

SYMPHONY NO. 1 TAROT

THREE MOVEMENTS

FROM THE

MAJOR ARCANA

2004

ROGER BRIGGS

INSTRUMENTATION

1 piccolo
2 flutes (1st dbl. alto flute)
2 oboes
1 english horn
2 clarinets in Bb (2nd dbl. Eb clarinet)
1 bass clarinet in Bb
2 bassoons
4 horns in F
3 trumpets in C
2 trombones
1 bass trombone
timpani
5 percussion*
piano
full string section

***percussion details**

percussion 1: 3 tom toms (low, medium, high) tuned to lower "thuddier" sound; bongos (high and tight);
3 triangles (low, medium, high); medium suspended cymbal; snare drum

percussion 2: small high tambourine on a stand; guiro on a stand; crotales (mounted chromatic set, upper octave)

percussion 3: claves, castanets, glockenspiel (shared with perc. 4)

percussion 4: vibes; glockenspiel (shared with perc. 3)

percussion 5: marimba

Duration: total ca. 15 min. I. Magician 3:40 II. Moon 5:50 III. Chariot 5:30

PROGRAM NOTE

In 1998, choreographer, Nolan Dennett, at Western Washington University, asked me to write a dance score based on characters from the ancient Tarot card deck. I studied the history and meaning of the Tarot and became fascinated with the many mystical claims that have survived from the most ancient of origins. Later, I extrapolated some of the material, reworked it, and developed a new concept. Each movement is based on a single card from the Major Arcana of the ancient Tarot deck.

The first movement, Magician, creates the wild, sometimes deeply deceptive, sometimes trivially deceptive creative energy of life. The second movement, Moon, is the beauty, the fear, the light of the dark, and the unconscious controller of all life. The third movement, Chariot, signifies a life-force that must first be perceived, then molded and channeled, or it, the warrior, will destroy. The Magician and Moon influence the Chariot.

SYMPHONY NO. 1: Tarot: *Three Movements from the Major Arcana* is recorded by the London Symphony Orchestra, Roger Briggs, conducting (MMC Recordings 2111).

SYMPHONY NO. 1

TAROT

Score in C

"Three Movements from the Major Arcana"

I. Magician

ROGER BRIGGS

♩ = 86

1 Piccolo

2 Flutes

2 Oboes

2 Bb Clarinets

1 Bb Bass Clarinet

2 Bassoons

Horns in F: I & II

Horns in F: III & IV

3 Trumpets in C

2 Trombones

1 Bass Trombone

Tuba

Timpani

Percussion I

Percussion 2,3,4,5

Piano

Violin 1

Violin 2

Viola

Cello

Contra Bass 1

Contra Bass 2

heavy accents

f

med. hard mallets

f heavy accents

col legno

f

marcato - heavy accents

marcato - short, hard

f

pizz.

f

7 8 9 10

1 Bs. Cl.

Pc. 1 (Toms)

Pno. *machine-like, precise, even*
r.h. sim.
l.h. p
 No Ped. $8^{va} \rightarrow$

Vla.

Vc.

C.B. 1

C.B. 2

==

11 12 13 14

1 Bs. Cl.

2 Bsn. *f*

Tuba

Pc. 1 (Tom) *Bongo (high, tight)*
 (Tom) *sim.*

Pno. *suddenly a solo character*
f p f p f p f p f p f p
(8^{va}) →

Vla.

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

C.B. 1

C.B. 2

23 24 25 26

1 Bs. CL. {

2 Bsn.

Tbn. 1

Tuba

Pc. 1 (tom) (bongo)

Pc. 2 (tamb.)

Pno. {

Vla.

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

C.B. 1

C.B. 2

8^{va} →

=

27 28 29 30

1 Bs. CL. {

2 Bsn.

Tbn. 1

Tuba

Pc. 1 (toms) (bongo)

Pc. 2 (tamb.)

Pc. 3

Pno. {

Vla.

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

C.B. 1

C.B. 2

8^{va} →

piu f

Claves