

Allen Brings Altaforte

for four-part chorus of mixed voices, div., & piano

Ezra Pound

The following scale of dynamic levels should be observed in the performance of this composition: *pp, più p, p, poco p, mp, mf, poco f (meno f), f, più f, ff.*

Sestina/Altaforte from Ezra Pound's *PERSONAE*

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The piano accompaniment to *Altaforte* is also available from the publisher arranged for symphonic wind ensemble.

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$\text{d} = 104$

[5]

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Piano

ff *marcatissimo* *f* *mf* *cresc.* [10] *ff*
 Damn it all! all this our South stinks peace.
ff *marcatissimo* *f* *mf* *cresc.* *ff*
 Damn it all! all this our South stinks peace.
ff *marcatissimo* *f* *mf* *cresc.* *ff*
 Damn it all! all this our South stinks peace.
ff *marcatissimo* *f* *mf* *cresc.* *ff*
 Damn it all! all this our South stinks peace.

15

*poco f
meno marc.*

Pa - pi - ols, come!

You whore - son dog, Pa - pi - ols, come!

*poco f
meno marc.*

f *più f* *f* *più f*

più f *mf* *più f*

più f *mf* *più f*

più f

8va.....

20

sub. p [25]

sic!

f

sic!

f

sub. p sost.

But ah!

sub. p sost.

But ah!

più f

più f

più f

8va...1

poco f

4

30 *mf* *p*
vair,
when I see the stan - dards gold, pur - ple op - pos - ing
mf *p*

when I see the stan - dards gold, vair, op - pos - ing

p

p legato 35 *p più p pp*
And when the fields be - neath them turn crim - son,
p legato *p più p pp*
And when the fields be - neath them turn crim - son,
p più p legato *p più p pp*
And when the fields _____ turn crim - son,
p più p *pp*

p

40 *più f*
con forza

Then howl I my heart nigh mad with re - joic - ing.

45

Then howl I my heart nigh mad with re - joic - ing.

Then howl I my heart nigh mad with re - joic - ing.

Then howl I my heart nigh mad with re - joic - ing.

Then howl I my heart nigh mad with re - joic - ing.

50 *ff*

Hell grant soon we hear the swords clash! And the shrill

Hell grant soon we hear the swords clash! And the shrill

Hell grant soon we hear a - gain the swords clash!

Hell grant soon we hear a - gain the swords clash!

ff *#f*

più f

[55] *ff* >

neighs of des - triers in bat - tle re - joic - ing, Spiked breast to

neighs of des - triers in bat - tle re - joic - ing, Spiked breast to spiked

re - joic - ing, Spiked breast to spiked

re - joic - ing, Spiked breast to

> < *ff* >

< *ff* >

< *ff* >

< *poco f*
ritmico >

[65]

spiked breast — op - pos - - ing! Bet - ter one hour's —

breast — op - pos - - ing! Bet - ter one hour's — stour

breast — op - pos - - ing! Bet - ter one hour's —

spiked breast op - pos - - ing! Bet - ter one hour's — stour

70

stour than — a year's peace With fat boards, bawds, wine and frail

than — a year's peace With fat boards, bawds, wine and frail mu - -

stour than — a year's peace With fat boards, bawds, wine and frail

than — a year's peace With fat boards, bawds, wine and frail mu - -

75

mu - - sic!

Bah! there's no wine

sic!

Bah! there's no wine

mu - - sic!

Bah! there's no wine

sic!

Bah! there's no wine

f — *più f*

mf —

ff

ff

80

85

like the blood's crimson son!

like the blood's crimson son!

mf *sost.*

like the blood's crimson son! The man who fears war and
mf *sost.*

like the blood's crimson son! The man ____ who fears

p *sotto voce*

8ba

90

squats op - pos - ing my words for stour, _____ hath _____ no blood of

war and squats _____ op - pos - ing my words for stour, hath

8ba

[95]

5

mf sost.

But is fit on - ly to rot in wo - man-ish peace

crim - son But is fit on - ly to rot in wo - man-ish peace

no blood of crim - son

8ba-----J

[100]

poco f

Far from where worth's won and the swords clash For the death

poco f

Far from where worth's won and the swords clash

poco f

Far from where worth's won and the swords clash

poco f

Far from where worth's won

mf --

10

105

110

of such sluts I go re - joic - - ing,
più marc. f

For the death of such sluts I go re - joic - -
più marc. f

For the death of such sluts I go re -
più marc. f

For the death of such sluts I go re -

poco f > > >

più f

115

Yea, I fill all the air with my mu - -
più f

ing; Yea, I fill all the air with my mu - -

più f

joic - ing; Yea, I fill all the air with my
più f

joic - ing; Yea, I fill all the air with my

f

120

sic. Pa - pi - - ols, Pa - pi - - ols,
sic. Pa - pi - - ols, Pa - pi - - ols, *più f* < =
mu - - sic. Pa - pi - ols, To the mu - - sic.
mu - - sic. Pa - pi - ols, To the mu - - sic.

125 *più f*

No cry like the bat-tle's re - joic -
più f
No cry like the bat-tle's re - joic -
più f
There's no sound like to swords swords op - pos - - ing,
There's no sound like to swords swords op - pos - - ing,

f marc. ma sost.

130 *più f*

ing When our el - bows and swords drip the crim - -

ing When our el - bows and swords drip the crim - -

più f

When our el - bows and swords drip the crim - -

più f

When our el - bows and swords drip the crim - -

più f

When our el - bows and swords drip the crim - -

8va

più f

135

140

son our char - ges 'gainst "The Leop - ard's" rush clash.

son And — our char - ges 'gainst "The Leop - ard's" rush clash.

son And — our char - ges 'gainst — "The Leop - ard's" rush clash.

son our char - ges 'gainst — "The Leop - ard's" rush clash.

< i>più f </i>

pes.

145

May _____ God _____ damn for ev - er all who cry

May _____ God _____ damn for ev - er all who cry

May God _____ damn for ev - er all who cry

May God _____ damn for ev - er all who cry

8ba. J

*ff**ff* 150

"Peace!" "Peace!"

"Peace!" "Peace!"

"Peace!" "Peace!"

"Peace!" "Peace!"

legato e legg.

p

"Peace!" "Peace!"

legato e legg.

p

Hell

"Peace!" "Peace!"

Hell

ff

8ba. J

155

dim.

pp < mp

2

blot black for al - - way the thought _____ "Peace"!

pp < mp

2

blot black for al - - way the thought _____ "Peace"!

2

160

165

3

3

3

3

3

più p

3

più p

8ba...J

8ba...J

Wilton
January 15, 1971
Ad maiorem gloriam Dei