

Táágo Dez'á

for singing cellist

Raven Chacon



Commissioned by Dawn Avery with support from the First Nations Composer Initiative's
Common Ground Grant Program.



2007



NOTES

1. *...like a chased animal*

Interpret the graphics in any way. Perform these interpretations the same way during rehearsals and performances. Interpretations for a particular graphic should be performed similarly throughout the song.

These ‘graphic’ measures are not necessarily to be interpreted by improvisational methods, but rather the content should be decided upon after becoming familiar with the adjacent measures.

The feeling of time is very loose and free. When something is not possible, pitch can be sacrificed to make it possible.

2. *shy, for a singer*

“I am looking for my grandfather...”

This song should be learned by ear and made into your own version. Pitch is less important than other parameters of the music.

It is preferred by me that the string notes be plucked where singing occurs, but bowed for solo(s).

All lyrics are vocables with the exception of the phrase:

“Shicheii haashi‘too

Shicheii ch’eeh haashi‘too” (pronounced: shi-chey--chet-eh--hah-shi-toe)

3. *quiet, but proud. (like singing at night)*

The first chord of the series is notated in full, then followed by rhythmic representations of the same chord. A new chord may be established at each barline. Each fully notated chord should be accented.

Any additional up-beats may be produced at the performer’s discretion.

This song follows a steady beat (unlike song 1), but should be loose and not *precise*. It is preferred that the pulse slightly speed up and slow down slightly throughout.

*Note: It may be difficult to play some 3-note chords. In this case, the middle note of the chord is optional. It can either be played, but if not, should be muted with the palm or other fingers.

All songs:

Non-bel-canto or operatic singing.

((())) symbol indicates the singing of a tone with no pronounced vowel. The effect is best achieved by singing tightly from the back of the throat (an ā sound, without any attack), without defining a mouth shape.

Vocables:

ᶗᶗ – like ‘awn’ but nasal and with glottal stop (without glottal stop it would sound like ‘awng’, but now the end is suddenly cut short)

ᶗ – cut even shorter, like “ought”. But not a true ‘t’ sound, but more like the ‘t’ in “butler”.

yah – similar glottal stop. Like the word “yacht”, but fast. (**yah** without the glottal stop is pronounced phonetically).

This group of songs may be performed using amplified (not solid-body electric) cello and amplified voice if preferred, but if so, must not utilize any other effects/processing.

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2. *shy, for a singer*

(see enclosed compact disk).

1. like a chased animal

♯ = approx 1/4 sharp
♭ = approx 1/4 flat

♩ = 90

((O))

aa' - ah

Voice

Voice staff with notes and lyrics.

mf



single ricochet

Violoncello

Violoncello staff with notes and performance instructions.

mp

mf

15^{ma} shriek

5

yah - ah

Voice

Voice staff with notes and lyrics.

port.



Vc.

Violoncello staff with notes and performance instructions.

(vib.) glide fingernail against string

mp

louder than last time

9

Voice

Voice staff with notes.

Vc.

Violoncello staff with notes and performance instructions.

mp

port.

port.

mf

I. 15^{ma}

II. III. IV. ord.

11

ah - a' - yah' - ah yah' - a' - a' - yah

Voice

Voice staff with notes and lyrics.

Vc.

Violoncello staff with notes and performance instructions.

15

Voice

Voice staff with notes and lyrics.

mf

sul. pont.

Vc.

Violoncello staff with notes and performance instructions.

port.

port.

17 yah' ah

Voice

Vc.

bow under the strings (harm.)

I.

IV.

18 yah ((O)) - a' ee -yuh a' yee -yuh na' -a' yah a' ee-yuh ((O))-

3x total

Voice

Vc.

mf

↑8va. falsetto optional

sul pont. accented notes

mf

22 na - - na - - na - - na

Voice

Vc.

II. graze string

III. heavy pressure distortion

24 yo - oh

Voice

Vc.

I. II. III. IV. III. II. I. IV. III. II. I.

26

Voice

Vc.

port.

port.

highest note possible

any double artificial harmonic that agrees with the voice pitch

3. *quiet, but proud. (like singing at night*
approx. ♩=60 freely

3

voice: yah

Violoncello

establish beat and tempo as necessary/ until ready

3

voice: (()) nay

Vc.

4

voice: yah aa' - ah

Vc.

5

voice: (()) aa' - a' hey - ah (())

Vc.

7

voice: ey - yah (()) - yah' - ah

Vc.

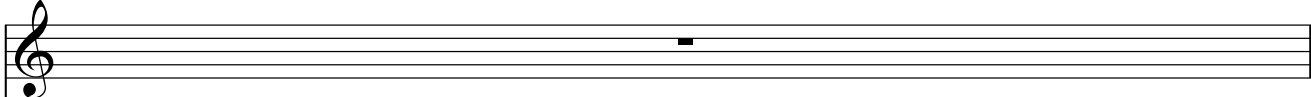
9

voice: yah aa' - a' ey - yah' - ah a'

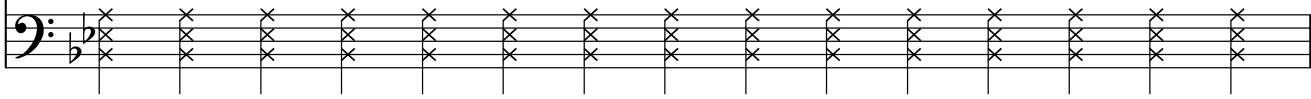
Vc.

