Oratorio: Esther - "For Such a Time As This"

William R. Memmott
Department of Music, wmemmott@uno.edu

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Oratorio: Esther - “For Such a Time As This”

A Thesis

Submitted to the Graduate Faculty of the
University of New Orleans
in partial fulfillment of the
requirements for the degree of

Master of Music
in
Composition

by

William R. Memmott

B. A. The University of New Orleans, 2013

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Abstract

This oratorio tells the story of Queen Esther as presented in the Old Testament Book of Esther. Its format includes choruses and solos with an orchestral accompaniment. The main characters in the story are Esther, King Xerxes, Esther’s uncle Mordecai and their antagonist Haman, with occasional insertions by a narrator. In addition to the primary scripture used, there are several inclusions from the Psalms, Song of Songs, and a commentary poem by Wayne Watson highlighting the oratorio’s sub-title, “For Such a Time as This,” which is the overriding textural theme.

The orchestration focuses on reed woodwinds, brass, strings, and percussion, including consistent use of the Persian tanbak (bongo type drum). Rhythms are regularly freely used to support the text. Dissonant melodic construction and its resulting harmonic dissonance present a panoply of sound beyond the traditional classical approach of dominant/tonic tonality.

Keywords: oratorio; orchestra and chorus; life of Esther; Memmott
Narrator: Five centuries before the Christian era, King Xerxes ruled over the kingdom of the Medes and Persians. To celebrate his wealth, power, and rulership he called a great feast.

Solo from house left

Call to-gether the peo-ple of the king-dom.
Solo from house right

Solo from house left

Come together people!

Come together people!

Call together the people of the kingdom

Call together the people of the kingdom

CHORUS

Come,

Come,

Come together people!

Come together people!

Come together people!

Come together people!

2
O come, come together people!

Sing glory to the king, sing
Sing glory to the king of kings.

Sing glory to the king of kings.

Sing glory to the king of kings.

Sing glory to the king of kings.

Sing glory to the king of kings.

Hal-le -
Hallelujah to the king, to the king of kings.

Hallelujah to the king, to the king of kings.

Hallelujah to the king, to the king of kings.

Hallelujah to the king, to the king of kings.

Hallelujah to the king, to the king of kings.

Hallelujah to the king, to the king of kings.
S

Glo-ry, glo-ry, glo-ry, glo-ry, glo-ry, glo-ry.

A

Glo-ry, glo-ry, glo-ry, glo-ry, glo-ry, glo-ry.

T

Glo-ry, glo-ry, glo-ry, glo-ry, glo-ry, glo-ry.

B

Glo-ry, glo-ry, glo-ry, glo-ry, glo-ry, glo-ry.

S

Glo-ri-a to the king, accented

A

Glo-ri-a to the king, accented

T

Glo-ri-a to the king, accented

B

Glo-ri-a to the king, accented

accented
Gloria to the king.
Glo-ri-a to the king. Glo-ri-a to the king.
S
Glo·ri·a to the king.
A
Glo·ri·a to the king.
T
Glo·ri·a to the king.
B
Glo·ri·a to the king.

S
Glo·ri·a to the king. Glo·ri·a to the king. Glo·ri·a, glo·ri·a!
A
Glo·ri·a to the king. Glo·ri·a to the king. Glo·ri·a, glo·ri·a!
T
Glo·ri·a to the king. Glo·ri·a to the king. Glo·ri·a, glo·ri·a!
B
Glo·ri·a to the king. Glo·ri·a to the king. Glo·ri·a, glo·ri·a!
For a full one hundred and eighty days you've seen the vast wealth of my kingdom. And you've seen the splendor and the glory of my kingly majesty.
Now you've feasted for another seven days at this banquet in the palace garden.

My stewards have been instructed to serve each man what he wanted.

Now as you can see, I am in high

Oh!
3 - The Eunuch's Call

Queen Vashti Alts

Tenor Eunuchs

Bass Eunuchs

Falsatto

Realetto

We hum-bly come be-fore you.

The

We hum-bly come be-fore you.

The

16
in his imperial crown? No! I will not go! No!

