

LAUDATE AND MASS CHOIR

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

40th WELS Handbell Festival
Northeast Region
April 6-7, 2019
Medford, Wisconsin

In General

1. Observe all dynamic markings
2. Follow composers' directions for special techniques. This includes LV, malleting both suspended and on the table, shake, echo, martellato and martellato lift, gyro, and thumb damp (TD).
3. Be prepared to watch the director for fermatas and ritards.
4. Practice pieces at several tempi so that you can adjust if needed for the sake of staying together.

Laudate: O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

1. We will ring it at mm. 88.
2. In measures that have the pattern of TD on beat one, and Ring on beat two, do not let the beat two ring be accented. The natural accent is still on beat one. The first line is an example of this pattern.
3. In measures 29 through 35 do not let the martellato be too loud that it overshadows the melody.
4. There is no ritard in this piece, not even at the end.

Laudate: News! News!

1. We will ring it at mm. 108, just a little slower than the suggested 116.
2. In measures 27 through 34 the melody is the stems down treble and bass clef notes. Be sure to bring out the melody, ring the chords and intervals softly.
3. We'll observe the repeat at measure 40. Go back to the beginning.

Laudate: I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

1. We'll ring it at mm. 100.
2. Be sure to bring out the melody in the inner voice in measures 19 through 25.

3. In measures 51 through 68 the upper bells are malleted suspended. Be sure to bring out the melody which is the top bell of those rung rather than malleted.
4. Be prepared to watch for ritards and fermatas.
4. I'm expecting that there will be an instrumentalist playing with us.

Laudate: Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

1. We'll ring it at mm. 120.
2. Do not let the malleted bells be so heavy that they overshadow the melody beginning at measure 9.
3. Beginning at measure 43, through measure 57, the upper LV bells should be soft, let the melody bells in the lower voice be much stronger.
4. Note which bells have an accent mark in measures 79 and 80.

Mass: Here I Am, Lord

1. We will begin at mm. 88, then change to mm. 96 at measure 15, then back to 88 at measure 127.
2. A choir will be singing with us as we ring the piece.
3. Be prepared to adjust dynamics when we work with the choir. We want the words to be heard. The bells are the accompaniment.
4. Always work to bring out the melody wherever it is, including on choirchimes.

I look forward to seeing you in Medford. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

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