

# Symphony no 9 'Poem on death' for orchestra and mixed choir

© Inger Christensen  
text translated  
by JC Sanderhoff

6. mov; write about death

Jens Carl Sanderhoff

tempo 60

Soprano 1-2  
 Alto 1-2  
 Tenor 1-2  
 Bass 1-2  
 Flute 1-2  
 Oboe 1-2  
 English Horn  
 B♭ Clarinet 1-2  
 Bassoon 1-2  
 Horn 1-2  
 Trombone  
 B♭ Tuba  
 Tubular Bells  
 Vibraphone  
 Timpani 1-2  
 Violins 1-2  
 Violas  
 Violoncellos  
 Double Basses

Musical score for a symphony orchestra and vocal soloists. The score includes parts for Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass, Flute, Oboe, English Horn, B♭ Clarinet, Bassoon, Horn, Trombone, B♭ Tuba, Tubular Bells, Vibraphone, Timpani, Violins, Violas, Violoncellos, and Double Basses. The music is in 2/4 time with a key signature of two sharps (D major).

22

S.1-2

A.1-2

T.1-2  
8 and the a-ni-mal can die but can not write

B.1-2  
and the a-ni-mal can die but can not write

Fl.1-2

Ob.1-2

E. Hn.

B♭ Cl.1-2

Bsn.1-2

Hn.1-2

Trb.

B♭ Tu.

Tu. Be.

Vib.

Timp.1-2

Vlns. 1-2

Vlas.

Vlcs.

Dbs.

8

25

S.1-2

A.1-2

T.1-2

B.1-2

Fl.1-2

Ob.1-2

E. Hn.

B♭ Cl.1-2

Bsn.1-2

Hn.1-2

Trb.

B♭ Tu.

Tu. Be.

Vib.

Timp.1-2

Vlins. 1-2

Vlas.

Vlcs.

Dbs.

*p*

try to write a

8

29 *pp*

S.1-2 po - em on death po - em on death

A.1-2 *p* po - em on death po - em on death

T.1-2 po - em on death po - em on death

B.1-2 *pp* po - em on death po - em on death

Fl.1-2

Ob.1-2

E. Hn.

B $\flat$  Cl.1-2

Bsn.1-2

Hn.1-2

Trb.

B $\flat$  Tu.

Tu. Be.

Vib.

Timp.1-2

Vlins. 1-2

Vlas.

Vlcs.

Obs. 2013 and 1989

8 13

31

S.1-2 po - em on death

A.1-2 po - em on death

T.1-2 po - em on death

B.1-2 po - em on death

Fl.1-2

Ob.1-2

E. Hn.

B♭ Cl.1-2

Bsn.1-2

Hn.1-2

Trb.

B♭ Tu.

Tu. Be. *pp* *ppp* *pp*

Vib.

Timp.1-2

Vlins. 1-2

Vlas.

Vlcs.

Obs. 2013 and 1989

8

33

S.1-2  
does death have a - ny mea-ning what

A.1-2  
does death have a - ny mea-ning

T.1-2

B.1-2

Fl.1-2

Ob.1-2

E. Hn.

B $\flat$  Cl.1-2

Bsn.1-2

Hn.1-2

Trb.

B $\flat$  Tu.

Tu. Be.

Vib. *pp*

Timp.1-2 *ppp*

Vlns. 1-2

Vlas.

Vlcs.

Db.

8

34

S.1-2  
what what

A.1-2  
what what

T.1-2  
what

B.1-2  
what

Fl.1-2

Ob.1-2

E. Hn.

B $\flat$  Cl.1-2

Bsn.1-2

Hn.1-2

Trb.

B $\flat$  Tu.

Tu. Be.

Vib.

Timp.1-2

Vlins. 1-2

Vlas.

Vlcs.

Dbs.

2013 and 1989

8



35

S.1-2

A.1-2

T.1-2

B.1-2

Fl.1-2

Ob.1-2

E. Hn.

B $\flat$  Cl.1-2

Bsn.1-2

Hn.1-2

Trb.

