Jonathan Söderlund

En heligare gud

A holier god

on Poems by Edith Södergran

for electronics & ensemble

2022 – 03 – 28

SCORE IN C
Thanks to Norrbotten NEO & Nathalie Czernecki
For Annikki Söderlund

Instrumentation
Flute
Clarinet in Bb
Percussion
Piano
Violin
Viola
Cello

Percussion line up:
1 Dubachi
2 Woodblocks (of different pitch)
1 Bongo

3 music boxes (played by winds & percussion)

Duration: approx. 10 minutes

Notations

General (for all instrument to apply)
• The acoustic ensemble is not meant to be amplified in any way and loudspeakers are only used for the electronic part.
• Always play senza vibrato unless otherwise is specified.
• All glissandi should start at the beginning of the note value, unless otherwise is specified.
• Always trill to a semitone above written pitch, unless otherwise is specified.
• Ritardando and accelerando on trills rit. and accel. refer to trilling speed only, not tempo.
  When rit. on a trill, begin the trill fast and increase the speed gradually until the trill/note value ends, the opposite is applied when accel. on trill.

Flute
• Air refers to only air and no sounding pitch.
• Harmonics
  Blow the partials at comfortable speed. Comma means to take a breath somewhere between the frasses, the music will presume completely in time.

Percussion
• Following are guidelines and can be interpreted freely.
  - for Dubachi, use medium or hard mallet
  - for Woodblocks, use a hard mallet
  - for Bongo, use a medium or hard mallet or stick.
  - Imitate the noise of the strings (bongo):
    Vln., Vla. and Vc. are playing circular, rapid bowing producing only noise. Listen and imitate the sound, scraping or dragging a stick or mallet against the drumhead.

Strings
N = normale
S.P – sul ponticello
M.S.P – molto sul ponticello
M.S.T – molto sul tasto
O.P – over pressure
ord. – ordinare (refers to bow pressure)

• Circular, rapid bowing - Vary speed individually
  Drag the in circular motion with rapid speed producing only noise (no pitch).
  Vary your speed and motion individually, no one should play with the exact same intensity.
• Harmonic glissandi
  Sul D, gliss. to the highest possible tone with a sounding harmonic. Vary speed of glissandi individually, no one should play with the exact same intensity.

Music boxes (winds and percussion only)
The music boxes are manually cranked with a small handle. The piece contains three music boxes, all with play different tunes.
Always crank at moderate speed evenly.

Electronics
• The audio files are all mixed in stereo for dual monitors placed on the left and right end of the stage. Some monitoring for musicians/conductors hearing may be necessary.
• The text translations to english are not audible.
• Fire- and water sounds will appear with slow fade ins, it can thereby take a short notice until these sounds become fully audible.

Voice notation:
• Some voice activity is not notated in the score since they are not needed to follow along with the audio file, this refers to parts where multiple voices is speaks/whispers simultaneously.
• Speech refers to a non-processed voice and processed voice (delay) refers to a digitally processed, but still spoken text. Whisper refers to a voice with non or very little pitch.

World premiere 22 April 2022
Royal college of music, Stockholm
Nathalie Czernecki, voice (prerecorded)
Norrbotten NEO
Mysteriet *(The mystery)*

Leksaker åro alla människor.
Leksak var jag själv i går.
I dag är jag den som öppnar mysteriet.
Jag vill att alla skola komma till mig, 
jag vill att alla skola höra hur mitt hjärta slår.
Eld och blod och framtidens smörjelse skolen I mottaga ur mina händer.
Hela mänskligheten vill jag viga åt framtiden.
Mina flammaande rader skall vara barn läsa.
Jag skall omvända alla till en heligare gud.
All vidskepelse vill jag sopa ut med en ljudlös kvast,
all litenhet vill jag hänande döda.
Eder stora orm vill jag stiga upp på hans huvud vill jag stinga med mitt svärd.
O, du mitt goda svärd, som jag har fått från himlen, jag kysser dig.
Du skall vila 
ninnan jorden är en trädgård, där gudarna drömma vid underbara bägare.

