

Avner Finberg

I Felt a Funeral in my Brain

for soprano, oboe, vibraphone, violin and Double bass

PERUSAL SCORE
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A setting of an Emily Dickinson Poem

I Felt a Funeral, in my Brain / Emily Dickinson

I felt a Funeral, in my Brain,
And Mourners to and fro
Kept treading - treading - till it seemed
That Sense was breaking through -

And when they all were seated,
A Service, like a Drum -
Kept beating - beating - till I thought
My mind was going numb -

And then I heard them lift a Box
And creak across my Soul
With those same Boots of Lead, again,
Then Space - began to toll,

As all the Heavens were a Bell,
And Being, but an Ear,
And I, and Silence, some strange Race,
Wrecked, solitary, here -

And then a Plank in Reason, broke,
And I dropped down, and down -
And hit a World, at every plunge,
And Finished knowing - then -

Technical note for the oboist

The oboe part has several diamond headed chords representing multiphonics. The chords do not represent fingering, but rather the desired multiphonic chord that the oboist should produce. The oboist should find the best available fingering to produce the desired chord on their instrument.

I Felt a Funeral in my Brain

setting of the poem by Emily Dickinson

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frenzied, rushed ♩=100

Oboe *f* *sim.*

Vibraphone

Violin *f* *sim.*

Double Bass *f* *sim.*

Ob. *p* *f*

Vib. *f*

Vln. *p* *f*

Db. *f*

6

Ob. *3* *3*

Vib.

Vln. *3* *3* *3* *3* *3*

Db. *3* *3* *3* *3* *3*

8

S. *f*
I felt a

Ob. *7* *p*

Vib. *f*

Vln. *ff* *f*

Db. *ff* *f*

11

S. fun-e - ral in my brain

Ob.

Vib.

Vln.

Db.

p *f* *p* *pp* *p* *pp* *f*

13

Ob.

Vib.

Vln.

Db.

mf *f sf* *f* *sf* *f* *pizz.* *arco* *f* *p*

15 *mf*

S. and mour-ners to and fro mour-ners to and fro to and

Ob. *mf*

Vib. *mf*

Vln. *mf*

Db. *mf*

17

S. fro

Ob. *p* *f*

Vib.

Vln. arco sul pont. *pp* *(mf)*

Db. *pp* *(mf)*

19 *f*

S. keep trea - ding trea ding trea - ding till it seemed that sense was brea - king

Ob.

Vib. *f*

Vln. pizz. *f* pizz.

Db. *f*

21

S. through

Ob. *p*

Vib. *p* *f*

Vln. arco *p* *f*

Db. arco *p* *f*

23

Ob.

Vib.

Vln.

Db.

25

S.

Ob.

Vib.

Vln.

Db.

And when they all were sea - ted A

p *f*

p *pp*

sf *p* *f* *fp*

3 sul pont. *b* *tr*

28 *mf*

S. ser - vice like a drum

Ob.

Vib. *mf*

Vln. *tr* *fp* *f*

Db. *pp* *mf* *pizz.*

30 *f* *p*

S. kept bea-ting bea-ting bea-ting till I

Ob. //

Vib. *f* //

Vln. *f* *pizz.* *arco* *sf* //

Db. *f* //

10

32 **meno mosso** **rit.**

S. *thought my mind was go-ing numb*

Ob. **secco**
mf

Vib.

Vln. **riccochet**
pp *arco* *(b)* *pp* *sf* *pp*

Db. *pp* *sf* *pp*

35 **Misterioso** ♩=72

S. *And then I heard them lift a box*

Ob.

Vib. **motor on** **motor off**
pp *Ped.*

Vln. *pp* *3*

Db. *pp* *3*

39

S. *f* and creek ac - ross my

Ob. *f*

Vib.

Vln. *f* pizz. *mf*

Db. *f* *mf*

43

S. soul with those same boots of lead

Ob.

Vib. *p* *f*

Vln. *p* arco *f*

Db. *p* arco *f*

46

S. *with those same_ boots of lead*

Ob.

Vib.

Vln.

Db.

49

S. *then space be - gan to*

Ob.

Vib. *arco*

Vln. *pizz.*

Db. *pizz.*

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53

S. toll_

Ob. *mf* free, improvisatory **3** **6** *f*

Vib.

Vln. arco *pp* arco *sf*

Db. *pp* *sf*

56

Ob. *fp* *f* *ad lib.* *b* *tr*

Vib.

Vln. *pp* *f*

Db. *pp* *f*

14

58

Ob.

Vib.

Vln.

Db.

f

ff

ff

p

Sul G

6

3

7

60

Ob.

Vib.

Vln.

Db.

ppp

p

mf

n

8

*Accuracy is not important, rough pitches given.

64

S. *p* As all the hea - vens were a bell,

Ob. *p*

Vib.

Vln.

Db. *pp* *mf*

68

S. *mf* And be-ing but an

Ob. *mf*

Vib. *(mf)*

Vln. *mf* loco

Db. *mf*

71

S. *p*
ear _____ And I and si-lence some strange

Ob.

Vib. *mf* *p*

Vln. *pizz.* *arco* *p* *sul pont.*

Db. *sf* *pp*

73

S. *f*
race _____ Wrecked, so - li - ta - ry,

Ob. *f*

Vib. *f*

Vln. *sul pont.* *ord.* *f*

Db. *f*

molto rit.

75

S. here.

Ob.

Vib.

Vln. *f dolce* 5 5 5 *ad lib.* *sf*

Db.

78 **A tempo**

S. And then a plank in rea - son broke, And

Ob. *p*

Vib. *pp*

Vln. *n*

Db. *pizz.* *p*

82

S. *f*
I dropped down and down— And

Ob.

Vib. *f*

Vln. *f* arco 3

Db. *f* arco 3

84

S. *p*
hit a world at eve - ry plunge, And fi - nished know - ing—

Ob.

Vib. *p* motor on Ped.

Vln. *pp*

Db. *pp*

87

S. then—

Ob. *ad lib.*

Vib. *pp* *mf*

Vln. *mf* pizz.

Db. *mf* pizz.

89

S.

Ob. *f* *pp*

Vib. *f* *pp*

Vln. *f* arco

Db. *f* arco