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STATEMENT REGARDING MAGNIFICAT

by

JOHN STANLEY HILLIARD N B.M., Ouachita University, 1969

Submitted to the Feculty of the School of the Arts of Virginia Commonwealth University

in Partial Fulfillment

of the

Requirements for the Degree

Master of Music

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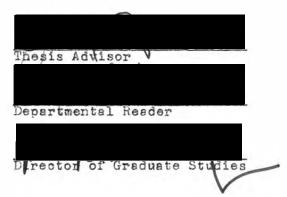
APPROVAL CERTIFICATE

STATEMENT REGARDING MAGNIFICAT

by

John S. Hilliard

Approved:



Approved:

Dean, ISchool of the Arts Date

Freface

This thesis statement presents an analysis and explanation of a music composition entitled: Legnificat. The full music score to the Engnificat may be found in the collection of the Eusic Department of the School of the Arts, Virginia Commonwealth University. The King James Version is the source for all of Eiblical text. The presentation here of the text of the Engnificat corresponds to the manner it is introduced into the music score. Thus, the use of small case primarily to contrast those parts of the text of nigh volume intensity which are capitalized, and parallel text to show simultaneous reading.

I wish to acknowledge the assistance of Dr. Joseph Schwarz, Dr. Charles J. Campbell, and Dr. Paul A. Christianson in the preparation of the complete thesis.

iii

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREFA	CE	iii
LIST	OF FIGURES	v
PART		
I.	ANALYSIS OF THE COMPOSITION	1
II.	TEXT OF THE COMPOSITION	9
III.	BIBLIOGRAPHY	26

LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURES

I.	TWELVE-NOTE THEME	ຊ
II.	DISTRIBUTIONS	3
III.	CIRCLE OF FIFTHS	4
IV.	TWO HEXACHORDS	6

PART I. ANALYSIS OF THE COMPOSITION

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The standard Magnificat text is taken from the New Testament; St. Luke Chapter One, verses 46-53. In this particular setting of the Magnificat, the standard text is framed within a context of many diversified texts. On page nine may be found the complete text and its sources.

The instrumentation of the Magnificat is as follows: three readers (one female, and two male), mixed chorus, two flutes (piccolo), clarinet, oboe, bassoon, saxophone quartet, three trumpets, two horns, three trombones, tuba, strings, organ, and four percussion players. The text is presented primerily through the readers.

The melodic and harmonic material is completely derived from the twelve-note theme below, (Figure 1)



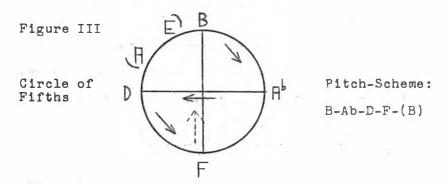
and, its distributions given in Figure 2.



In Figure 2 the theme is divided by strata into three subordinate germs each with an ambitus of a third. The major-minor third, exemplified by the ambitus of each germ, becomes an important element throughout the work. These three strata are assigned letters. $(\underline{s}, \underline{b}, \underline{xc})$

The entire work is divided into three large sections. Section two (II) begins on page fifty-three of the score with the first statement of the Magnificst text. Section three (III) begins on page sixty-eight and can be considered as a coda in which a grand synthesis takes place.

Before a more specific analysis is given, one more mecro-structure should be noted. There is a pitch-center scheme that gives shape to the total work. It is an alteration of tritone and minor third modulations that begin on B with the opening brass incipit and modulates to Ab at measure 299, then modulates to D at measure h31 and finally to F in Section III at measure h92. In the last few measures of the work there is a hint of (E)-B, which never quite occurs. Therefore, according to Figure 3, this takes the work through the circle of fifths by process of minor thirds and tritones, but these pitch-centers do not necessarily mean tonal-centers.



