The Pied Piper of Hamelin

Craig Bakalian

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Foreword

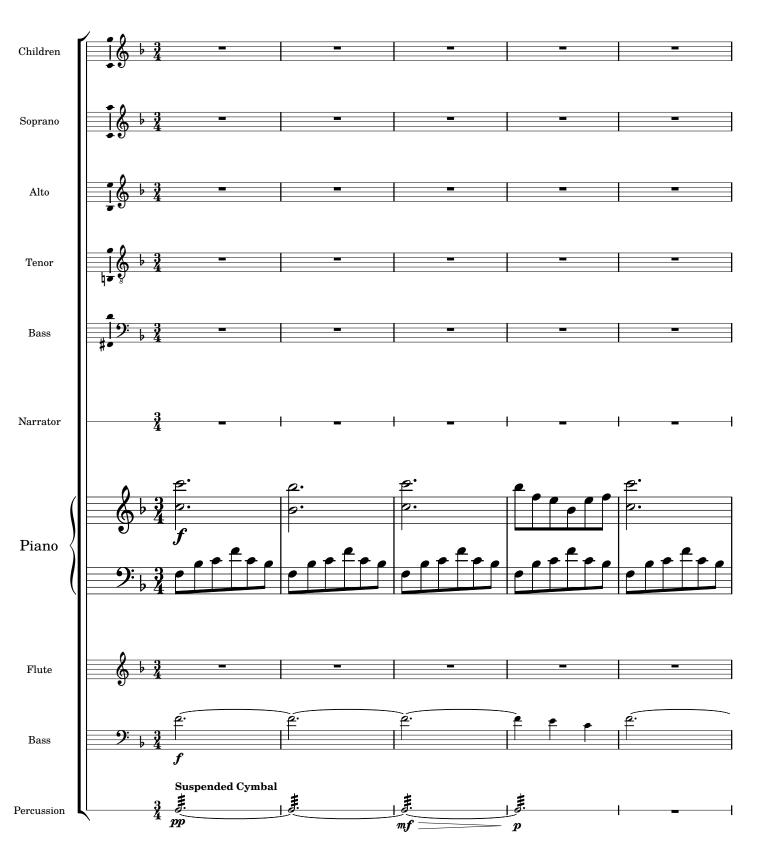
This music was written for the Bach Choir 2016 Composers' competition. The orchestration, voice part selection, and narrator was employed to fulfill the requirements of the competition. It was a complete pleasure for me to write this music, as I saw the announcement of it, I could not resist answering its call. Browning is one of my favorite poets. I read his poems frequently. I am in awe of his absolute brilliance and art of language, because I have always struggled with language, especially as a young man. I hope I have done his words justice.

The narrator should use a full bold story-telling voice and follow the rhythm with liberty. The choir should move to the background when the narrator speaks while they are singing. However, the narrator must project with power. There is no need to electronically amplify the narrator's voice.

The children's part is similar to much of the soprano part, especially in the Part III. I, as a composer and elementary vocal music teacher, know that the high a flats may be difficult for children to sing. I composed the music so that the soprano voices guide the children's voices, however, there are phrases and sections where the children sing independently. Sopranos may be used to substitute for the childen's part if children are not available.

The dynamics written in this music are only recommendations. You are a Bach based music institution which tells me that you often perform music with no dynamics. I, as a composer never write dynamics as I am creating music. I always write them into the score after the music is written. So, the dynamics change in my mind every time I audiate. Stated in a not so polite manner, I write dynamics for musicians who insist upon them, all the while I despise writing them. If you need dynamics written, your musicianship and audiation is lacking. The conductor may change the dynamics to anything he or she desires.

Robert Browning Craig Bakalian











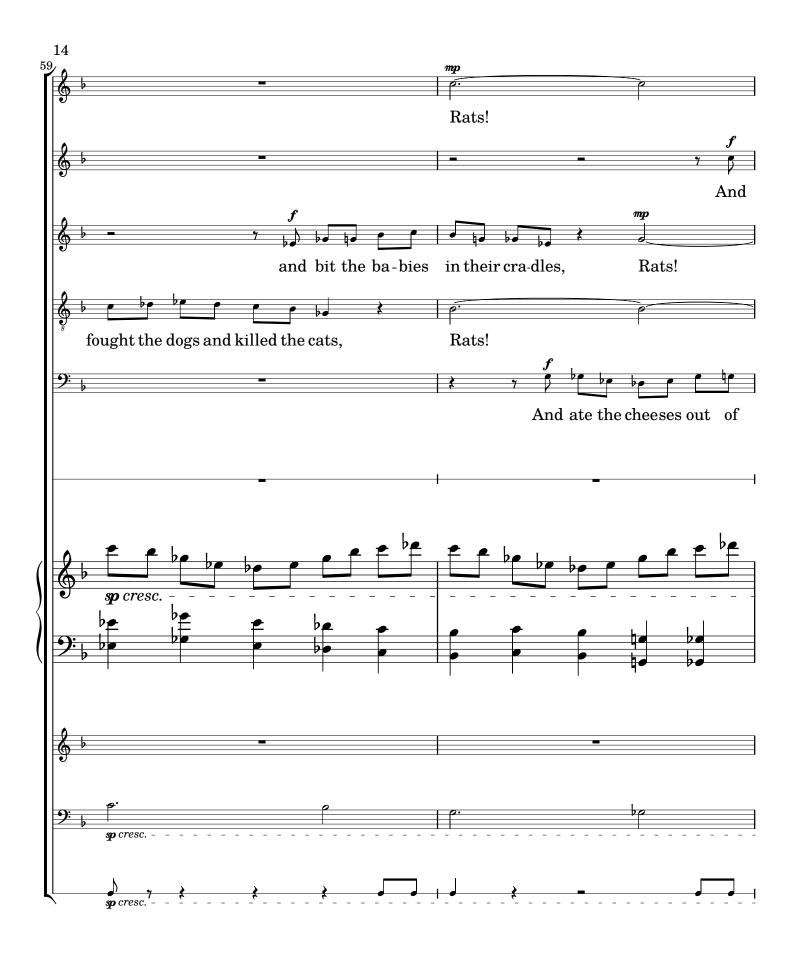






















































































Part II



























































































Part III

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