I will not go! How long has it been since he invited me to his chamber? Me just for him. He just for me.
No! I will not go! No!

I will not go! No! No! No!

ff

ff
At your command, great Xerxes, I present your experts in the
law. Carnan, Sheathar, Ad-

Ma-tha, Tar-shish, Me-res, Ma-
Her.

Mese-nah, Memu-can, who saw the king's face and sat first in the kingdom, Queen Vash-ti has done wrong, not against the king, but also against all the nobles, and the seven princes of Persia and Media, and Memu-can, the

Chorus

Mese-nah, Memu-can,
peoples of all the provinces of King Xerxes. For the queen's conduct will become

known to all the women, and so they will despise their husbands and say,

King Xerxes commanded Queen Vashti to be brought before him, but she

would not come! This very day the Persian and Median women of the no-

bility who have heard about the queen's conduct will respond to all the king's
He rouge.

Reduction

There will be no end of disrespect and
discord.

Therefore if it

pleases the king, let him issue a royal decree and let it be

written in the laws of Persia and Media,

which cannot be repealed.
He said, "Never again to enter the presence of King Xerxes."

"Also, let the king give her..."
Her. roy-al pos-i-tion_ to some-one else who is bet-ter than she. Then

when the king's edict_ is pro-claimed through-out his realm,

all the wom-en will re-spect their hus-bands_ from the least to the

great-est_
Narrator: Now there was in the citadel of Susa a Jew of the tribe of Benjamin, named Mordecai who had a cousin named Hadassah, whom he had brought up because she had neither father nor mother. Hadassah (Esther), won the favor of everyone who saw her. She was taken to King Xerxes in the royal residence.
beautiful Esther. You will surely please the king, you will surely please the king.

Come with me to the royal residence.

I'll present you to the king, I'll present you to the king

Narrator: Esther won his favor and approval more than any other virgin. The king set a royal crown on her head and made her queen instead of Vashti.
And the king gave a great banquet, the king gave a great banquet, the king gave a great banquet, the king gave a great banquet, the
king gave a great banquet for Esther.

king gave a great banquet for Esther.

king gave a great banquet for Esther.
We re-joice, we re-joice, we re-joice, we re-joice,
and delight in you;

we will praise your love,

we will praise your love,
We rejoice and we delight in you.

We rejoice and we delight in you.

We will praise your love more than wine.
More than wine. a tempo

More than wine.

More than wine.

More than wine:

More than wine:

More than wine:

More than wine:

Mge than wine: a tempo

A - rise!

My

dar - ling, my beau - ti - ful one,

one, come, come with

me:

See, the win - ter is past, the
B

rains are over and gone. Flowers appear upon the earth the season of singing has come.

the cooing of doves is heard in the land. Arise! My
darling, my beautiful one, come, come with me.

Place me like a seal over your heart like a seal on your arm.
like a seal on your arm; for

love is as strong as death, its jealousy unyielding as the grave.

It burns like a
blazing fire, like a mighty flame.

Man - y wa - ters can - not quench love;

Man - y wa - ters can - not quench love;

Man - y wa - ters can - not quench love.
Come away, come away with me,
Come away, come away with me,
Come away, come away with me,
Come away, come away with me,
S

f

come a-way with me, with me,

A

f

come a-way with me, with me,

T

f

come a-way with me, with me,

B

f

come a-way with me, with me,

S

mf

come a-way with me.

A

mf

come a-way with me.

T

mf

come a-way with me.

B

mf

come a-way with me.

40
S

A

T

B

Ab,

Ab,

Ab,
8 - Mordecai Uncovers the Assassination Plot

Mordecai

Queen

Es-th-er, Queen Es-th-er I come to you, I come to you to re-port that the king is in great danger. I over-heard Big-tha-na and Ter-esh plot-ting in an-ger to as-sas-si-nate the king. You must re-port this treach-er- y to the king.
Narrator: When Esther reported this to the king, it was investigated and found to be true. [pause]
THE TWO OFFICIALS WERE HANGED ON THE GALLOWS!
Mordecai, Mordecai, why do you disobey the king's command to

kneel down and pay honor, kneel down and pay honor to Haman?