The pitch D is the most important pitch in the pitch-class scheme. It is used only at the very beginning, and only then with the chant sections of the chorus at 11 as a "Holy Pitch" (occurring only on words dealing with God, Thee, Thou, and Thy, referring to the diety or some connection thereof), at the zenith point of the repetition of the Magnificat text at measure 431, and in the synthesis of the coda. This pitch is otherwise excluded from all parts. Thus, there occurs the effect of a new aural area being entered when the D is encountered. This device is used throughout with other pitches as well.

The opening of the Magnificat is the full statement of the theme, beginning with the fifth and expanding to include all twelve pitches. This is done without meter as preparation for the chant section at measure 11. The chant begins with the ambitus of a major third then likewise expands to all twelve pitches. At measure 30 there begins a double canon. The clarinet begins with an idea taken from a transposition of strate b. This is in canon with the celesta. The cello is free imitation; strata c. Soon after the statement by the clarinet, the clarinet begins to canon the cello, thus a "circle" canon. During this section ten pitch-classes are used. Bb and Db are saved and enter at measure 64. This section supports the excerpt of Chaucer. At this point a perpetual motion theme, rhythmically two against three, is heard in the piano. This idea is repeated at 176, in the harmony at measure 291, and at measure 525 in the coda.

At measure 90 the major-minor third aspect of the theme enters. This is expanded to a cadence at measure 103 on A, which has been saved since measure 64 as a pitch-class. The material from measure 107 to 159 is developmental. At measure 159 the fifth is exposed as the beginning. The material from

.

measure 159 to 176 is from strata <u>a</u>. The pitches Eb and E are being saved for the male voices to enter at measure 176 with text from the Song of Solomon. The ambitus of the third plays a large role in the forming of the melody for Song of Solomon. The minor third strata forms the basis for all material from measure 197 to 257. At measure 258 a return occurs of material transposed from measure 90. This section works toward a cadence at measure 264 in cello and trumpet, at which the chorus is whispering. All the running passages of this section stem from material in measure 197.

The theme is seen in part retrograde in the chorus at measure 299. Also, at this point the pitchcenter shifts to Ab, which has been saved since measure 176. Another canon occurs at measure 315 between horns-tuba, and trombone-baritone saxophone. This canon melody is a preview of the melody used in the motet at measure 344. There is a variation of the theme which takes place at measure 315 and after 315 to measure 337. The Theme is divided into two hexachords and used as scales. (See Figure 4). Figure IV



IT'S rel-

At measure 326 the canon is transposed and placed in three part trumpets on Ab. The canon melody is then in augmentation at measure 330 in saxophones.

A motet for five parts begins at measure 338 which is accompanied only by trumpet. The motet form is ABA, with reading being B. Free imitation is the main device, with the trumpet stating variants on the major-minor third aspect on Ab. At measure 392 the motet ends with homophonic texture. This is followed by text alone.

The opening brass incipit returns in inversion at measure 403. A large cadence occurs which leads into the F# at measure 407 in the cello. Beginning at measure 407 there is a quedruple canon, which is almost a note-for-note transposition of the double canon at measure 30. All the melodic material from measure 30 is repeated and varied here. The cello is in canon with the soprano sexophone, the viola is in canon with the trombone, the violin I in canon with the tenor sexophone, the violin II in canon with the baritone saxophone, and at measure 425 the cello suddenly is in canon with the viola. Thus, this section is very similiar to the "circle" canon at measure 30.

The pitch D enters at measure 431 along with a FFF repeat of the Magnificat text, which has been

shortened to accomodate the real time needed in the music. The pitch D has been saved since measure 107. Material from the male voices section of Song of Solomon becomes the basis for the piano work at measure 444. As the Magnificat text comes to its finish at measure 462, there is a transition that leads by way of the use of perfect fourths and fifths into the code at measure 476. A variant of the theme is stated harmonically in the flutes at measure 467.

