

Nils Henrik Asheim

# Time to be silent, time to speak



# Time to be silent, time to speak

Nils Henrik Asheim 2011  
Words: Ecclesiastes (the Bible)

for  
Choir SATB  
String orchestra

The division of the choir between TUTTI and GROUP is optional.  
It may apply when a large choir is available. Otherwise, make it all TUTTI.

Durata: 11 minutes

Commissioned by De Internasjonale Kirkefestspill  
together with Kristiansand Symfoniorkester  
with support from Norsk Kulturfond (Arts Council Norway)

Premiere: January 15, 2012,  
inauguration of Kilden Theatre and Concert Hall

[www.nilshenrikasheim.no](http://www.nilshenrikasheim.no)  
[n.h.asheim@gmail.com](mailto:n.h.asheim@gmail.com)

Full score, choral score with piano reduction (not for performance)  
and orchestral parts available from  
[www.mic.no](http://www.mic.no)

*There is a time for everything  
and a time for every matter under the heavens,  
a time to be born and a time to die,  
a time to plant and a time to uproot,  
a time to kill and a time to heal,  
a time to tear down and a time to build,  
a time to weep and a time to laugh,  
a time to mourn and a time to dance,  
a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,  
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,  
a time to search and a time to give up,  
a time to keep and a time to throw away,  
a time to tear and a time to mend,  
a time to be silent and a time to speak,  
a time to love and a time to hate,  
a time for war and a time for peace*

Ecclesiastes (the Bible), Chapter 1 v. 1-8

In respect for the victims of July 22nd, 2011,  
and those whose lives have been changed

# Time to be silent, time to speak

**Largo** ♩ = 58  
**TUTTI**

**Senza misura**  
*p* "canon", individually, freely \*)

S  
A  
T  
B

There is a time  
There is a time  
There is a time  
There is a time

There is a time for eve-ry-thing and a time for eve-ry mat-ter un-der the hea-vens  
There is a time for eve-ry-thing and a time for eve-ry mat-ter un-der the hea-vens  
There is a time for eve-ry-thing and a time for eve-ry mat-ter un-der the hea-vens  
There is a time for eve-ry-thing and a time for eve-ry mat-ter un-der the hea-vens

\*) Every singer keeps his/her own timing, also for the start of the repetition. Successive entries like a very tight canon. Last singer enters before "and a time". Sing the fast notes rapidly, with energy and well articulated.

Each bar at least double duration.

**Largo** ♩ = 58  
**Senza misura**

Violini 1  
Violini 2  
STRINGS  
Viole  
Violoncelli  
Contrabassi

*p* *mf* *pp* *mp* *pp*

**GROUP**

S  
A  
T  
B

a time to be born  
a time to be born  
and a time  
and a time

**A**

Vln 1  
Vln 2  
Vle  
Vlc  
Cb

*mp* *pp* *f* *p* *mf* *mf* *mp*

*pizz* *arco* *ord.*

14

S  
A  
T  
B

to die,  
to die,  
a time  
a time

to be born  
to be born  
and a time  
and a time

*f*

14

Vln 1  
Vln 2  
Vle  
Vlc  
Cb

*mp* *p* *p* *mp* *mp* *mf*  
*mp* *p* *p* *mp* *mp* *mf*  
*mf* *mf* *f* *f* *f*  
*mf* *mf* *f* *f* *f*  
*p* *f*  
*mf* *mf* *f*

20

S  
A  
T  
B

to die,  
to die,  
to die,  
to die,

There is a time to plant  
There is a time to plant  
There is a time to plant  
There is a time to plant

*f* *f* *f* *f*

**TUTTI** **SOLO** **SOLO**

*p*

20

Vln 1  
Vln 2  
Vle  
Vlc  
Cb

*f* *mf* *f* *f*  
*f* *mf* *f* *f*  
*f*  
*f*  
*f*  
*f* *mp* *mp* *mp*  
*mp* *mp* *mp* *mp*  
*mp* *mp* *mp* *mp*  
*mp* *mp* *mp* *mp*  
*mp* *mp* *mp* *mp*  
*arco mp*

*pizz arpegg.* *pizz arpegg.* *pizz arpegg.* *pizz arpegg.* *pizz arpegg.* *pizz arpegg.*  
*pizz arpegg.* *pizz arpegg.* *pizz arpegg.* *pizz arpegg.* *pizz arpegg.* *pizz arpegg.*  
*pizz arpegg.* *pizz arpegg.* *pizz arpegg.* *pizz arpegg.* *pizz arpegg.* *pizz arpegg.*  
*pizz arpegg.* *pizz arpegg.* *pizz arpegg.* *pizz arpegg.* *pizz arpegg.* *pizz arpegg.*