I serve King Xerxes, but
I bow down only to the King,

to the King of kings, the God of Israel. Although I was carried,

carried into exile, into exile by King Nebuchadnezzar,

my allegiance remains, my allegiance remains.
Narrator: When Haman (stomp feet) saw that Mordecai would not kneel down to the king, the king of the Jews, Jehovah.

and pay honor, he was enraged. He scorned the idea of killing only Mordecai.

Instead, Haman (stomp feet) looked for a way to destroy ALL the Jews.

The lot was cast in the presence of Haman (stomp feet) to select the day and month for the execution of the Jews.
King Xerxes, there is a people in the kingdom who keep themselves separate. They don't obey the king's laws, and let a decree be issued to destroy them.
I will give ten thousand talents of silver to the king’s royal treasury.

I give you the sig-net ring from my fin-ger.

Keep the mon-ey, and do with the peo-ple as you please.
10 - Mordecai's Pleas to Esther

Narrator: When Mordecai learned of all that had been done, he put on sackcloth and ashes and went out into the city, wailing bitterly.

Mordecai (ad lib wailing)
Babylon we sat down and wept when we remembered

Zion there upon the popular trees we hung our harps.

For there our captors asked for songs, our tormenters demand songs of joy.
they said, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"

they said, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"

they said, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"

they said, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"

Sing us one of the songs of Zion! One of the songs of Zion!

Sing us one of the songs of Zion! One of the songs of Zion!

Sing us one of the songs of Zion! One of the songs of Zion!

Sing us one of the songs of Zion! One of the songs of Zion!

Sing us one of the songs of Zion! One of the songs of Zion!

Sing us one of the songs of Zion! One of the songs of Zion!

Sing us one of the songs of Zion! One of the songs of Zion!

Sing us one of the songs of Zion! One of the songs of Zion!

Sing us one of the songs of Zion! One of the songs of Zion!

Sing us one of the songs of Zion! One of the songs of Zion!

Sing us one of the songs of Zion! One of the songs of Zion!
How can we sing the songs of the Lord
while in a distant land?
Poem by Wayne Watson

11 - "For Such a Time as This"

- F o r S u c h a T i m e a s T h i s -
- P o e m b y W a y n e W a t s o n -
- m f -

59
Now, all I have is now to be faithful.

To be holy, and to shine lighting up the darkness right now, I really have no choice but to
voice the truth to the nations
A generation

looking for God,

SOLO (white tone)

For such a time as this,

for such a time as this,

SOLO (white tone)

For such a time as this,
for such a time as this,

SOLO (white tone)

For such a time as

this,

this,

this,

this,
What-e-ver, what-e-ver it is, For
such a time as this, for such a time, For now and all the days He gives
I am here And I am His For
Such a time as this, such a time as this.
for such a time as

this.

this.

this.

this.
12 - Esther's Banquet

Xerxes

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{what is your petition?} \quad \text{Queen Esther, what is your petition?}
\end{array}
\]

Xerxes

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{It will be given you, it will be given you. What is your request?}
\end{array}
\]

What is your request? Even up to half the kingdom.

\[
\begin{array}{c}
even up to half the kingdom, it will be
\end{array}
\]
If I have found favor with you, your majesty,
and if it pleases you, grant me my life,
this is my petition, spare my people, spare my people, this is my request,
for I and my people have been sold to be destroyed, killed and annihilated.
If we had merely been sold, if we had merely been sold
as male and female slaves, as male and female slaves,
I would have kept quiet, I would have kept quiet,
merely been sold as male and female slaves,
I would have kept quiet, I would have kept quiet.
14 - Who Is He?

Solos

Who is he?

Where is he?

An adversary and enemy! This
vile Ha-man! Ha-man! Ha-man! — Tenor Solo

The king got up in a rage, left his wine and went out into the palace garden.

But Haman, realizing the king had already decided his fate, stayed behind to beg Queen Esther for his life.
Just as the king returned from the palace
garden to the banquet hall, Haman was falling on the couch where
Esther was reclining.

Will he even move lest the queen, molest the queen while she is with me in the
32
	

Bass Solo

34

gallows reaching to a height of fifty cubits, stands by

36

StompFeet!

