

# KING ARTHUR

opéra  
en cinq actes

composé par  
*Henry Purcell*

sur un livret de  
*John Dryden*

1717

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*annoté par*  
*Edward Taylor*

Viola



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# OUVERTURE

The musical score consists of ten staves of music for a single instrument, likely a bassoon or double bass, given the range and context. The score is in B-flat major and follows a typical classical overture structure.

**Measure 1:** The piece begins with a dynamic of ***f***. The first measure consists of six eighth-note pairs followed by a breve rest.

**Measure 6:** Dynamics alternate between ***p*** and ***f***.

**Measure 11:** The dynamic changes to ***f***, followed by ***p***, ***f***, ***p***, and ***f***.

**Measure 16:** The dynamic shifts to **C** (Common Time).

**Measure 21:** The tempo is marked **Allegro** and the time signature changes to **4**. The dynamic is ***f***.

**Measure 29:** The dynamic is ***f***.

**Measure 33:** The dynamic is ***f***.

**Measure 38:** The dynamic is ***f***.

**Measure 43:** The dynamic is ***f***.

**Measure 47:** The dynamic is ***f***.

# Acte premier

**Maestoso**

The musical score consists of eight staves of music, each with a bass clef and a key signature of one flat. The time signature varies between common time and 16th-note time (indicated by a '16' above the staff).

- Staff 1:** Labeled "Maestoso". The first measure shows a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes. Measures 2-5 show a steady eighth-note pulse. Measures 6-8 show a more complex pattern.
- Staff 2 (Measure 7):** Labeled "PREMIER PRÊTRE SAXON". The vocal part begins at dynamic *p*, transitioning to *f* in measure 8.
- Staff 3 (Measure 13):** Labeled "CHŒUR". Shows a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes.
- Staff 4 (Measure 18):** Labeled "SECOND PRÊTRE SAXON". The vocal part begins at dynamic *p*.
- Staff 5 (Measure 23):** Labeled "CHŒUR". The vocal part begins at dynamic *f*.
- Staff 6 (Measure 28):** Labeled "PREMIER PRÊTRE SAXON". The vocal part begins at dynamic *p*.
- Staff 7 (Measure 34):** Labeled "CHŒUR". The vocal part begins at dynamic *f*.
- Staff 8 (Measure 39):** Continues the rhythmic patterns established in previous measures.
- Staff 9 (Measure 44):** Labeled "16 CHŒUR". The vocal part begins at dynamic *f*.
- Staff 10 (Measure 65):** Continues the rhythmic patterns established in previous measures.
- Staff 11 (Measure 70):** Continues the rhythmic patterns established in previous measures.
- Staff 12 (Measure 75):** Continues the rhythmic patterns established in previous measures.

TACET .

*Solo* – The lot is cast*Chœur* – Brave souls, to be renou'd

94



100



105



110



115



122



130



136

*Solo & chœur* – I call you all to Woden's hall

TROISIÈME PRÊTRE SAXON

Allegro

8

26

CHŒUR



183



4

191



197

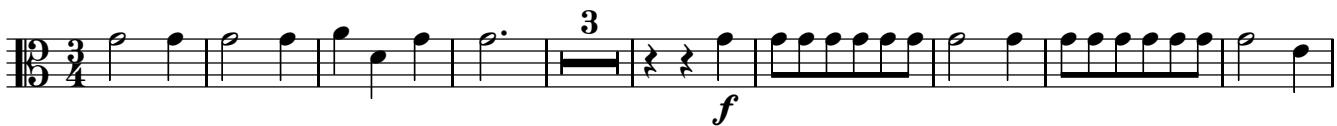


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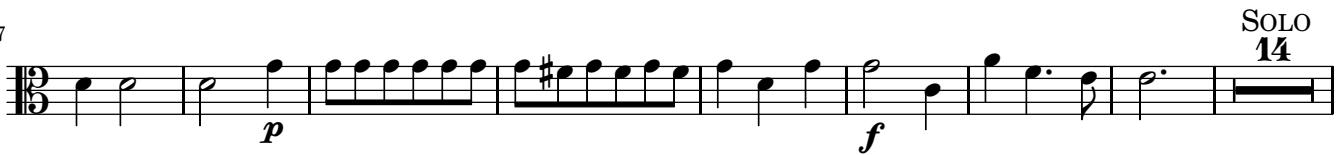


Symphonie militaire

TACET .

*Solo & chœur – Come, if you dare*

257



279



289



314



348



374



## Acte deux

Introduction



10



18



Symphonie



30



36



*Solo & chœur – Hither, this way bend*

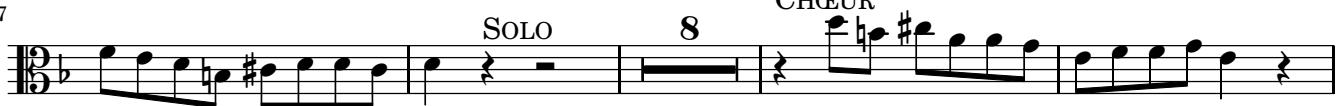
**Andante**

**20**

CHŒUR



67



79



84



*Solo – Let not a moon-born elf*

TACET .