27 **Sostenuto** **GROUP** **C** **Piu mosso** ♩ = 72 *mf*

S time<sup>3</sup> to plant and a time to up-root There is

A time to up-root There is

T and a time time to up-root

B to up-root

27 **Sostenuto** **C** **Piu mosso** ♩ = 72 *f* *arco ord.*

Vln 1 *f* *arco ord.*

Vln 2 *f* *arco ord.*

Vle *f* *arco ord.*

Vlc *f* *arco ord.*

Cb *f* *arco ord.*

33 **D** **Agitato** ♩ = 84 **TUTTI** *ff* *accel.*

S a time to There is a time a time

A a time to There is a time a time

T to There is a time a time

B There is a time a time

33 **D** **Agitato** ♩ = 84 *ff* *accel.*

Vln 1 *ff* *accel.*

Vln 2 *ff* *accel.*

Vle *ff* *accel.*

Vlc *ff* *accel.*

Cb *ff* *accel.*

37  
S to kill  
A to kill  
T to kill  
B to kill

There is a time a time  
There is a time a time  
There is a time a time  
There is a time a time

to kill  
to kill  
to kill  
to kill

ff  
ff  
ff  
ff

Vln 1  
Vln 2  
Vle  
Vlc  
Cb

ff  
ff  
ff  
ff  
ff

pont.  
mf  
mf  
ff  
ff  
ff  
ff  
ff  
ff

41  
S and a time  
A and a time  
T and a time  
B and a time

and a time  
and a time  
and a time  
and a time

to heal,  
to heal,  
to heal,  
to heal,

p  
p  
p  
p

Sostenuto  
mf  
mf  
mf  
mf

Vln 1  
Vln 2  
Vle  
Vlc  
Cb

ff  
f  
mf  
mp  
mp

ord.  
p  
p  
p  
p

44 Largo ♩ = 58

S to heal,

A heal to heal,

T heal time to heal,

B and a time

44 Largo ♩ = 58

Vln 1 *mp* *p* *mp* *mf* *f*

Vln 2 *mp* *p* *mp* *mf* *f* *pizz* *arco*

Vle *pizz* *mp* *f* *arco*

Vlc *p* *f*

Cb *pizz* *p* *mp* *f* *arco*

E Piu mosso ♩ = 72

48 **GROUP** With a broad, fluent character, not staccato **TUTTI**

S time to tear down and a time to build, time to tear down and a

A time to tear down and a time to build, time to tear down and a

T time to tear down and a time to build, time to tear down and a

B time to tear down and a time to build, time to tear down and a

E Piu mosso ♩ = 72

Vln 1 *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp* *pizz* *arco* *mp*

Vln 2 *mf* *p* *mp* *mf* *mp* *pizz* *arco* *mp*

Vle *mf* *p* *mp* *mp* *f* *mp* *mp*

Vlc *mf* *p* *mp* *mp* *f* *mp* *mp*

Cb *mf* *p* *mp* *mp* *f* *mp* *mp*

56 **GROUP** **TUTTI** *Senza misura*  
*"canon", individually, freely*

S time to build, time to build, There is a time for eve-ry-thing and a time for eve-ry mat-ter un-der the hea-vens

A time to build, time to build, There is a time for eve-ry-thing and a time for eve-ry mat-ter un-der the hea-vens

T time to build, time to build, There is a time for eve-ry-thing and a time for eve-ry mat-ter un-der the hea-vens

B time to build, time to build, There is a time for eve-ry-thing and a time for eve-ry mat-ter un-der the hea-vens

56 *Senza misura*

Vln 1 *p* *mf* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp*

Vln 2 *p* *mf* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp*

Vle *f* *mp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp*

Vlc *mp* *pizz* *mf* *arco* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp*

Cb *f* *mp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp*

63 **F** *Molto lento* ♩.52

S **GROUP S+A** *p* a time to weep and a time to

A **TUTTI S+A** a time

T *p* a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to mourn and a time to dance,

B *p* a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to mourn and a time to dance,

63 **F** *Molto lento* ♩.52

Vln 1 *pp* *pp*

Vln 2 *p* *pont. senza vibr.* *p*

Vle *p*

Vlc *pp* *mp pp* *mp pp* *mp pp*

Cb *pp*



67

S laugh, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to weep and a time to laugh, time to

A to weep and a time to laugh, time to weep

T a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to mourn and a

B a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to mourn

67

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vle

Vlc *mp pp*

Cb

71 accel. TUTTIS

S laugh, a time to sca- scatter- scatter stones- sca-

A TUTTIA a time to sca- scatter- scatter stones- sca-

T time to dance, a time to sca- scatter- scatter stones- sca-

B a time to sca- scatter- scatter stones- sca-

G Senza misura

\*) Glissandos in different directions, individually (written lines are just examples), no repetitions.  
Entries unsynchronized, rapidly after each other. Last singer enters before 2 seconds. Each bar at least double duration.