At the code a synthesis of much of the material is heard. The text is synthetic; three readers reading simultaneously. The chant motives from measure 11 are used in the chorus. At measure 191 a step-wise quarter-note ascending line using the divided hexachords begins and continues in different tempi and in different instruments to the final measure. Also, a passaceglie (modern form) is started in the organ and contre-bass at measure 192 on the pitch-center F, using strate \underline{c} with no transposition, and continues with rhythmic variation to the finish. The code stays quiet and slow throughout to the ending of the text ("world without end"), which ence spoken is the finish of the work. (536 measures)

On the following pages are the complete text and sources.

PART II. TEXT OF THE COMPOSITION

3

.

I-Female reader II-Male reader III-Male reader chorus----o, god, thou art my god, early will i seek thee my soul thirsteth for thee my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty lend where no water is, longeth to see thy power and thy glory because thy lovingkindness is my life my lips shall praise thee thus will i praise thee while i live i will lift up my hands my soul shell be satisfied as with marrow and fatness and my mouth shall praise with joyful lips when i remember thee upon my bed, and meditate on the in the night watches

TEXT

BECAUSE THOU HAST BEEN MY HELP IN THE SHADOW OF THY WINGS.....

will i rejoice
my soul followeth hard after thee
thy right hand upholdeth me
but those that seek my soul,
to destroy it
shall go into the lower parts of the earth
shall fall by the sword
shall be a portion for foxes
the mouth of them that speak lies shall be stopped...1

II

when in april the sweet showers fall and pierce the drought of march to the root, and all the veins are bathed in liquid of such strength as brings about the engendering of the flower, when also the west wind with his sweet breath

¹The Bible, Pselm 63 (incomplete).

exhales an air in every grove and hill upon the tender shoots, and the young sun his half-course in the sign of the ram has run, and the small fowl are making songs that sleep away the night with open eye then people long to go on pilgrimages.....2

III

i have read my friend the message of your trembling arrow on velvet skies the message has come to my eyes from forgotten stars an infinity of illusion.....

tell me the tragedy of loving speak again to me and i will remember³

Ι

..................... tell me with your mouth your tell me troubles and i'll keep my ear inclined, for my buttons you see are round like yours, my hair never stops its growing like you and me, tell me with your eyes your look me troubled sights and i'll treat my eyes to your coming love, for your nights are dark like mine and i dance just as quick when i'm asleep

II

... and then i long to go on pilgrimsges, when i remember thee upon my bed, and meditate on thee in the night watches open, open..... speak again to me i have read my friend the message of your trembling arrow on velvet skies the message has come to my eyes from forgotten stars an infinity of illusion ..

²Geoffrey Cheucer, <u>Canterbury Tales</u>, from the Prologue, (Baltimore, Maryland: Penguin Books, Inc., 1964), p. 17.

³Joe Kirby, "Quintet" (unpublished poem, Arkedelphis, Ark., 1969). as you in your quiet heed my soul followeth hard after thee ... open, open, let me press your green grass down, visit, visit me in your tell me troubles gown.4 tell me the tragedy of loving speak again to me and i w111 remember⁵.....

III

stay me with flagons, comfort me with apples, for i⁶ am sick with love.

Ι

be quiet and sleep be still and belanced be the warm summer snow and accept whoever comes.....

Τ

and when the canary stopped singing silence fell where sounds had kept us all breathing

II

it was in september i quess when i found myself lying on the crown of the hill among hundreds of dead birds and i could hear cannon fire in the forest every tree was boasting a flag or a banner approving the blood and i was a bush alone on the crown of the hill

⁴J. S. Hilliard, "Song" (unpublished pcem, Arkadelphia, Ark., 1969).

⁵Psalm 63, Chaucer, Hilliard, and Kirby, conglomerate text.

⁶The Bible, Song of Solomon 2:5.

emong hundred of bright deed birds that had come in the night looking for each other

Ι

and when the canary stopped singing silence fell where sounds had kept us all listening

III

stay me with flagons, comfort me with apples for i am sick with love.....

