIII

Vla. I

Vla. II

Vc.

Cb.

choke

High Triangle (open)

Wind Chimes

ppp

mp

p

n

*The Goal is to create a loud, continuous flurry of noise that begins on the beat and ends on the downbeat 75.

82 $\text{♩} = 48$, reverent

Fl. 1 *n*

Fl. 2 *n*

Ob.

B♭ Cl. 1 *ppp*

B♭ Cl. 2 *ppp*

B. Cl. *ppp*

Bsn.

Hn. 1 *n*

Hn. 2 *n*

C Tpt. *n*

Tbn.

Tuba *n*

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 *p* Suspended Cymbal *mp*

Pno. *mp* *mf* *p* *mf*

Vln. I *n* solo *ppp* *mp* a2

Vln. II *n* solo *ppp* *mp* a2

Vln. III *n*

Vln. IV *n*

Vln. V *n* solo *ppp* *mp* a2

Vln. VI *n* solo *ppp* *mp* a2

Vln. VII *n*

Vln. VIII *n*

Vla. I *n* solo *ppp* *mp*

Vla. II *n* solo *ppp* *mp*

Vc. *n* solo *mp*

Cb. *n*

This page of the musical score, numbered 16, contains parts for various instruments. The woodwind section includes Flutes 1 and 2, Oboe, Clarinets in Bb (1 and 2), Clarinet in B, Bassoon, Horns 1 and 2, C Trumpet, Trombone, and Tuba. The percussion section has two parts. The piano part is shown in grand staff notation. The string section includes Violins I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, Violas I and II, Cello, and Double Bass. The score is marked with measure numbers 86, 87, 88, and 89. Dynamic markings include *p*, *mf*, *pp*, *mp*, and *tutti*. Performance instructions such as *solo* and *a2* are also present. The woodwinds and strings play melodic lines with various articulations and dynamics, while the brass and percussion provide harmonic support.

105

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Pno.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vln. III

Vln. IV

Vln. V

Vln. VI

Vln. VII

Vln. VIII

Vla. I

Vla. II

Vc.

Cb.

f

mf

mp

n

pp

p

This musical score page, numbered 20, is for the piece "We're Not Going To Heaven". It features a variety of instruments including strings, piano, and percussion. The score is divided into three systems, each beginning with a rehearsal mark *III*. The first system contains five staves of strings (Vln. I-V, Vla. I-II) and two percussion staves (Perc. 1-2). The second system contains five staves of strings (Vln. I-V, Vla. I-II) and a piano (Pno.) staff. The third system contains eight staves of strings (Vln. I-VIII, Vla. I-II, Vc., Cb.). The piano part includes dynamic markings *p* and *ppp*, and a section labeled *L.V.* (Larghetto Vivace). The string parts are marked with *n* (normal) and *ppp* (pianissimo) dynamics. The percussion parts are mostly rests.