

Artis Henderson, text
Andrea Reinkemeyer, music

The Thaw

for Soprano, Tenor, Mixed Choir & Wind Ensemble

(2016)

Instrumentation:

1 Piccolo
 2 Flutes
 1 Oboe
 1 English Horn
 1 Bassoon
 1 Clarinet in B-flat
 1 Bass Clarinet

2 Trumpets in B-flat (cup mutes, straight metal mutes)
 2 Horns in F (straight mutes)
 2 Tenor Trombones (cup mutes, straight metal mutes)
 1 Tuba (mute)

1 Timpani
 4 Percussion *
 1 Harp

Voices:

Sopranos (+ Solo)
 Altos
 Tenors (+ Solo)
 Bass/Baritones

Percussion Key:

Percussion 1: 4.3-octave Marimba (MAR), Vibraphone (VIB), Large Tam-tam (TAM)
 Percussion 2: Large Concert Bass Drum (BD), Wind Gong (WIND-G), Metallic Windchimes (keys or other small metal objects)
 Percussion 3: Kick Drum, Toms (2), Bongos, Woodblocks (2), China Cymbal, Windchimes (2): Glass, Seeds or Bamboo
 Percussion 4: Temple Blocks (5), Sizzle Cymbal (SC), Triangle (Tri)

Mallets (for Reference):

-bow Bass Bow
 -hands Hands
 -f Hard Yarn
 -hy Felt (Timpani, Bass Drum)
 -mhy Medium-Hard Yarn
 -r Rubber
 -rute Rute Bundle
 -sr Soft Rubber
 -sy Soft Yarn
 -superball Superball
 -t Triangle Beater
 -wire Wire Brushes

Notation Key:

⊕ = Slap tongue (Clarinet)
 ⊕ = Bartok pizz. (Harp)
 x = Notehead for strumming fingernails on soundboard (Harp)

Transposed Score
 Duration: **ca. 11:00**

Score and parts are available from the composer:
andrea@andreareinkemeyer.com

Program Notes:

<http://andreareinkemeyer.com/notes-thaw.html>

The musical score is written in a transposed key of B-flat major (one flat). It consists of the following parts:

- Timpani (Timp.):** A single staff with a rest.
- Mrb. (Perc. 1):** Marimba staff with a rest.
- Vib. (Perc. 1):** Vibraphone staff with a rest.
- Perc. 1 (Tam-T):** Large Tam-tam (TAM) staff with a rest.
- Perc. 2 (BD, WG, WC):** Large Concert Bass Drum (BD), Wind Gong (WIND-G), and Windchimes (Metallic) (WIND-Ch) staff. Notation includes notes for 'ord' and 'shell'.
- Perc. 3 (Toms):** Toms staff. Notation includes notes for 'Bass Drum (Kick) KICK', 'TOMS Medium Low', 'Bongos BON. High Low', 'Woodblocks WB High Low', and 'China Cymbal Ch.C'.
- Perc. 3 (W. Ch.):** Windchimes (Glass) (WIND-Ch Glass) and Windchimes (Bamboo or Seeds) (WIND-Ch Bamboo or Seeds) staff.
- Perc. 4 (Tri, Szl, T. Bl.):** Temple Blocks (T.Bl. High to Low), Sizzle Cymbal (SZL), and Triangle (TRI) staff.
- Hp.:** Harp staff. Notation includes 'whistling sound (slide flat of hand up or down strings)', 'thunder', 'tap finger tips/nails on sound board (like hail)', and 'Bartók pizz. (let finger snap from the lower end of string onto soundboard)'.

TEXT

The Thaw

I am the bud curled tight against the cold.
I am the bulb beneath the snow.
I am the white sky, the long night, the crack and shudder of ice.

I wait beside the adder's tongue, the cobra lily, the purple hyacinth
for the soil to stir and the river to swell.
I wait through mist and hail.

I am fog and breath and cloud.
I am the cherries on the branches, too green.
I am rain.
And rain.
And rain.
And then --

I am the windows flung open to catch the sun,
my mouth like cherries,
the heat building in me.

I am leaf-touched, sun-tasted, petal-kissed.
I am wind and light and sky.
I am the cleft in the ridge; I am the river --
roaring, roaring,
flooded with rain.

-- Artis Henderson

International Phonetic Alphabet

[ʃ] show
[t] tan
[θ] hyacinth
[s] hiss
[t] tin
[n] nun
[l] cold
[d] cold
[æ] am
[m] am
[k] crack
[f] flooded

Vocal Notation:

Special Noteheads

▣ = song speech (like chant)
x = sprechstimme
◊ = unvoiced, non-pitched

