

The Loneliness of the Long-Distance Conductor

II: Performance

by Jennifer Walshe

Soprano 3
 Soprano 5
 Soprano 6
 Soprano 8
 Soprano 9
 Soprano 10
 Alto 5
 Alto 6
 Alto 7
 Tenors 1-3
 Tenor 4
 Bass 1
 Bass 2
 Bass 3
 Bass 4
 Conductor

① 0'13"
 air singing* very slowly
 mf/f
 * pitch air roughly as indicated; concentrate on exhaling/inhaling "warm" air
 "air shouting" - furiously mouth your way through an imaginary argument, making no sound. Do not look at conductor.
 "like a big toffee" - gently & fluidly squelch bubble-pak between hands, bursting bubbles at irregular intervals.
 "like a big toffee" - gently & fluidly squelch bubble-pak between hands, bursting bubbles at irregular intervals.
 air singing* very slowly
 mf/f
 * pitch air roughly as indicated; concentrate on exhaling/inhaling "warm" air
 0'00" ① 0'13"
 (start timer)

Suddenly straighten up, switch on timer, raise both hands to normal conducting position and look at choir. Pause, then lower head, look at score, keeping hands frozen. Another pause, then tap right foot and shove it backwards, as if trying to wipe something off the sole of your shoe. Suddenly bring head back up quickly to look vaguely at choir, simultaneously and fluidly giving cue 1. After the choir start making sound, relax a bit. Leave left hand up, bring right hand down, look at score, turn page 11 times, unevenly. Continue looking down at score, left hand up, right hand on score.

2 0'43"

♩ = 76 ca. tiny fluctuations in tempo here & there

mf/f

*click tongue in rhythm indicated -
no air, brittle
percussive sound

Soprano 3 (K#)*

Soprano 5

♩ = 76 ca. tiny fluctuations in tempo here & there

mf/f

*click tongue in rhythm indicated -
no air, brittle
percussive sound

Soprano 6 (K#)*

Soprano 8

♩ = 82 ca. tiny fluctuations in tempo here & there

mf/f

*click tongue in rhythm indicated -
no air, brittle
percussive sound

Soprano 9 (K#)*

Soprano 10 (air singing)
(mf/f)

Alto 5

2 0'43"

Alto 6

♩ = 82 ca. tiny fluctuations in tempo here & there

mf/f

*click tongue in rhythm indicated -
no air, brittle
percussive sound

Alto 7 (K#)*

Tenors 1-3 (air shouting)

♩ = ♡* * hold a finger to your pulse - each beat = ♩

mf/f

*click tongue in rhythm indicated -
no air, brittle
percussive sound

Tenor 4 (K#)*

Bass 1 (bubble-pak)

Bass 2 (bubble-pak)

2 0'43"

Bass 3 (air singing)
(mf/f)

♩ = ♡* * hold a finger to your pulse - each beat = ♩

mf/f

*click tongue in rhythm indicated -
no air, brittle
percussive sound

Bass 4 (K#)*

Conductor **2** 0'43"

Bring head up quickly, give cue 2 with right hand. Keep both hands up, frozen in position. Roll shoulders a little - you don't really care about what's going on very much, you're a bit pre-occupied. Look around the hall distractedly for a bit - up to the ceiling, down to the floor, left to right, crane your neck, even. Take your time - not too rushed, just sort of boredly examining surroundings, seemingly oblivious to the performance other than the fact that your hands are locked in position.

3

Handwritten musical score for a choir, featuring staves for Soprano 3, Soprano 5, Soprano 6, Soprano 8, Soprano 9, Soprano 10, Alto 5, Alto 6, Alto 7, Tenors 1-3, Tenor 4, Bass 1, Bass 2, Bass 3, Bass 4, and Conductor. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings (mf/f, K#).

Key markings and instructions include:

- Soprano 3:** (mf/f), (K#)
- Soprano 5:** (mf/f)
- Soprano 6:** (mf/f), (K#)
- Soprano 8:** (mf/f)
- Soprano 9:** (K#)
- Soprano 10:** (air singing), (mf/f)
- Alto 7:** (mf/f), (K#)
- Tenors 1-3:** (air shouting)
- Tenor 4:** (clicking), (mf/f)
- Bass 1:** (bubble-pak)
- Bass 2:** (bubble-pak)
- Bass 3:** (air singing), (mf/f)
- Bass 4:** (clicking), (mf/f)

A large diagonal watermark "Sample page only" is visible across the middle of the page.

At 1'23" (over page) begin to sing, giving cues as indicated. DO NOT look at choir – keep slowly looking around. Leading up to 1'50", gradually bring attention back to front, but keep eyes to the floor, still not making eye contact with the choir (head tilted forward slightly).

