

## *The A to Z of Spiritual Music: a user's guide*

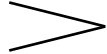
**Richard Vella (2005)**

**Produced in collaboration with Alison Rogers & Vocal Manoeuvres (2015)**

<b>Speakers</b>				
<b>Music</b>	<b>Team cherubs:</b> <i>With a little help from my friends, Da Doo Ron Ron, Season in the Sun, Black Betty</i> - all in the same key			
<b>Slides (Internal only)</b>				<p><b>PRESET SLIDE</b></p> <p><i>THE A TO Z OF SPIRITUAL MUSIC: A USER'S GUIDE....</i></p>
<b>E X T E R N A L</b>	<p>5 x <b>Team Cherubs</b> (TC) in groups of three walk amongst the audience.</p> <p>They offer audience members</p> <p>(1) a menu of songs from which one song is to be chosen for the TC is to sing,</p> <p>(2) an hors d'oeuvre and</p> <p>(3) a Wet One which has been individually numbered. They tell the audience the Wet Ones can be used throughout the performance in case of tears, perspiration or cleaning hands.</p> <p>(4)The TCs tell the audience to keep the Wet</p>	<b>Personal Guardian Angels</b> (PGA) discretely advise and guide audience to move inside.	<b>I N T E R N A L</b>	<p>Screen above heads and projector pre-set.</p> <p>Once the audience is seated the PGAs give the audience a <b>PGA</b> business card telling don't be scared when the lights go down, and that they will be up there if they need help.</p> <p>The <b>PGAs</b> sit in choir balcony waiting. Speakers are at microphone station Front pews are reserved for conductor, musicians and singers</p> <p style="background-color: yellow;">2 Slide projectors on wall of church</p>
<b>Lighting</b>	<b>Gas light torches create a sense of intimacy and warmth</b>			
<b>Sound</b>	All acoustic			The speakers have radio microphones.
<b>Props</b>	Song menu lists each one specially numbered. Hors d'oeuvres & trays Singing Pitch pipes Wet Ones			Personal Guardian Angel business cards

<p><b>Speaker (S)</b></p>	<p><b>S1:</b> Welcome to <i>the A to Z of Spiritual music: a user's guide</i>. It lists techniques used by musicians to evoke the spiritual.</p> <p><b>S2:</b> Take for example the letter R. One word beginning with R to evoke the spiritual is <b>Resonance</b>.</p> <p><b>S3:</b> When two strings are in tune with each other, they vibrate together</p> <p><b>S4:</b> When two souls or lovers meet, they vibrate.</p> <p><b>S5:</b> Here is the sound of two people resonating in each other's presence.</p>	
<p><b>Music</b></p>		<p><i>Resonance</i> vocal &amp; instrumental arrangement: fl,cl,vln,vc,hp,pf + voices</p>
<p><b>Slides</b></p>	<p>SLIDE 1</p> <p><b>RESONANCE</b></p>	
<p><b>Staging</b></p>		<p>Radio microphones Choir is standing in aisles around the audience. Musicians front stage</p>
<p><b>Lighting</b></p>	<p><b>General:</b> Lighting changes for each slide (To be determined) <b>Specific:</b> specials on each speaker when they speak</p>	<p><b>Special</b> on each speaker and musicians' area.</p>

<b>Speaker (S)</b>	<b>S6:</b> "I feel we are on the same wavelength".		<p><b>S1:</b> Ascent implies raised expectations and induces hope, arousal or excitement.</p> <p><b>S2:</b> Terms such as "high" or "moving up" are often used to indicate an ascent.</p> <p>Chords, scales and slides are the pathway to achieve height, and elevation</p> <p><b>S3:</b> Let's hear an ascent again.</p>
<b>Music</b>		<b>Instrumental music for Ascent:</b> fl,cl,vln,vc,hp,pf <b>E major</b>	
<b>Slides</b>		<p>SLIDE 2</p> <h1>ASCENT</h1>	
<b>Staging</b>	<b>Choir moves to new position in preparation for Ascent, Pulse and In Ecclesiis.</b>		

<b>Speaker (S)</b>		<p><b>S4:</b> Pulse is the repetition of the same note or sound</p> <p><b>S5:</b> Pulses evoke life, movement, energy. They speak of time moving forward.</p>		<p><b>S6:</b> The choir represents many aspects of the community including aspirations, a sense of unity or a troubled collective</p>
<b>Music</b>	<p>Vocal version of <i>Ascent</i> (a tone higher than before).  <i>Ascent</i> F major transitions into the next work <i>Pulse</i>.</p>	<i>Pulse</i> by R.Vella	<p><i>Pulse</i> finishes</p> 	
<b>Slides</b>		<p>SLIDE 3</p> <p>PULSE</p>		<p>SLIDE 4</p> <p>CHOIR</p>
<b>Staging</b>		<p>When S5 and S6 finish speaking their lines they walk to front and join others.</p>		<p>C = Conductor</p>

