

In celebration of Benjamin Britten's centenary year

Bridge of Bows

for String Orchestra and Bell

Chris Brown

Tempo Guisto (♩ = 112)

The first system of the score includes parts for Bell, Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, and Double Bass (DB). The key signature is B-flat major and the time signature is 3/4. The Bell part consists of a series of dotted half notes. The Violin 1 and Violin 2 parts feature a melodic line with a *ten.* (tension) marking and a *poco* dynamic marking. The Viola part has a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with a *poco* marking and a *cresc* (crescendo) marking. The Cello and DB parts have a simple melodic line with a *p* (piano) dynamic marking and a *poco* marking.

The second system of the score starts at measure 8 and includes parts for Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, and Double Bass (DB). The key signature is B-flat major and the time signature is 3/4. The Violin 1 part features a melodic line with a *f* (forte) dynamic marking and a *sonore* marking. The Violin 2, Viola, and Cello parts have a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with a *ff* (fortissimo) dynamic marking and a *sim.* (simile) marking. The DB part has a simple melodic line with a *ff* dynamic marking.

Musical score for measures 18-26. The score is written for six staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of two flats. The second and third staves are also in treble clef. The fourth, fifth, and sixth staves are in bass clef. The music includes various dynamics: accents (>) above notes, fortissimo (f) below notes, tenuto (ten) above notes, marcato (marcatiss) below notes, and sforzando (sf) below notes. The word "espress" is written below the second, fourth, fifth, and sixth staves. There are also hairpins indicating crescendos and decrescendos.

Musical score for measures 27-34. The score is written for six staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of two flats. The second and third staves are also in treble clef. The fourth, fifth, and sixth staves are in bass clef. The music includes dynamics: mezzo-forte (mf) below notes, poco below notes, and fortissimo (f) below notes. There are also hairpins indicating crescendos and decrescendos.

33

Musical score for measures 33-38. The score consists of six staves. The first staff is a grand staff with a treble clef and a whole rest. The second and third staves are in treble clef, and the fourth, fifth, and sixth staves are in bass clef. The key signature has two flats. The score includes dynamic markings *dim* and *mf*. The music features melodic lines with slurs and accents, and a rhythmic accompaniment in the lower staves.

39

Musical score for measures 39-44. The score consists of six staves. The first staff is a grand staff with a treble clef and a whole rest. The second and third staves are in treble clef, and the fourth, fifth, and sixth staves are in bass clef. The key signature has two flats. The score includes dynamic markings *mf* and *f*, and the instruction *poco*. The music features melodic lines with slurs and accents, and a rhythmic accompaniment in the lower staves.

45

Musical score for measures 45-50. The score consists of six staves. The first staff has a whole rest followed by two dotted half notes. The second staff has a dotted half note followed by eighth notes with accents, then quarter notes with accents, and finally eighth notes with accents. The third staff has eighth notes with accents, then quarter notes with accents, and finally quarter notes with accents. The fourth staff has eighth notes with accents, then quarter notes with accents, and finally quarter notes with accents. The fifth staff has eighth notes with accents, then quarter notes with accents, and finally quarter notes with accents. The sixth staff has a dotted half note followed by a quarter note, then a dotted half note, and finally a dotted half note. Dynamics include *f*, *ff*, and a fermata symbol.

51

Musical score for measures 51-56. The score consists of six staves. The first staff has a dotted half note followed by a dotted half note, then a whole rest, then a dotted half note, then a whole rest, then a dotted half note, then a whole rest, and finally a dotted half note. The second staff has eighth notes with accents, then quarter notes with accents, and finally quarter notes with accents. The third staff has eighth notes with accents, then quarter notes with accents, and finally quarter notes with accents. The fourth staff has eighth notes with accents, then quarter notes with accents, and finally quarter notes with accents. The fifth staff has eighth notes with accents, then quarter notes with accents, and finally quarter notes with accents. The sixth staff has a dotted half note followed by a quarter note, then a dotted half note, and finally a dotted half note. Dynamics include *dim.*, *mf*, and a fermata symbol.

60 *attaca* Senza misura (conductor to slowly sweep left to right to direct players to begin)

60 *attaca* Senza misura (conductor to slowly sweep left to right to direct players to begin)

Soli *mf* *poco a poco cresc* *repeat ad lib*

Soli *mf* *poco a poco cresc* *repeat ad lib*

Soli *f* *poco a poco cresc* *repeat ad lib*

Soli *f* *poco a poco cresc* *repeat ad lib*

Soli *ff sempre* *repeat ad lib*

62 then wait and sweep to direct players to cease (except basses)

D.S.

ff *dim*

ff *dim*

ff *dim*

poco dim

ff (*non dim*)