B $\flat$  Tu.

Tu. Be.

Vib.

Timp.1-2

Vlins. 1-2

Vlas.

Vlcs.

Dbs.

8

36

S.1-2

A.1-2

T.1-2

B.1-2

Fl.1-2

Ob.1-2

E. Hn.

B $\flat$  Cl.1-2

Bsn.1-2

Hn.1-2

Trb.

B $\flat$  Tu.

Tu. Be.

Vib.

Timp.1-2

Vlins. 1-2

Vlas.

Vlcs.

Dbs.

8

39

S. 1-2

A. 1-2  
now that the ap - ples fall so far from the tree

T. 1-2

B. 1-2

Fl. 1-2

Ob. 1-2

E. Hn.

B $\flat$  Cl. 1-2

Bsn. 1-2

Hn. 1-2

Trb.

B $\flat$  Tu.

Tu. Be.

Vib.

Timp. 1-2

Vlins. 1-2  
*pppp*

Vlas.

Vlcs.

Db. *pppp*

8

41

S.1-2 not ea - ten out of lust

A.1-2 of know-ledge that they are not ea - ten out of lust

T.1-2 not ea - ten out of lust

B.1-2 not ea - ten out of lust

Fl.1-2

Ob.1-2

E. Hn.

B $\flat$  Cl.1-2

Bsn.1-2

Hn.1-2

Trb.

B $\flat$  Tu.

Tu. Be.

Vib.

Timp.1-2

Vlins. 1-2

Vlas.

Vlcs.

20 Dbs. 2013 and 1989

S.1-2  
 A.1-2  
 T.1-2  
 B.1-2  
 Fl.1-2  
 Ob.1-2  
 E. Hn.  
 B $\flat$  Cl.1-2  
 Bsn.1-2  
 Hn.1-2  
 Trb.  
 B $\flat$  Tu.  
 Tu. Be.  
 Vib.  
 Timp.1-2  
 Vlns. 1-2  
 Vlas.  
 Vlcs.  
 Dbs.

*ppp*  
 write a - bout death

*ppp*

43

S.1-2 and not out of hun-ger but out of sick de - si - re

A.1-2 and not out of hun-ger but out of sick de - si - re

T.1-2 and not out of hun-ger but out of sick de - si - re

B.1-2 and not out of hun-ger de - si - re

Fl.1-2

Ob.1-2

E. Hn.

B♭ Cl.1-2

Bsn.1-2

Hn.1-2

Trb.

B♭ Tu.

Tu. Be.

Vib.

Timp.1-2

Vlins. 1-2

Vlas.

Vlcs.

Dbs.

2013 and 1989

8 21

46

S.1-2 death is a - lone

A.1-2 death is a - lone

T.1-2 death is a - lone

B.1-2 death is a - lone

Fl.1-2

Ob.1-2

E. Hn.

B♭ Cl.1-2

Bsn.1-2

Hn.1-2

Trb.

B♭ Tu.

Tu. Be.

Vib.

Timp.1-2

Vlns. 1-2 *p* Pizzicato

Vlas. *ppppp*

Vlcs. *ppppp*

22 Dbs. *ppppp*

2013 and 1989

51

S.1-2 death is a - lone

A.1-2 death is a - lone

T.1-2 death is a - lone

B.1-2 death is a - lone

Fl.1-2 *ppp*

Ob.1-2

E. Hn.

B♭ Cl.1-2

Bsn.1-2

Hn.1-2

Trb.

B♭ Tu.

Tu. Be.

Vib.

Timp.1-2 *pppppp*  
Normal

Vlins. 1-2

Vlas.

Vlcs.

Db. 8

2013 and 1989



57

S.1-2 *pp*  
death is a - lone death is a - lone

A.1-2 *pp*  
death is a - lone death is a - lone

T.1-2 *pp*  
8 death is a - lone death is a - lone

B.1-2 *pp*  
death is a - lone death is a - lone

Fl.1-2 *ppp*

Ob.1-2

E. Hn.

B♭ Cl.1-2

Bsn.1-2

Hn.1-2

Trb.

