

Malcolm Dedman

The Song of the Child

**for Flute, Countertenor,
African Marimbas and Percussion**

2017

Duration: 5 mins 45 secs

Instruments used in 'The Song of the Child'

Flute

Countertenor

2 Percussionists

African Marimba (Soprano)

African Marimba (Tenor)

Percussion 1: High Djembe, Shaker (Cabasa or African Shaker/Rattle), Finger Cymbals.

Percussion 2: Low Djembe, Pair of Congas.

Range of Soprano Marimba: G below middle-C to A above treble stave,
with both F naturals and F sharps.

Range of Tenor Marimba: G on bottom line of bass clef to E above middle-C,
with both F naturals and F sharps.

Words used in 'The Song of the Child'

When a woman of the Himba African tribe knows she is pregnant, she goes to the jungle with other women and, together, they pray and meditate until they find The Song of the Child.

When a child is born, the community gets together and they sing the child's song.

When the child begins its education, people get together and the child sings their own song.

When they become an adult, the community gets together again to sing it.

When it comes to their wedding, they hear their song.

Finally, when their soul is going from this world, family and friends are approaching and, like at their birth, sing their song to accompany it in the journey.

(Attributed to: Tolba Phanem, African poet)

The Song of the Child

for Flute, Countertenor,
African Marimbas and Percussion

2017

Words attributed to Tolba Phanem

Malcolm Dedman

Moderato, ♩ = 100

5

Flute

Countertenor

Percussion 1
High Djembe
Slap
Tone
Bass

Percussion 2
Low Djembe
Slap
Tone
Bass
ff > *p* *f* *ff* > *p* *mf* *f* *ff* > *p*

Soprano Marimba
mf

Tenor Marimba

Perc. 2
Low Djembe
f > *p* *mf* *f*

S. Mar.
f > *p* *f* > *mf* *f* > *p* > *f*

10

C-ten.
p < *mf* < *f* > *p*
When a wo-man of the Him-ba Af-ri-can tribe knows she is

Perc. 1
High Djembe
p

Perc. 2
Low Djembe
p

S. Mar.
p

15

C-ten. *f*
 preg-nant, preg-nant, she goes _____ to the jun-gle with o-ther wo-men

Perc. 1 High Djembe *f*

S. Mar. *f* *mf* *f*

20

C-ten. *p* *mf* *p*
 and, to-ge-ther, they pray _____

Perc. 1 High Djembe To Shaker *f*

Perc. 2 Low Djembe *f*

S. Mar. *f*

T. Mar. *f* *p* *f* *p* *mf* *p*

25

C-ten. *mf* *p*
 _____ and me-di-tate un-til they find _____

T. Mar. *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

30

Fl. *f*

C-ten. *f*
 _____ The Song _____ of the Child. _____

S. Mar. *f* *gliss.*

T. Mar. *mf* *f* *f* *gliss.*

Andante, ♩ = 80

35

Fl. *ff* *mf* *ff* *p*

Shaker (Cabasa or African Shaker/Rattle)

Perc. 1 *f* *ff* *mf* *ff* *p*

S. Mar. *gliss.* *ff*

T. Mar. *gliss.* *ff*

40

Fl. *p* *p*

C-ten.

Shaker

Perc. 1 *mf* *p*

When a

45

Fl. *mf* *p* *mf* *mf*

C-ten.

child is born, the com-mu-ni-ty gets to-ge-ther and they

50

Fl. *f* *f* **accel.**

C-ten. *f*

Shaker

To High Djembe

S. Mar. *f* *p* *f*

T. Mar. *f* *p* *f*

sing the child's song

Tempo primo, ♩ = 100
Low Djembe

55

Musical score for Percussion 2, Snare Maracas (S. Mar.), and Tom Maracas (T. Mar.). Perc. 2 has a measure rest followed by notes with dynamics *f*, *p*, *mf*, and *f*. S. Mar. has a continuous eighth-note pattern with dynamics *p* and *mf*. T. Mar. has notes with dynamics *p*, *mf*, *f*, and *mf*.