II

i guess it was in december of that same year that my father died and 208 million people decided to visit me and came in crowds and stood outside my door then shook my hend and smiled and i memorized all their names and gave them beer and cheese and i could hear cannon fire from the forest then we all drove to the sea and sang songs above the sound of the breakers then i remember my father had died and went home

Ι

and when the substance of all things became the sound of see gulls we sll breathed the sound of see gulls

III

then i guess jenuary the 18th was the day the canary took me by the hand and led me to his cage and pointed out each bar and bolt and i could hear cannon fire in the trees because the forest was so near and i was a rock among myriad stelks of wheat in a sea of fields that had come in the night looking for each other?

⁷J. S. Hillierd, "end when the cenery stopped singing" (unpublished poem, Richmond, Va., 1971). Ι

stay me with flagons, comfort me with apples, tell me the tragedy of loving speak again to me and i will remember for i am sick with love.....

chorus

how beautiful are thy feet with shoes, o prince's daughter,

the joints of thy thighs are like jewels, the work of the

hands of a cunning workman.

.

Ι

- 1 have compared thee, o my love, to a company of horses,
- a bundle of myrrh is my well beloved unto me, he shall lie
- all night betwixt my breasts, behold thou art fair my beloved, yes pleasant, also our bed is green, the beams
- of our house are cedar, and our refters of fir

chorus

set me as a seal upon thy heart, as a seal upon thy arm, for love is strong as death II set me as a seal upon thy heart as a seal upon thy arm, many waters cannot quench love, neither can the for love is strong as death floods jealousy is cruel as the drown it, for if a man grave, would give all the substance of his

⁸Song of Solomon and Kirby, conglomerate text.

•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	
			•											•						

I

1 have compared thee, oh my love, to a company of horses, a bundle of myrrh is my well beloved unto me, he shall lie all night betwixt my breasts, make haste my beloved, and be thou like to a roe or to a young hart upon the mountains of spices, and lie all night betwixt my breasts....

house for love, it would utterly be condemned.

III

thy navel is like a round goblet, which wanteth not liquor, thy belly is like a heap of wheat set about with lilies, thy two breasts are like two young roes that are twins, thy neck is 8 8 a tower of ivory, this thy stature is like to a palm tree, and thy breasts to clusters of grapes....

III

i lay white in thy feasting window i hope in thy hallowed light and fold my wings like a candle and rain upon deserts like a mirror and like wine i pour from miner's brow for beneath the falls you spin your thread for a lantern shines on every sparrow's back for these seasons are their brother's keeper for the fish are tea-sets and reflect thy shadow..... nest thy elbows in scales with the weight of sleep be the lineage of david in the winter be the fern that melts the snow of spring be the bloom through the ice be the rocks burning in the sea and melt to glass be the sands of a corn storm and grow autumn in a flames.....

⁹The Bible, Song of Solomon 7-8, (incomplete).

nest thy elbows in scales with the weight of sleep... steal the net among the horns steal the points of thorns among thy grapes steal the seamen from the shores of the belfry sea steal the drum, crush and fly the needle the nail of oak steal into caves among nurseries of wool and mince steal thy own and spread your frosting from mouth to mouth.....

nest thy elbows in scales with the weight of sleep... nest thy limbs with mushroom palaces and stand in your sleep where i lay white.....

I

you are asleep now you are flesh and puppet for sleep is important to you for light will require you soon

II

LET US SPEAK OF CROWS IN REVERENCE FOR THEIR SHADOW IS OUR LIKENESS AND OUR LIKENESS HOLDS NO LIGHT AND AS CROWS ARE BLACK WE FLY IN THIS HOARY NIGHT AND SPREAD OUR WINGS LIKE ARSONS!!!!!!!!!

chorus

o glad, exulting, culminating song. a vigor more than earth's is in thy notes.... a reborn race appears--a perfect world, all joy!