71 accel. G Senza misura

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vle

Vlc

Cb

78 **Largo** ♩ = 58

**GROUP** **H** **Piu mosso** ♩ = 72

S: -ter ther them a time to em-brace a time to em-brace

A: -ter ga-ther them a time to em-brace a time to em-brace

T: and a time time to ga-ther a time to em-brace a time to em-brace

B: and a time time to ga-ther a time to em-brace a time to em-brace

78 **Sostenuto** ♩ = 63

**H** **Piu mosso** ♩ = 72

Vln 1: *pp*

Vln 2: *p*, *pp*

Vle: *p*, *pp*

Vlc: *p*

Cb: *p*

89

S: and a time to re-fracn from em-bra-cing re-fracn re-fracn Thereis a time to search

A: and a time to re-fracn from em-bra-cing re-fracn re-fracn Thereis a time to search

T: and a time to re-fracn from em-bra-cing re-fracn re-fracn Thereis a time to search

B: and a time to re-fracn from em-bra-cing re-fracn re-fracn Thereis a

**TUTTI** **Sostenuto** **SOLO** **Piu mosso** ♩ = 72

89

Vln 1: *gliss*, *f*

Vln 2: *mp*

Vle: *mp*, *gliss*

Vlc: *mp*, *f*

Cb: *mp*, *f*

**Piu mosso** ♩ = 72

*pizz*, *p*, *f*

99

S to search time to search and a time to give up

A time to give up

T a time to search and a time to give up

B to give up

Sostenuto  
GROUP

Piu mosso  $\text{♩} = 72$

99

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vle

Vlc

Cb

Sostenuto

arco

Piu mosso  $\text{♩} = 72$

*p*

*f*

*mf*

*p*

*f*

106

S time to keep and a time to throw a way time to keep

A time to keep and a time to throw a way time to keep

T time to keep and a time to throw a way time to keep

B time to keep and a time to throw a way time to keep

GROUP

TUTTI

106

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vle

Vlc

Cb

*mf*

*f*

*p*

*mf*

*f*

*p*

*mf*

*f*

*p*

*mf*

*f*

*p*

*mf*

*f*

*p*

113

S and a time to throw a - way There is a time

A and a time to throw a - way There is a time

T and a time to throw a - way

B and a time to throw a - way

*mf* *mf*

113

Vln 1 *f* *mf*

Vln 2 *f* *mf*

Vle *f* *f*

Vlc *f* *f* *p* *mf*

Cb *f* *f* *p* *mf*

118 *accel.* **K** Agitato ♩ 84

S to There is a time a time to tear

A to There is a time a time to tear

T to There is a time a time to tear

B to There is a time a time to tear

*ff* *ff* *ff* *ff*

118 *accel.* **K** Agitato ♩ 84

Vln 1 *f* *ff*

Vln 2 *f* *ff* *pont.* *mf*

Vle *ff* *ff*

Vlc *ff* *ff*

Cb *ff* *ff*

122

S There is a time a time to tear

A There is a time a time to tear

T There is a time a time to tear

B There is a time a time to tear

122

Vln 1 *ff* *ord.* *ff* *pont.* *ord.* *ff* *mf*

Vln 2 *ff* *ord.* *ff* *f*

Vle *ff* *ord.* *ff* *f*

Vlc *ff* *ord.* *ff* *f*

Cb *ff* *ord.* *ff* *f*

126 *Sostenuto* *mf* *Senza misura* *"canon", individually, freely* *Molto lento* *GROUP* *52*

S and a time to mend to mend A time to be

A and a time to mend to mend A time to be

T and a time to mend to mend A time to be

B and a time and a time to mend to mend A time to be

\* Some singers keep the note into next bar, starting late on the canon

126 *Sostenuto* *Senza misura* *Molto lento* *52*

Vln 1 *p* *p*

Vln 2 *p* *p*

Vle *mf* *p* *pizz* *p*

Vlc *mp* *p* *pizz* *p*

Cb *mp* *p* *pizz* *p*

132 **M** **TUTTI**

S: si - lent and a time to speak [o-] time

A: si - lent and a time to speak [o-] a-

T: si - lent and a time to speak a time to love and a time to hate, a time to love and a time to hate,

B: si - lent and a time to speak a time to love and a time to hate, a time to love and a time to hate,

Vln 1: *pp*

Vln 2: *pp* *pont. senza vibr.* *p*

Vle: *arco* *p*

Vlc: *arco* *pp* *mp pp*

Cb: *pp*

138

S: to love and a time to hate, time to love

A: There is a

T: a time to love and a time to hate, a time to love and a time to hate, a time to love and a time to hate, a time to love and a time to hate,

B: a time to love and a time to hate, a time to love and a time to hate, a time to love and a time to hate, a time to love There is a

138

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vle

Vlc: *mp pp*

Cb

143 accel. *mf* *ff* **N** Largo ♩ = 58 *p*

S There is a time a time for war and a time for peace

A time a time a time a time for war and a time for peace

T There is a time a time for war and a time for peace

B time a time a time a time for war and a time for peace

Vln 1 *mf* *ff* *p*

Vln 2 *mf* *ff* *p* *pont.* *mp* *mp*

Vle *mf* *ff* *p*

Vlc *mf* *ff* *p*

Cb *mf* *ff* *p*

FINE

