

# Haiti

*a benefit concert for the people of Haiti*

## Fanfare:

“Evensong” [In the Stillness Of the Evening, Imagine/Sing To the Heart!]

“Song For Mother & Father”

## Empire:

“Haiti” (David Welch)

“Brian”

“Lágrimas”

“Candle”

## Two Meditations:

“Within the Center of Your Heart”

“In the Quiet Of the Evening”

## *Songs of the Troubadour:*

*“Wandering”*

*“Here I Sit”*

*“A Hand To Hold”*

*“Be My Friend”*

*“Wondering”*

*“When I Look Into Your Eyes”*

## *Suite For Mother and Child:*

*“Jennifer” Variations*

*“Lullaby For Uncle Fester”*

*“3 Miniatures for Megan Ashley Brown”*

*“Music Box”*

*“Two Gymnopédies”*

*“The Room Is Quiet”*



## *O Haiti – a Symphonic Suite*

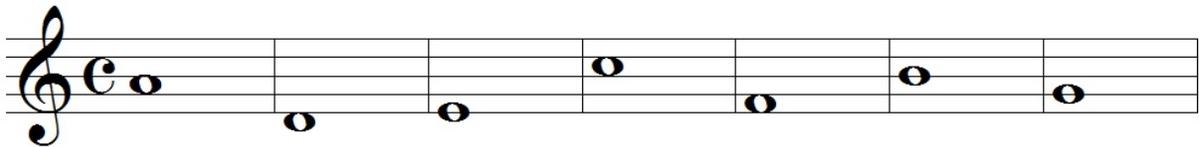
# O Haiti!

The following will be spoken over the beginning portion of the piece, first in Haitian Creole, then, as the volume of the spoken Creole is diminished, in English:

O Ayiti, peyi m' rèv, Pyè ki bò lanmè a. kè nou bat kòm youn. Beauté, kouray ak tout fòs pèp nou inspires m' angajman pou rèstore ou pwomèt de libète-de que, de opresyon, de pè. Mwen sèmante sou lavi ke zansèt mwen pou pa lage ou, ou menm m' Ayiti.

O Haiti, land of my dreams, jewel of the sea; our hearts beat as one. The beauty, courage and strength of our people inspires my commitment to restore your promise of freedom – from want, from oppression, from fear. I swear on the souls of my ancestors not to forsake you, O my Haiti.

The following is the basic theme, determined by re-arranging the words in “OH HAITI” alphabetically, then assigning them to the notes in the chromatic scale, C through B.



Here is a harmonization of the theme:

A piano accompaniment for the 'O Haiti!' theme. It features two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in common time. The word 'Piano' is written to the left of the staves. The music consists of six measures of chords. The first measure has a C major triad in the treble and a C bass note in the bass. The second measure has a D major triad in the treble and a D bass note. The third measure has an E major triad in the treble and an E bass note. The fourth measure has an F major triad in the treble and an F bass note. The fifth measure has a G major triad in the treble and a G bass note. The sixth measure has an A major triad in the treble and an A bass note. The piece ends with a double bar line.

First, the melody will be played, perhaps by an oboe, then the theme will be arranged for brass choir. It will then be developed into a canon, and when the canon is done, it will segue into an orchestration of “The Time For Healing. After that will come “Ascension”. Following that, the choir will sing “Ô, Mon Peuple”, original text in French, translated to Haitian Creole and sung to the melody of “Finlandia”.

Here is the choral text, from a dream in which I was commissioned to compose a national anthem for a new African nation which had just become independent from French colonial rule (I had fallen asleep while reading *The Coup* by John Irving, about just such a nation.) The text was written to the melody of Finlandia. It will also be translated

into Haitian Creole and sung by the choir.

The original French:

*Je suis monde de mystère  
Porté sur les ailes du temps  
À travers cette terre enchantée  
Pour arriver au repos  
Au sein de ton amour.*

*O, toi, mon peuple, je t'embrasse  
A la fois ma mère, ma fille, mon fils  
Ô toi, mon peuple, je t'embrasse,  
Moi, le Fenix  
Pour arriver finalement au repos.*

English:

I am world of mystery  
Borne on the wings of time  
Across this enchanted land  
To arrive at rest  
In the bosom of your love

O, you, my people, I embrace you  
At once my mother, my daughter, my son  
O you, my people, I embrace you,  
I, the Phoenix  
Come to rest at last.

Creole:

Mwen menm mwen nan mond lan  
sou mistè  
Pòt ki louvri sou do de temps  
Nan tout peyi sa a enchanted  
Pou ale nan ti rès ki rete  
Viv kòtakòt ak renmen nan kè ou.

Seyè, ou menm, pèp mwen an, mwen  
adopter ou  
An menm tan fwa manman m', pitit fi m',  
pitit gason m  
Nou menm, pèp mwen an, mwen  
adopter nou la a,  
Mwen menm, fenix a  
Pou rive a la fen kouche.

From "People", the piece will segue into the grand finale, "Celebration".