¹⁰J. S. Hilliard, "be quiet and sleep" (unpublished poem, Richmond, Va., 1971). women and men in wisdom, innocence and health,

chorus

ALL JOY !!

II

riotous laughing bacchanals filled with joy. war, sorrow, suffering gone -- the rank earth purged -- nothing but joy left. the ocean filled with joy -- the atmosphere all joy. joy, joy in freedom, worship, love, joy in the ecstasy of life. TIT enough to merely be, enough to breathe joy joy all over joy. damn those bells god damn those ringing bells, those slicing screaming bells, damn those bells splitting without god damn those ringing marcy the body from bells, those slicing the bloody soul, damn those bolls screaming bells, destroying, slaughtgod damn those ringing splitting without ering, in one blow bells, those slicing mercy the body from screaming bells. the redsoft heart of the bloody soul. cternity, damn those splitting without mercy damn, damn those

¹¹Walt Whitman, "The Mystic Trumpeter", Leaves of Grass (New York: Modern Library) p. 368. bells in time with pricking clocks forge square corners for warm butchery, piercing are those bells, damn paralyzing bells.¹² the body from the bloody soul, damn those bells, god damn those ringing bells, those slicing screaming bells, damn paralyzing bells. Ι

bells, in time with pricking clocks forge square corners for warm butchery, piercing are those bells, damn paralyzing bells.

12J. S. Hilliard, "song no. 7 (unpublished poem, Kansas City, Mo., 1970).

and when the substance of all things became the sound of sea gulls, we all breathed the sound of sea gulls......

chorus

my soul doth magnify the lord and my spirit hath rejoiced in the lord my perserver for he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed for he that is mighty hath done to me great things.

II

and his mercy is on them that fear him from generation to generation.

III

he hath showed strength with his arm.

II

he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

III

he hath put down the mighty from their seats, and exalted them of low degree.

II

he hath filled the hungry with good things, the rich he hath sent away empty.

13J. S. Hilliard, "and when the canary stopped singing" (unpublished poem, Richmond, Va., 1971).

Ι

chorus

he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden, and my spirit hath rejoiced in the lord my preserver. my soul doth magnify the lord.lu

III (tacet music)

i want to be clear would it be too naive for me to sing all creation? would it be worthless for me to commit myself to white union with the macrocosmos and try to be no more obscure than now in this almost pure articulation? should i write with complex syntax and drain the dictionary dry of adjectives than to speak the words of man, being man, so easily? my existence becomes a sphere when i am burning with ease, for the word love is over used. do i insult? is it the purities that deliver the greatest pain? i want to be clear.¹⁵

(section of music)

chorus

my soul doth magnify the lord and my spirit hath rejoiced in the lord my perserver for he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed for he that is mighty hath done to me great things, and his mercy is on them that fear him from generation to generation he hath showed strength with his arm he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of

their hearts

14The Bible, St. Luke 1:46-53 (incomplete).

15J. S. Hilliard, "i want to be clear" (unpublished poem, Kansas City, Mo., 1970). he hath put down the mighty from their seats, and exalted them of low degree he hath filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he hath sent away empty he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden AND MY spirit hath rejoiced in the lord my preserver my soul doth magnify the lord¹⁶

16The Bible, St. Luke 1:46-53 (incomplete).