38

for Mordecai,
40
for Mor-de-cai who spoke up to help the king.

42 ff

Hang him! Hang him! Hang him on it!

15 - The Hanging

TACET
16- Esther's Request and Xerxes Edict

I plead with the king again, I beg you to put an end to the evil plan of Haman, which he de-...
Esth.  

visor against the Jews.

Xer.  

Grant the Jews in every city the right to assemble

Xer.  

...and protect themselves; to destroy, kill and annihilate
the armed men of any nationality or province who might attack them

and their women and children, and to plunder the property of their enemies.

I now see that the God of the Jews has brought Esther, has brought Esther to the court for such a time as this. rit.
Poem by Wayne Watson

17 - "For Such a Time as This" - finale
all I have is now to be faithful

to be holy And to shine Lighting up the

darkness Right now I really have no choice But to

voice the truth to the nations A generation

looking for God.
For such a time as this,

For such a time as this,

For such a time as this,
To hear the voice,
To hear the voice of God
And do His will.

What - ev - er, what - ev - er it is,
For such a time as this,
For now and all the days He gives.
I am here And I am His

such a time as this,

I am here And I am His

such a time as this,

Accented
this, for such a time as this,
To hear the voice, To hear the voice of God And do His will.

What - ev - er, what - ev - er it is, For such a time as this, for such a time, For now and all the days He gives such a time as this, for such a time, For now and all the days He gives

I am here And I am His For
For such a time as this,

For such a time as this,

For such a time as this,

For such a time as this,
S
for such a time as this,
for such a time as

A
For such a time as this,
for such a time as

T
for such a time as this,
for such a time as

B
For such a time as this,
for such a time as

S
this,
for such a time as this,
as

A
this,
for such a time as this,
as

T
For such a time as this,
for such a time as

B
For such a time as this,
for such a time as

S

A

T

B
this, for such a time, for such a time as this, such a time,

for such a time, a time as

for such a time, a time as
∀t this, such a time as this, such a time, for such a time,
this!
this!
this!
this!
Oratorio: Esther - “For Such a Time as This”
Full Score

by

William R. Memmott

Duration: 50 minutes

Flute
Two Oboes
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Tuba
Percussion One: Tambourine Triangle, Gong
Percussion Two: Tanbak
Timpani
Piano (harp)
Soloists: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass
Chorus
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Cello
Contrabass

103
Narrator:

Five centuries before the Christian era, King Xerxes ruled over the kingdom of the Medes and Persians. To celebrate his wealth, power, and rulership he called a great feast.
Come together people!

Solo from house right

Solo from house left

Come together people!

Solo from house right

Solo from house left

Come together people!
Call to gether the people of the kingdom.

Solo from house center back
Ob.
Bsn.
Tanb.
Tanb.
S
A
T
B
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
Come, together people! Come, together people!

CHORUS
Come together people!
Come together people!
Come together people!
Come together people!
O come, come together people!
O come, come together people!
O come, come together people!
O come, come together people!
O come, come together people!
O come, come together people!
O come, come together people!
O come, come together people!
Fl.

Obs.

Bsn.

Tanb.

Tanb.

Pno.

S

glory to the king of kings.  

Sing

A

glory to the king of kings.  

Sing

T

glory to the king of kings.  

Sing

B

glory to the king of kings.  

Sing

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.
lu - jah to the king, to the king, of kings.

Hal - le - lu - jah to the king, to the king, of

Hal - le -
glo - ry to the king, the king of kings. Sing

king of kings, the king of kings. Sing

king, to the king, the king of kings. Sing

lu - jah to the king, to the king of kings. Sing
∀
∀
∀

Fl.

Obs.

Bsn.

Hn.

Bs Tpt.

Tbn.

Tuba

Tanb.

Tamb.

Timp.

Pno.

S

A

T

B

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Glo - n - a to the king.

Glo - n - a to the king.

Glo - n - a to the king.

Glo - n - a to the king.

Glo - n - a to the king.

Glo - n - a to the king.
Fl.

Obs.

Bsn.

Hn.

B♭ Tpt.

Tbn.