10

Voice

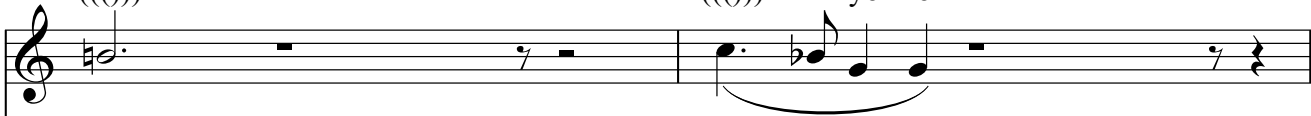


Vc.

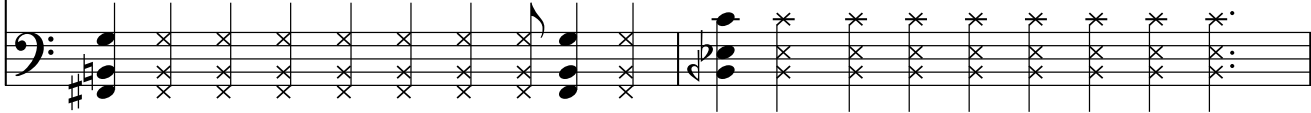


11 ((O)) ((O)) - yo - o

Voice




Vc.

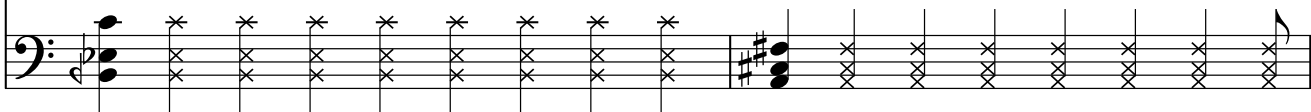


13 ((O)) ((O)) yah yah' - ah

Voice

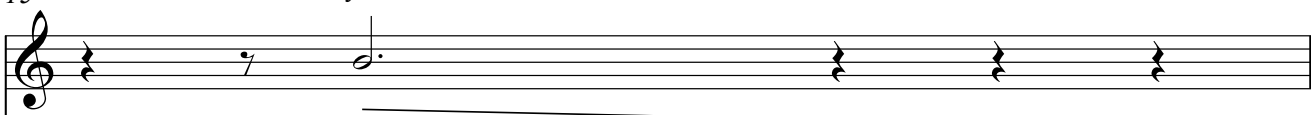


Vc.

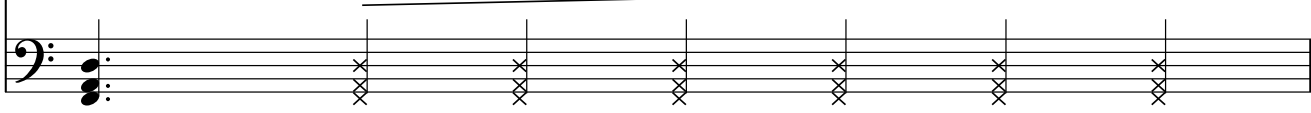


15 yo

Voice

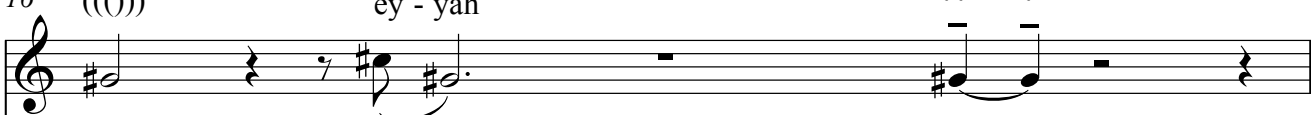


Vc.

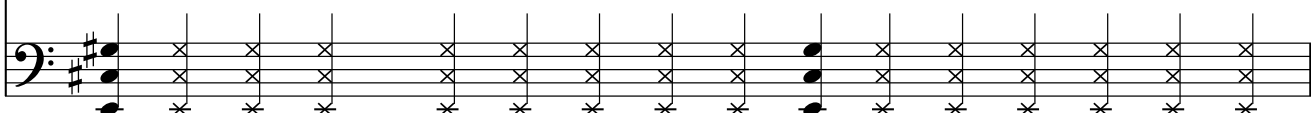


16 ((O)) ey - yah aa' - a'

Voice

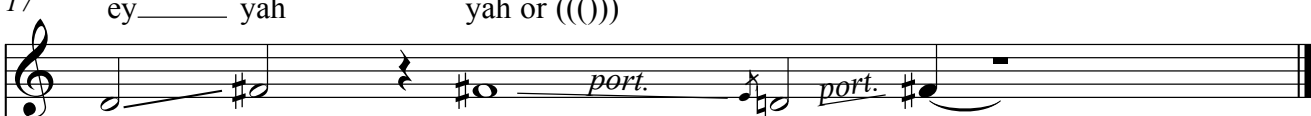


Vc.



17 ey — yah yah or ((O)) port. port. keep going as long as you want

Voice



Vc.