chorus

I

T.	T.	T.
L	1	Τ.

o glad, exulting,	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		
culminating song.			
a vigor more than			
earth's is in thy			
notes			
a reborn race app-			
ears a perfect world,		to creste form is	
all joy, riotous		to be alive, to	
laughing bacchanals		imitate form is to	
filled with joy. war.		pretend to be alive	
sorrow, suffering		forms are intense	
gone, the rank earth		expressions of	
purged, nothing but		intense life,	
joy left, the ocean		differences among	
filled with joy, the		these expressions	
stmosphere all joy,		are material differ.	
joy, joy in freedom,		ences. Differences	
worship, love, joy		between forms are	
in the ecstasy of		differences of	
life, enough to		degree, forms like	
meraly be, enough		men have a life of	
to breathe, joy,		their own	
joy, all over, joy.	why should i wish	the work of art	
(receat)	to see god better	must be well-	
	then this day?	contrived nature	
"(fulltext)	i have said that	a well made	
99	the soul is not	selection. a mirror	
3 f	more that the body	of sensations, and	
11	and i have said	sensations are	•••••
			•••••
	that the body is not more that the	always lies, inso-	
		fer as they confront the so	i want to be clear would it be too
	soul, and nothing		
	not god, is greater		naive of me to sing
	to one than one's	actual events in	all creation?

(cont.)

self is, and whoever walks a furlong without sympathy walks to his own funeral drest in his shroud, and there is no object so soft but it makes a hub for the wheeled universe. and i say to any man or woman, let your soul stand cool and composed before a million universes..... august 12. 1959. dear billie, i am glad to hear that you have a paper route and doing quite well, it's very nice that you can help your mama out that way. la vorne seys you are staying at her house and paying for it. tell mr. lacey i would be happy if other members

T

II

nature, but perhaps we come closer to the truth thru lies. thru the so-oalled mask, the sign. thru our subjective sensibility it- than now in this self. like the state, each man must have his own constitution.... how far is snyone justified, be he an authority or a layman, in express- to speak the words ing or trying to express in terms of so essilv? my exismusic (in sounds if you like) the value of anything, material, moral, intellectual. or spiritual, which is usually expressed in terms other than music? how far afield can music go and keep honest as woll as ressonable or artistic..... be quiet and

III

would it be worthless for me to commit myself to white union with the macrocosmos and try to be no more obscure almost pure articulation? should i write with complex syntax and drain the dictionary dry of adjectives than of man, being man. tence becomes a sphere when 1 am burning with ease, for the word love is over used. do i insult? is it the purities that deliver the greatest pain? i want to be clear. tell me with your mouth your tell me troubles and i'll koop my car inclined, for my buttons you

(cont.)

of his church would visit me. it's good to be able to talk things over about god with other christians. billy, the sweet showers it makes me happy to hear nice things the drought of about you. you come to see me when and all the veina vou can or write me a nice letter or card when you can, love to ls verne and eddy. with love. daddy. for. lo. the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. the flowers appear on the earth. the time of the singing of birds, and the voice of the turtle is_heard in our land

Ι

II

sleep be still and balanced be the warm summer snow and accept whoever comes.... when in april fall and pierce march to the root. are bethed in liquid of such strength as brings about the engendering of the flower, when also the west wind with his sweet breath exhales an air in every grove and hill upon the tender shoots, and the young sun his half-course in the run. and the small fowl are making

III

see are round like yours, my hair never stops its growing like you and me, tell me with your eyes your eyes your look me troubled sights and i'll treat my eyes to your coming love, for your nights are dark like mine and i dance just as quick when i'm asleep as you in your quiet head stay me with flagons. comfort me with apples, tell me the tragedy of loving. speak again to me and i will remember, for i am sick with love................. for. lo. the winter sign of the ram has is past, the rain is over and gone, the flowers appear on

17Letter. Song of Solomon, and Whitmsn, conglomerate text.

ohorus	I	II	III			
(cont.)		songs that sleep away the night with open eye, then people long to go on pilgrimages. ¹⁰	the earth, the time of the singing of birds, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land.19 sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper: in saecula saeculorum, 20			
			amen			

(music finish)

¹⁸ Beethoven, Chaucer, Hilliard, and Ives, conglomerate text. ¹⁹Hilliard, Kirby, and Song of Solomon, conglomerate text. ²⁰From "Ita Missa Est" of Latin Liturgical Mass.

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