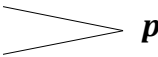
<b>Speaker (S)</b>	.	<p><b>S1:</b> With enthusiastic music one senses everything is about to burst at the seams.</p> <p><b>S2:</b> Chords enter like stutters at the wrong time.</p> <p><b>S3:</b> Enthusiasm knows no bounds.....it is quintessentially human.</p>		<p><b>S4:</b> Unison speaks of oneness.</p> <p><b>S5:</b> When two lovers come together, their cries are heard in unison and their bodies resonate.</p>	
<b>Music</b>	<i>In Ecclesiis, Giovanni Gabrielli plus organ</i>		<i>Enthusiasm, Instrumental music (Vella) fl,cl,vln,vc,hp,pf</i>	<b>Choir begins singing in unison the note 'A' in preparation for Play for Voices Part 1 (Vella). Organ sustains the note 'A' throughout</b>	
<b>Slides</b>		<p>SLIDE 5</p> <p>ENTHUSIASM</p>		<p>SLIDE 6</p> <p>UNISON</p>	
<b>Staging</b>	Musicians except for organist sit on reserved front pews.. various singers walk around audience and whisper in audience's ears	Musicians return to their performance positions		Choir sub groups and soloists are distributed in the space. PGAs sing also. Team cherub members sing nursery rhymes.	

<b>Speaker (S)</b>	<b>S6:</b> To have a voice means to be heard.			<b>S1:</b> a descending scale can evoke falling, sadness, surrender, darkness or loss.  <b>S2:</b> Chopin's Prelude No. 4 is one prolonged sigh		<b>S3:</b> The love song is a healing song. What better way is there to express abandonment, delirium, loss, jubilation, anger, and adoration,
<b>Music</b>		<i>Play for Voices begins (voices)</i>  <i>Organ note A sustained.</i>	<i>When Play for voices finished, begin Chopin Prelude # 4 (piano)</i>		<i>Underscore music to Crying</i>	
<b>Slides</b>	<b>SLIDE 7</b> <b>VOICE</b>		<b>SLIDE 8</b> <b>DESCENT</b>		<b>SLIDE 9</b> <b>LOVE SONG</b>	
<b>Staging</b>						

<b>Speaker (S)</b>	<b>S4:</b> Then I saw her face, now I'm a believer <b>S5:</b> You give me fever <b>S6:</b> Whenever I want you all I have to do is dream, <b>S1:</b> I say a little prayer for you			
<b>Music</b>		<i>Crying over you, Roy Orbison. 2 soloists, Choir &amp; piano</i>	<i>At the end of Crying, external choir sings I'm yours (Jason Marz).</i>	
<b>Slides</b>		<b>SLIDE 9 LOVE SONG</b>		
<b>Staging</b>	<b>S1, S2, S5, S6 &amp; S7 join other choirs when finished texts.</b>		<b>PGAs escort audience outside</b>	<b>EXTERNAL</b>
<b>Sound</b>	<b>S6, S7, S5, S2, S1</b>	<b>Microphone for 2 soloists</b>	<b>Keyboard &amp; amp Microphone for MC</b>	


Speaker (S)				
Music		Drone music starts in church while audience is outside		Audience enters to drone music
Slides				Slide 10 <b>DRONE</b>
Staging <b>E X T E R N A L</b>	PGAs guide Audience to go outside into a choir sing <i>I'm yours</i> Jason Mraz  MC beckons them to enjoy themselves  Outdoor choirs continue to sing different love songs more raunchy  MC holds a Leg of lamb raffle (wet ones are tickets)  Refreshments and dinks available	PGAs escort audience into church again	<b>I N T E R N A L</b>	PGAs ensure audience is seated and ready
Sound	Keyboard and amp			




<b>Speaker (S)</b>	<p><b>S2</b> : In a drone time stands still.</p> <p><b>S3</b>: The drone allows anything to be possible.</p>		<p><b>S4</b>: the grotesque is anything that defies perfection or beauty.</p> <p><b>S5</b>. The grotesque delights in the extremities of things, in body sounds.</p> <p><b>S6</b>: The grotesque is life made flesh.</p>	
<b>Music</b>	<i>Merci d'amor</i> , by Adam de la Halle (12 <sup>th</sup> C): soloist and drones sung and played by choir , PGAs and instruments	<p>Drones Decrescendo</p> 		<i>Vocal work by Vella</i>
<b>Slides</b>	<p>Slide 10</p> <p><b>DRONE</b></p>		<p>Slide 11</p> <p><b>GROTESQUE</b></p>	
<b>Staging</b>	Solo soprano sings from Speaker 3 position (top right). Everyone scattered throughout the space singing drones.			To be determined: Singers in groups spaced through the church
<b>Lighting</b>				Jagged asymmetric filters,