*Chœur* – Hither, this way



157



161



*Chœur* – Come, follow me



186



194



201



208



214



225



231



237



243



*Solo & chœur – How blessed are shepherds*

**Andante**

*Duo – Shepherd, shepherd, leave decoying*

TACET .

*Chœur – Come, shepherds, lead up a lively measure*

Hornpipe

# Acte trois

**Maestoso**

4

7

10

*Récitatif* – What oh! thou Genius of the clime

TACET .

*Solo* – What power art thou?

33

37

41

45

50

55

60

*Solo* – Thou doating fool

TACET .

*Solo* – Great Love, I know thee now

TACET .

*Récitatif – No part of my dominions*

TACET .

## Prélude

The Prelude section consists of six staves of music for bassoon or double bass. The key signature changes from common time to B major at measure 148, then to A major at measure 154, back to B major at measure 160, and finally to C major at measure 171. The bassoon plays eighth-note patterns throughout the section.

*Chœur – See, we assemble*

The Chœur section consists of six staves of music for bassoon or double bass. The key signature changes to B-flat major at measure 182, then to A-flat major at measure 187, back to B-flat major at measure 192, and finally to G major at measure 211. The bassoon plays eighth-note patterns, with some measures featuring sixteenth-note patterns and rests.

10

*Solo* – 'T is I that have warm'd ye

## Vivace

22



239



*Chœur* – 'T is love that has warm'd us



251



258



266



274



281



289



298



## *Duo – Sound a parley, ye fair*

TACET .

## Hornpipe



422



426



# Acte quatre

Duo – Two daughters of this aged stream

TACET.

Passacaille

The musical score consists of multiple staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat, and a common time signature. It features a continuous sequence of eighth and sixteenth notes. Subsequent staves begin at measure numbers 60, 69, 78, 88, 97, 107, 130, 140, 149, 158, 168, 179, 229, 239, and 275. Measure 107 is labeled 'SOLO' and '14 CHOEUR'. Measure 179 is labeled 'DUO' above the first staff and '41 CHOEUR' below it. Measures 239 and 275 are labeled 'NYMPHES' and 'SYLVAINS' respectively, with '15' and '12' positioned between them. Measure 275 also includes '7' above the first staff and 'CHOEUR' below it. The score concludes with a final measure ending on a fermata over a dotted half note.

# Acte cinq

Air – Ye blustering brethren

**Allegro 2**

Musical score for the first part of the air, featuring a bassoon part. The score consists of ten staves of music, numbered 2 through 121. The key signature is common C (no sharps or flats). The tempo is Allegro (indicated by '2' below the tempo marking). The bassoon part consists of eighth-note patterns, mostly eighth-note chords. Measure 2 starts with a single eighth note followed by a rest. Measures 3-4 show eighth-note chords. Measures 5-6 show eighth-note chords with some sixteenth-note figures. Measures 7-8 show eighth-note chords. Measures 9-10 show eighth-note chords. Measures 11-12 show eighth-note chords. Measures 13-14 show eighth-note chords. Measures 15-16 show eighth-note chords. Measures 17-18 show eighth-note chords. Measures 19-20 show eighth-note chords. Measures 21-22 show eighth-note chords. Measures 23-24 show eighth-note chords. Measure 25 begins with a bassoon solo in common time (indicated by '35').

Symphonie

TACET .

Ditto

Musical score for the second part of the air and the symphonie. The score continues from measure 106 to 121. The key signature changes to common F major (one sharp). The bassoon part continues with eighth-note patterns. Measure 106 starts with a bassoon solo in common time (indicated by '35'). Measures 107-108 show eighth-note chords. Measures 109-110 show eighth-note chords. Measures 111-112 show eighth-note chords. Measures 113-114 show eighth-note chords. Measures 115-116 show eighth-note chords. Measures 117-118 show eighth-note chords. Measures 119-120 show eighth-note chords. Measure 121 ends with a bassoon solo in common time (indicated by '8').

Duo & chœur – Round thy coasts

135

141 8 8 CHEUR DES PÊCHEURS

162

169

Air en trio – For folded flocks

TACET.

Air – Fairest Isle, all isles excelling

224 p

232

240 8 8 16 8 8 16

Dialogue – You say 't is Love creates the pain

TACET.

Sonnerie de trompettes

435 f

442

Air – St. George, the patron of our Isle

TACET.

Chœur – Our natives not alone appear

563

## La grande danse



580



590



600



610



619



630



641



650



660



670



680



688



## Annexe

**Maestoso**

7

12

17

22

30

38

46

**Allegro**

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