B♭ Tu.

Tu. Be.

Vib.

Timp.1-2 *pp*

Vlins. 1-2

Vlas.

Vlcs.

24 Dbs. 8 2013 and 1989

All voices singing the same text

12

S.1-2 *pp* *p*

A.1-2 *pp* *p*  
write a - bout death write a - bout death

T.1-2 *pp* *p*

B.1-2 *pp* *p*

Fl.1-2

Ob.1-2

E. Hn.

B $\flat$  Cl.1-2

Bsn.1-2

Hn.1-2

Trb.

B $\flat$  Tu.

Tu. Be.

Vib.

Timp.1-2

Vlins. 1-2

Vlas.

Vlcs.

Dbs.

8

13

*mp*

S.1-2

A.1-2

T.1-2

B.1-2

Fl.1-2

Ob.1-2

E. Hn.

B $\flat$  Cl.1-2

Bsn.1-2

Hn.1-2

Trb.

B $\flat$  Tu.

Tu. Be.

Vib.

Timp.1-2

Vlins. 1-2

Vlas.

Vlcs.

Db.

8

*mp*

*mp*

*mf*

*mf*

write a - bout death write a - bout

14

S.1-2

A.1-2  
death

T.1-2  
8  
write a - bout death

B.1-2  
f  
write a - bout death  
ff  
write a - bout death

Fl.1-2

Ob.1-2

E. Hn.

B $\flat$  Cl.1-2

Bsn.1-2

Hn.1-2

Trb.

B $\flat$  Tu.

Tu. Be.  
pp

Vib.

Timp.1-2

Vlins. 1-2

Vlas.

Vlcs.

Db.

8

17 *pp*

S.1-2 ex-plain in a po - em what you feel a - bout death

A.1-2 *pp* ex-plain in a po - em what you feel a -

T.1-2 *pp* ex-plain in a po - em what you

B.1-2 *pp* ex-plain in a po - em

Fl.1-2

Ob.1-2

E. Hn.

B $\flat$  Cl.1-2

Bsn.1-2

Hn.1-2

Trb.

B $\flat$  Tu.

Tu. Be.

Vib.

Timp.1-2

Vlins. 1-2

Vlas.

Vlcs.

Obs.

2013 and 1989

8

18

S.1-2

A.1-2  
bout death

T.1-2  
s feel a - bout death

B.1-2  
what you feel a - bout death

Fl.1-2

Ob.1-2

E. Hn.

B $\flat$  Cl.1-2

Bsn.1-2

Hn.1-2

Trb.

B $\flat$  Tu.

Tu. Be.

Vib.

Timp.1-2

Vlins. 1-2

Vlas.

Vlcs.

Db.

8

19

*mp*  
S.1-2 ex-plain in a po-em what you feel a - bout death

*mp*  
A.1-2 ex-plain in a po-em what you feel a - bout death

*mp*  
T.1-2 ex-plain in a po-em what you feel a - bout death

*mp*  
B.1-2 ex-plain in a po-em what you feel a - bout death

Fl.1-2

Ob.1-2

E. Hn.

B $\flat$  Cl.1-2

Bsn.1-2

Hn.1-2

Trb.

B $\flat$  Tu.

Tu. Be.

Vib.

Timp.1-2

Vlins. 1-2 *ppp*

Vlas. *ppp*

Vlcs. *ppp*

Obs. *pp*

8

2013 and 1989

21

S.1-2  
be - fore death I am like an a - ni - mal

A.1-2  
be - fore death I am like an a - ni - mal

T.1-2

B.1-2

Fl.1-2

Ob.1-2

E. Hn.

B $\flat$  Cl.1-2

Bsn.1-2

Hn.1-2

Trb.

B $\flat$  Tu.

Tu. Be.

Vib.

Timp.1-2

Vlns. 1-2

Vlas.

Vlcs.

Db.

8