60

Musical score for C-tenor, Percussion 1 (High Djembe), Percussion 2 (Low Djembe), S. Mar., and T. Mar. C-tenor has lyrics: "When the child be-gins its e-du". Perc. 1 has notes with dynamics *p* and *mf*. Perc. 2 has notes with dynamics *p*. S. Mar. has notes with dynamics *f*, *p*, *f*, and *mf*. T. Mar. has notes with dynamics *f*, *p*, *f*, *p*, and *mf*.

65

Musical score for Flute (Fl.), C-tenor, Percussion 1 (High Djembe), and Percussion 2 (Low Djembe). Fl. has notes with dynamics *mf* and *f*. C-tenor has lyrics: "ca_tion, peo-ple get_to-ge-ther and the child, the child". Perc. 1 has notes with dynamics *mf* and *f*. Perc. 2 has notes with dynamics *mf* and *f*.

Fl. *ff* 70 *ff* 3 3

C-ten. *ff*
sings their own _____ song.

Perc. 1 High Djembe *ff* To Finger Cymbals

Perc. 2 Low Djembe *ff* To Congas

S. Mar. *ff* 3 3 3 3 3

T. Mar. *ff* 3 3 3 3

Fl. *flutter* 3 3 3

C-ten. *ff* 3 3
When they be-come an ad-ult, the com-

Perc. 2 Congas (Pair) *f* 3 3 3

S. Mar. *mf* *ff* *f* 3 3

T. Mar. *mf* *ff* *f* 3 3

75

Fl.

C-ten.

mu - ni - ty gets to - ge - ther a - gain to sing it.

Perc. 2

Congas

S. Mar.

T. Mar.

80

Fl.

C-ten.

When it comes to their wed - ding, they

Perc. 1

Finger Cymbals

Perc. 2

Congas

S. Mar.

T. Mar.

rit. A tempo 85

Fl. *ff*

C-ten. *ff*

Perc. 1 Finger Cymbals To High Djembe

Perc. 2 Congas To Low Djembe

S. Mar. *ff* *f* *ff*

T. Mar. *ff* *f* *ff*

90

Fl.

Perc. 1 High Djembe Low Djembe *ff > pf* *ff > pmf* *f*

Perc. 2 *ff > pf* *ff > pmf* *f* *ff > pmf* *f*

S. Mar.

T. Mar.

rit. Adagio, ♩ = 60 95

Fl. *p* *mp* *p*

C-ten. *p* *mp* *p*

Perc. 1 High Djembe To Shaker *ff*

Perc. 2 Low Djembe *ff*

Fi - nal - ly, when their soul is go-ing from this

100

Fl. *mf* *p* *p*

C-ten. world, fam-i-ly and friends are ap - proa - ching

S. Mar. *p* *p*

T. Mar. *p* *mf*

105

Fl. *mf* *p* *pp*

C-ten. and, like at their birth, sing their song to ac-com - pa-ny it

S. Mar. *pp*

T. Mar. *p* *mf* *p* *pp*

110

Fl. *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

C-ten. in the jour-ney, the jour - - ney.

S. Mar. *pp* *p* *pp*

T. Mar. *pp* *p* *pp*

Andante, ♩ = 80

Fl. *pp*

C-ten. *p*

Perc. 1 *f* *p* *f* *p*

T. Mar. *f* *p* *f* *p*

Shaker (Cabasa or African Shaker/Rattle) The

C-ten. *f* *p*

Perc. 1 *f* *p*

Perc. 2 *p*

T. Mar. *f* *p*

Song of the Child, The Song of the

Shaker

Low Djembe

C-ten. *mf* *p* *mf*

Perc. 1 *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

Perc. 2 *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

T. Mar. *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

Child, The Song of the Child,

Shaker

Low Djembe

C-ten. *p* *pp* rit. . . .

Perc. 2 *pp*

T. Mar. *pp*

the Child, the Child.

Low Djembe