Tuba

63

Tamb.

Tamb.

63

Timp.

Pno.

63

S

Glo-ria to the king. Glo-ria to the king. Glo-ria, glo-ria!

A

Glo-ria to the king. Glo-ria to the king. Glo-ria, glo-ria!

T

Glo-ria to the king. Glo-ria to the king. Glo-ria, glo-ria!

B

Glo-ria to the king. Glo-ria to the king. Glo-ria, glo-ria!

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.
2 - Xerxes' Call

Flute

Timpani

Viola

Cello

Contrabass

B Flat

For a full one hundred and eighty days you've

Vla.

Ve.

Cb.
Now you've feast-ed for an-othe-r sev-en days at this ban-quet in the pal-ace gar-den.

My ste-wards have been in-struct-ed to serve each man what he
spir-its. Oh! from the wine, I com-
Vash-ti dressed in her royal crown
To display her
Fl.

Obs.

Bsn.

Hn.

Tbn.

B

beau - ty
to the peo - ple
and the no - bles

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.
Come, and behold, come, and behold Queen Vash-ti! Oh! Oh!
3 - The Eunuch's Call

Flute

Oboe 1 & 2

Bassoon

Trombone

Tambourine

Timpani

Violin 1

Violin 2

Viola

Cello

Contrabass
147
king has sent us here To share his invitation

king has sent us here To share his invitation
I will not go! Am I the latest jew - el?
I will not go! How long has it
Fl.

Obs.

Bsn.

Tamb.

Timp.

A

been

since

he

in-
vit-
ed

me

to

his

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

154
I will not go!  No!  No!  No!
4 - The Council of Nobles

- Flute
- Oboe 1 & 2
- Bassoon
- Horn in F
- Trombone
- Timpani
- Violin 1
- Violin 2
- Viola
- Cello
- Contrabass
At your command, great Xerxes, I present your experts in the
Obs.

Bsn.

Hn.

B♭ Tpt.

Tbn.

Tuba

Timp.

Her.

Vln. 1

Vc.

se·ven· prin·ces of Per·sia and Med·i·a, who saw the king's
Fl.

Obs.

Bsn.

Hn.

B♭ Tpt.

Tbn.

Tuba

Her.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

King Xerxes commanded Vashti to be brought before him, but she
would not come! This very day the Persian and Med-
ian women of the no-

bility who have heard about the queen's con-
duct will respond to all the king's
There will be no end of disrespect and no-blies in the same way.
Hn.

Her.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

pleas-es the king, let him is-sue a noy-al de-cre and let it be

written in the laws of Per-sia and Me-di-a, which can-not be re-pealed
the presence of King Xerxes

presence of King

Fl.
Obs.
Hn.
Bb Tpt.
Tbn.
Tuba.
Timp.
Her.
Men.
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
when the king's edicts is proclaimed through out his realm.

all the women will respect their husbands from the least to the
Narrator: Now there was in the citadel of Susa a Jew of the tribe of Benjamin, named Mordecai, who had a cousin named Hadassah, whom he had brought up because she had neither father nor mother. Hadassah (Esther) won the favor of everyone who saw her. She was taken to King Xerxes in the royal residence.
beau-ti-ful Es-ther, you will sure-ly please the king, you will sure-ly please the king.
Come with me to the royal residence.
I'll present you to the king.
Narrator: Esther won his favor and approval more than any other virgins. The king set a royal crown on her head and made her queen instead of Vashti.
Fl.

Obs.

Bsn.

Tnbk.

Pno.

S

A

T

B

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.
6 - The Wedding

Flute

Oboe 1 & 2

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in B♭

Trombone

Tuba

Tanbak

Timpani

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Violin 1

Violin 2

Viola

Cello

Contrabass

We rejoice, we rejoice,
We rejoice, we rejoice,
We rejoice, we rejoice,
and de-light in you, we will praise your
Ob.

Bn.

Hn.

B- Tpt.

Tbn.

Tuba

Tamb.

Timp.

