

Vocal Score

Judith & Holofernes

Libretto
Robert Craig

John Gibson
(b.1951)

1. Procession of Jewish People

*Late afternoon before sunset. Heard first from without and as from a distance,
the pilgrims, dressed in hooded floor length robes, sing as they process on
their way. They enter from the back of the hall and assemble in the playing area.*

Lively ♩ = 144

Recorder

Tibetan Bell

Soprano Alto

Tenor Bass

mp

mp

mp

2nd Time only.

(ah)

(ah)

10

Rec.

Bell

SA

TB

19

Rec.

Bell

SA

TB

26

Rec.

Bell

SA

TB

34

Rec.

Bell

SA

TB

mp *decresc.* *mf*

42

Rec.

Bell

SA

TB

mf *p*

2. Concerted Music - Vesting

As if preparing for a liturgical event, the principals are solemnly vested in costumes appropriate to their characters by members of the chorus. The other chorus members assume positions around the edge of the playing area and observe the action when not actively participating themselves. As the other principals and acolytes clear the playing area Judith is discovered seated centre. She is serene and solitary. She remains silent and still during the following scene and until her vocal entrance. She is separate and the lighting will highlight this, even as the others, including Holofernes, move about her.

A
Majestic $\text{♩} = 100$

Piano *ff* molto legato e tenuto *mf*

7

12 **Energetico** *f* *ff* **B**

17

22 **C** *mf*

Pno.

Repeat sections
A B C
as necessary

3. Holofernes, Achior, Chorus of Soldiers.

Drumming is heard in the distance. By the time of the first vocal entrance of Holofernes, it has reached a near roar. The following scene establishes his malevolence and his intention of destroying the Jewish nation.

Angrily $\text{♩} = 120$

Timpani *ff*

Tam-tam $\text{H} \frac{3}{4}$

Holofernes **HOLOFERNES** 5:3 [highly intense] *f*

Achior

Tenor Bass

Piano *ff sf sf sf sf ff f*

8

Timp.

Hol.

tell me: what peo - ple is this that oc-cu-pies the hill coun-try? What peo - ple is

Pno.

14

Timp. *f*

Hol.

this? What peo - ple is this that oc-cu-pies the hill coun-try? What town does

Pno. *f*