<b>Speaker (S)</b>	<p><b>S1:</b> Thomas Aquinas wrote: we call someone beautiful on account of being well proportioned in dimension</p> <p><b>S2:</b> To linger is to savor the beautiful.</p>		<p><b>S3:</b> The moan is an utterance that slides.</p> <p><b>S4:</b> The moan is erotic, an affirmation of life itself. It is the sound of pleasure and pain all in one.</p>	
<b>Music</b>	<p><i>Lingering</i>, by R. Vella. (TBC) Fl, cl, vln, vc, hp, pf Male voices sing violin and cello sustained notes</p>	<p><i>Agnus Dei</i>, Samuel Barber (Choir)</p>	<p>Guitar accompaniment to Kind Hearted Blues accompanies speakers.</p>	<p><b>Robert Johnson</b> <i>Kind Hearted Woman Blues</i> Guitar and voice</p>
<b>Slides</b>	<p>SLIDE 12</p> <p>BEAUTY</p>		<p>SLIDE 13</p> <p>MOAN</p>	
<b>Staging</b>	<p>As speakers read texts, choir assembles at front.</p>			

<b>Speaker (S)</b>	No speakers		<p><b>S5:</b> How does one evoke inner peace?</p> <p>Little movement, a sense of space between the sounds, everything is in balance.</p>	<p><b>S6:</b> One of the most sacred of all sounds must be the sound of water. It is the stuff of life. Absence of water means death, void, nothingness.</p> <p><b>S1:</b> We swim in the womb, are washed after birth, and ultimately cleansed with water in preparations after death.</p>
<b>Music</b>	<i>CORPUS CHRISTIE</i> Vella/Britten Choir & fl,cl,vln,vc,hp,pf	<i>Peace</i> , R. Vella Pf,vln,vc	<b>Water fades up under the end of Peace.</b>	
<b>Slides</b>	<p>SLIDE 14 <b>GRIEF</b></p>	<p>SLIDE 15 <b>PEACE</b></p>	<p>SLIDE 16 <b>SACRED SOUNDS</b></p>	
<b>Staging</b>				
<b>Lighting</b>			<b>Special on baptismal font S2 S4 S3</b>	
<b>Sound</b>			<b>Amplified water sounds from baptismal font</b>	

<b>Speaker (S)</b>	<p><b>S2:</b> Some people experience the sublime when they marvel at nature such as the immensity of a mountain range.</p> <p><b>S3:</b> The sublime is overwhelming</p> <p><b>S4:</b> The church pipe organ is a manifestation of the 'sublime'.</p> <p>xb The powerful bass notes on the organ must have literally shaken the worshippers off their seats through its resonant vibrations.</p>			<p><b>S7:</b> Wow, that was awesome!</p>	<p><b>S1:</b> Flight is the soul released into the skies.</p> <p><b>S2:</b> To fly is to be unhindered, to be free from the ground.</p>
<b>Music</b>	<p>Minor thirds (EG) played by organ and instruments <i>rescendo</i> <i>decrescendo</i> envelope</p> <p><i>p</i>  <i>f</i> <i>p</i></p>	<p><i>Sinfonia Cantata No 4</i> J.S.Bach Vi, vc, fl, vc, organ acc.</p>	<p><i>Christ lag in Todes Banden</i> Choir, organ &amp; ensemble</p>		<p>Piano, harp. Flute, clarinet, violin, cello</p>
<b>Slides</b>	<p>Slide 17</p> <p>SUBLIME</p>			<p>SLIDE 18</p> <p>FLIGHT</p>	
<b>Staging</b>					<p>Choir leaves church for external performance</p>
<b>Lighting</b>	<p>S1 S2 S3 S4 S5 general gothic feel, special on organist</p>	<p>special on musicians</p>	<p>Whole church is coloured</p>		<p>S1 S2 S3 Special on musicians</p>

<b>Speaker (S)</b>				
<b>Music</b>	<i>Flight, R. Vella</i> Fl, Cl, Vln, Vc, Hp, Pf		<b>External choirs sing</b> <i>I can see clearly Now</i> <i>Happy</i> <i>Walking on sunshine</i>	
<b>Slides</b>				
<b>Staging</b>	<p><i>During Flight</i> all singers leave the church slowly</p> <p>The church gradually goes to light on musicians only.</p> <p>PGAs blow out candles and wait by audience. When music finishes the vocal music starts outside.</p> <p>PGAs tell audience they can go outside.</p>	<b>E X T E R N A L</b>	<b>Bar open</b>	
<b>Lighting</b>	<b>Special on musicians</b>			
<b>Sound</b>			<i>Keyboard and amp</i>	
<b>Props</b>				Barbeque lamb on a spit