S

A

T

B

Vc.

love, we will praise your love more than wine

we will praise your love more than wine

we will praise your love more than wine

we will praise your love more than wine

we will praise your love more than wine
A

We re-joice and we de-light in

B

We re-joice and we de-light in you; we re-joice and we de-light in

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.
We rejoice and we de-light, and de-light in

you.

We de-light in you.

We rejoice and we de-light in you.

We de-light in you.
Obs.  
Bsn.  
Hn.  
B♭ Tpt.  
Tbn.  
Tuba  
Tanb.  
Timp.  
S  
A  
T  
B  
Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vc.  
Ch.  

you, we will praise your love more than wine.
Hn.

Tanb.

Timp.

B

me

See, the winter is past, the

Vln. 1

pizz.

Vln. 2

pizz.

Vla.

pizz.

Vc.

pizz.

Cb.

199
the coo- ing of doves is heard in the land.
love is as strong as death, its jea-lou-sy unyielding as the

206
Come a-way, come a-way with me,
Come a-way, come a-way with me,
Come a-way, come a-way with me,
way, come away with me, come away with me,

come away with me,

come away with me,
225
No. 8 - Mordecai Uncovers the Assassination Plot

Fl.

Ob. 1 & 2

Tam. 1

Harp

Queen

Es-ther. Queen Es-ther, I come to you, I come to you to re-port that the king is in great
danger. I overheard Big-thana and Ter-esh plotting in
Narrator: When Esther reported this to the king, it was investigated and found to be true. THE TWO OFFICIALS WERE HANGED ON THE GALLOWS!
treacher-y to the king.
Hn.

Vn. I

Vn. II

Vcl.

Vsc.

Hn.

Bb Tpt.

Tbn.

Tuba

S

pregnant with evil conceives trouble and gives birth to disill-
falls into the pit they have made. The trouble they cause recoils on them, their violence comes down on their own heads.
Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness, and
9 - Haman’s Plot

Oboe 1 & 2

Horn in F

Timpani

Obs.

Hn.

Timp.

Ham.

Vln. 1

Mor-de-cai, O Mor-de-cai, why do you dis-obey the king’s com-mand to

kneel down and pay hon-or, kneel down and pay hon-or to

239
Fl.
Obs.
Bsn.
Hn.
Tbn.
Tuba
Timp.
Ham.

Hamm. man?

stomp feet
I serve King.

exercise, but I bow down only.
to the King, to the King,
to the King of kings, the God of Israel. All
though I was carried, carried into exile, into exile by King...
my allegiance remains,
to the king, the king of the Jews, Jehovah.
Xerxes, King Xerxes, there is a people in the

kingdom who keep themselves separate. They don't o
Let a decree be issued, to destroy them, and
I will give ten thousand talents of silver to the king's royal treasury.

I give you the signet ring from my finger.
Keep the money, and do with the people as you please.

Fl.

Obs.

Bsn.

Hn.

Timp.

Mor.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.
Narrator:
When Mordecai learned of all that had been done, he put on sackcoth and ashes and went out into the city, wailing bitterly.
Sing us one of the songs of Zion! One of the songs of Zion!
Flutter Tongue

How can we sing the songs of the Lord
all I have is now to be faithful

to be holy And to shine Lighting up the
Tanb.

S

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Tanb.

S

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

dark ness Right now, I really have no choice But to

voice the truth to the na tions A gen er a tion

271
for such a time as this,
Ob.

Tab.

Tim.

Pno.

S

A

Vln.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

From such a time as this,
Fl.
Obs.
Bsn.
Tamb.
Timp.
Pno.
S
A
T
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

for such a time as this,

for such a time as this,

ff

For such a time as
Fl.
Obs.
Bsn.
Tamb.
Timp.
Pno.
S
A
T
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

for such a time as this,

for such a time as this,

for such a time as

for such a time as
For such a time, such a time as this I was placed upon the earth,
For such a time as this, for such a
time, for such a time, for such a
12 - Esther's Banquet

what is your petition?  Queen  Esther,  what is your petition?
It will be given you, it will be given you. What is your request?