63

The musical score consists of six staves. The top staff is a treble clef with a common time signature and a bell icon above the first measure. It contains a sequence of notes with accents and a 'vib.' marking above the final note. The second, third, and fourth staves are treble clefs, and the fifth and sixth are bass clefs. All staves are in a key with one flat. The score features dynamic markings of *ff* and *fff*, with crescendo and decrescendo hairpins. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Performance note: Violins left to centre of conductor, Violas/Celli centre to right, Double Bass far right. "Bridge of Bows" reflects Estonian composer Arvo Part's 'Cantus' tribute to Benjamin Britten, being written for the same forces: string orchestra and bell. The bridge is portrayed in the arch shape of the piece. A quiet introduction (based on the notes for B-E-N) leads to the main section, in which reference to Britten's "Alleluia" from Noye's Fludde, the herald of the appearance of the rainbow, can be heard. A central rhythmless passage for each string player, playing independently, brings the music back to the main section and a short jubilant coda. The bell chimes exactly 100 times to celebrate 2013 as the centenary year of Benjamin Britten's birth.

Chris Brown
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Quote from Alleluia/Noye's Fludde granted by permission of Boosey & Hawkes Music Publishers Ltd.

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Bell

Tempo Guisto (♩ = 112)

p *f* *sonore*

13

25 *mf* *mf* *mf* *f* *ff*

50 *dim.* *mf* *dim.* *attaca Senza misura D.S.*

63 *ff* *vib.*

The musical score for the Bell part is written on five staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 3/4 time signature. The tempo is marked 'Tempo Guisto' with a quarter note equal to 112 beats per minute. The first measure is marked *p* (piano). The score includes a repeat sign with first and second endings. The second ending is marked *f* (forte) and *sonore*. The second staff starts at measure 13 and continues with a series of notes, each with an accent (>). The third staff starts at measure 25 and includes dynamic markings *mf*, *mf*, *mf*, *f*, and *ff*. Above the first measure of this staff is a '4' in a box, and above the second measure is a '9' in a box. The staff ends with a fermata. The fourth staff starts at measure 50 and includes dynamic markings *dim.*, *mf*, and *dim.*. It features a '2' in a box above the second measure and concludes with the instruction 'attaca Senza misura D.S.'. The fifth staff starts at measure 63 and includes the dynamic marking *ff* and a vibrato marking 'vib.' above the final note.

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Tempo Giusto (♩ = 112)

Violin 1

ten. *p* *poco* *ff* *sim.* *f* *espress* *poco* *dim* *mf* *poco* *f* *ff* *dim.* *Senza misura - play as directed* *attaca* *Soli* *repeat ad lib* *stop as directed* *D.S.* *poco a poco cresc* *ff* *dim* *ff* *fff*

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Tempo Guisto (♩ = 112)

Violin 2

ten. *p* *poco* *ff* *sim.*

15 *ten* *f marcatis*

30 *poco* *f* *dim* *mf*

39 *poco* *f*

49 *ff* *dim.* *mf*

60 *attaca* *Senza misura* *Soli* *repeat ad lib* *stop as directed* *D.S.*
mf *poco a poco cresc* *ff* *dim*

63 *ff* *fff*

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Tempo Guisto (♩ = 112)

Viola

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Bridge of Bows

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Tempo Giusto (♩ = 112)

Cello

p *poco* *ff* *sim.*

12

24

f *espress*

31

dim

37

mf *poco* *f*

45

f *ff*

51

mf *attaca*

61

play as directed *Soli* *Senza misura* repeat ad lib stop as directed *D.S.*

f *poco a poco cresc* *poco dim*

63

ff *fff*

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Bridge of Bows

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Chris Brown

Tempo Guisto (♩ = 112)

DB

p *ff*

13

25 *f* *espress*

33 *dim* *mf* *poco*

41 *f* *f* *ff*

51 *attaca* **6** *play as directed* *Soli* *repeat ad lib* *D.S.* *ff*

63 *ff* *ff* *ff* *fff* *ff sempre*

The musical score is written for Double Bass (DB) in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It begins with a tempo marking of 'Tempo Guisto' at 112 beats per minute. The piece starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic and a repeat sign. The first section (measures 1-12) is followed by a section starting at measure 13, which includes a forte (*f*) dynamic and the instruction 'espress'. From measure 25, the music features a series of sixteenth-note patterns with a dynamic of *f*. Measure 33 introduces a dynamic of *mf* and a 'poco' marking. Measure 41 features a dynamic of *f* and a fermata. Measure 51 includes a section marked 'attaca 6' with the instruction 'play as directed', followed by a 'Soli' section with a dynamic of *ff* and 'repeat ad lib'. The piece concludes with a 'D.S.' (Da Capo) section starting at measure 63, featuring a dynamic of *ff* and a 'ff sempre' instruction.