– Edith Södergran, 1920

Rough translation

Toys are all people.
I was a toy myself yesterday.
Today, I’m the one that opens the mystery.
I want everyone who shall learn to come to me.
I want everyone who shall learn to hear how my heart beats.
Fire and blood and the anointing of the future shall you receive from my hands.
All of humanity, I want to dedicate to the future.
My flaming lines shall every child read
I shall convert you all to a holier god.
I want to sweep out all superstition with a silent broom, 
every smallness, I will mockingly kill.
I want to ascend your great serpent; I want to stab his head with my sword.
Oh, you my good sword that I got from heaven, I kiss you.
You shall not rest
until the earth is a garden, where the gods dream by wonderful goblets.

- Translation by Jonathan Söderlund
En heligare gud
A holier god

For Amikki Söderlund

Score in C

Perc.
Pno.
Vc.
El.
Electronics
Violin
Piano
Viola
Violoncello
Woodblocks

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Text: Edith Södergran
**Mystery I**

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fireplace (fades in)  26 sec.
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speech: Leksaker äro alla människor. Leksak var jag själv igår.
Toys are all people. I was a toy myself yesterday.
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Idag är det jag som öppnar mysteriet.
Today, I’m the one that opens the mystery.
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Jag vill att alla skola komma till mig.

I want everyone who shall learn to come to me.

Jag vill att alla skola höra hur mitt hjärta

I want everyone who shall learn to hear how my heart
\(\cfrac{3}{8}\) \(\cfrac{3}{8}\) \(\cfrac{3}{8}\) \(\cfrac{3}{8}\) \(\cfrac{3}{8}\) \(\cfrac{3}{8}\) \(\cfrac{3}{8}\) \(\cfrac{3}{8}\) 

\(\text{slår.}\) 

\(\text{beats.}\)
**Mystery II**

Flute

Music box

Crank in moderate speed.

Clarinets

52 sec.

Percussion

52 sec.

Piano

52 sec.

Violins

52 sec.

52 sec.

52 sec.

52 sec.

52 sec.

Water drops (fade in)

whisper: Eld och blod och framtidens smörjelse skolen

I mottaga ur mina händer. Hela mänskligheten

vill jag väga åt framtiden. Mina flammande

rader ska varje barn läsa. Jag skall omvända

alla till en heligare gud.

Fire and blood and the anointing of the future shall

you receive from my hands. All of humanity,

I want to dedicate to the future.

My flaming lines shall every child read. I shall

convert you all to a holier god.

Jag skall omvända er alla till en heligare gud.
stop playing when you hear the processed voice (this does not need to be absolutely precise)

1 min 15 sec.

speech (unprocessed): I shall convert you all to a holier

god.  speech (unprocessed): Jag ska omvända alla till en heligare

I shall convert you all to a holier

god.  processed voice (delay): Eld och blod och framtidens smörjelse skolen I
mottaga ur mina händer. Hela mänskligheten vill jag viga åt framtiden. Mina flammande
rader ska varje barn läsa.

Fire and blood and the anointing of the future shall
you receive from my hands. All of humanity, I want
to dedicate to the future. My flaming lines shall
every child read.
Jag ska omvända alla till en heligare gud.

shall every child read.

I shall convert all to a holier god.

Jag skall omvända alla

I shall convert all

whisper: Jag skall omvända alla

shall every child read.

speech: Jag ska omvända alla till en heligare gud.
Mystery III

35 sec.

speech: All vidskeplighet vill jag sopa ut med en ljudlös kvast, all litenhet vill jag hånande döda. Eder stora orm vill jag stiga uppå; hans huvud vill jag stinga med mitt svärd.O du mitt goda svärd som jag fått från himlen,

I want to sweep out all superstition with a silent broom, every smallness, I will mockingly kill.

I want to ascend your great serpent; I want to stab his head with my sword. Oh, you my good sword that I got from heaven,

fireplace (fade in)

35 sec.

I kiss

jag kysser
Jonathan Söderlund; En heligare gud - Score in C

\[ \text{\textcolor{red}{\underline{\text{\textbf{\textit{Jonathan Söderlund;}}}}} \text{\textcolor{blue}{\underline{\text{En heligare gud - Score in C}}}}\]
O du mitt goda svärd som jag fått från himlen, jag kysser dig.  
Du skall icke vila innan jorden är en trädgård, där gudar drömma vid underbara bägare.

*Oh you my good sword that I got from heaven, I kiss you. You shall not rest until the earth is a garden, where the gods dream by wonderful goblets.*
Idag är jag den som öppnar mysteriet.

Today I am the one that opens the mystery.

FINE