

Recit and Aria for Soprano and piano

Originally written for Soprano and 9 instruments in 1993 for the Continuum Ensemble and soprano Barbara Hannigan, *Recit and Aria* takes its text from the Satyagraha as quoted in 'In Face of Fear; Michael Scott's Challenge to South Africa' by Freda Troup. The Reverend Scott worked amongst the dispossessed in South Africa for ten years and the text I have set was his response to what those years meant to him.

The first section (*Recit*) is concerned with the insubstantial nature of God, but that in nature and natural phenomenon, God can be sensed. Following a piano interlude the next section (*Aria*) is about the omnipresent nature of the spirit of God; God "is not confined by bars or prison walls, by sacred aisles and choirs and places where they sing".

This version for Soprano and Piano was made specially for Sarah Leonard and Sarah Nicolls in 2004 and the work received its premiere in 2005.

©KH 2005