What is your request? Even up to half the kingdom.
even up to half the kingdom, it will be

grant ed you, it will be grant ed,
ev-en up to half the kingdom, ev-en up to half the kingdom will be grant-ed you.
what is your petition? Queen, Esther, what is your petition?
13 - "If I Have Found"

If I have found favor with you, your majesty.
and if it pleases you, grant me my life.
male and female slaves, I would have kept quiet merely been sold as male and female slaves.
slaves, I would have kept quiet, kept quiet,

because no distress, would justify
14 - Who Is He?
Where is he? the man who has dared do such a thing.
An adversary and enemy!

This
king had already decided his fate, stayed behind to beg Queen Esther for his life.

Just as the king returned from the palace.
Fl.  
Obs.  
Bsn.  
Hn.  
Bo Tpt.  
Tbn.  
Tuba  
Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vc.  
Cb.  

StompFeet!

garden to the banquet hall, Haman was falling on the couch where
Es-th-er was re-clin-ing. Will he ev-en mo-

l est the queen, mo-lest the queen while she is with me in the
gallows reaching to a height of fifty cubits____ stands by

Hn.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

316
Fl.

Obs.

Bsn.

Hn.

B♭ Tpt.

Tbn.

Tuba

Tan.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

StompFeet!

StompFeet!

Ha - man's, Ha - man's house. He had it made

317
for Mor-de-cai who spoke up to help the king.
16 - Esther's Request and Xerxes Edict

Oboe 1 & 2

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in B♭

Trombone

Tuba

Esther

Violin 1

Violin 2

Viola

Cello

Contrabass

I plead with the king a-

160
grant, I plead with the king again. I beg you to put an end to the
Grant the Jews in every city the right to assemble and protect themselves; to destroy, kill and annihilate the armed men of any nationality or province who might attack them and their women and children, and to plunder the property of their enemies.
I now see that the God of the
Jews has brought Esther to the court for such a
time as this.
17. "For Such a Time as This" - finale

Poem by Wayne Watson

Flute
Oboe 1 & 2
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Tuba
Tambak
Tambourine
Timpani
Piano
Violin 1
Violin 2
Viola
Cello
Contrabass
all I have is now to be faithful

lo to be holy And to shine Light-ing up the
darkness  Right now I really have no choice But to

voice the truth to the nations A generation
Fl.

Tamb.

Timp.

Pno.

S

for such a time as this,

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.
The image contains a musical score with various sections labeled as Fl., Obs., Bsn., Tamb., Timp., Pno., S, A, T, Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., and Cb. The score includes musical notation and lyrics in English:

**Fl.**

**Obs.**

**Bsn.**

**Tamb.**

**Timp.**

**Pno.**

**S**

**A**

**T**

**Vln. 1**

**Vln. 2**

**Vla.**

**Vc.**

**Cb.**

The lyrics in English are:

- Fl.: for such a time as this
- Obs.: for such a time as this
- Pno.: for such a time as this

The score also includes other musical notations and symbols.
To hear the voice of God And do His will.
Whatever, whatever it is, For
time as this for such a
Ob.
Bsn.
Tamb.
Timp.
Pno.
S
A
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
time, for such a time as

for such a time as

for such a time as

for such a time as
here, right here, for this time and place you can
live a mirror of His mercy A forgiven image of grace

369
time as this, for such a time as this,

For such a time as this,

Fl.

Obs.

Tamb.

Timp.

Pno.

S

A

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.
For such a time as this, I was placed upon the earth.
such a time as this, for such a time, For now and all the days He gives

I am here And I am His For
such a time as this
for such a time as this,
for such a time as this... for such a time as
For such a time as this... for such a time as
for such a time as this... for such a time as
For such a time as this... for such a time as
for such a time as this... for such a time as
this, such a time, for such a time, for such a
this, such a time, for such a time, for such a
this, such a time, for such a time, for such a
this, such a time, for such a time, for such a
time_____ for such a time as _____ this!

time_____ for such a time as _____ this!

time_____ for such a time as _____ this!

time_____ for such a time as _____ this!

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Vita

The author was born in Plainfield, New Jersey. He obtained his Bachelor’s degree in music composition from The University of New Orleans in 2013. He entered The University of New Orleans music graduate program to pursue a Master’s degree in composition in 2013 under Dr. Yotam Haber.