

Candlelight Procession 2023

Audition Music Preparation Guidelines

“O Holy Night”

TEMPO

- Dotted quarter note = 92
- Measure 40-43: Ritard, Measure 41 all notes dictated

STYLE & DYNAMICS

- Measure 3: Majestic fortissimo opening, get to the vowel “ah” immediately
- Measure 10: Male voices crescendo through the line
- Measure 13-14: Relax volume, do not drop support, altos- accurate pitches
- Measure 14: Beat 4, mezzo piano, flowingly
- Measure 24: “A Thrill of Hope the world rejoices” with accents
- Measure 26: “Yonder breaks a new and glorious morn” Legato, smoothly
- Measure 38: Dimenuendo, do not drop support
- Measure 40-43: Dimenuendo and ritard, do not drop support
- Measure 42: Close the ‘n’ on cue, do not drop volume or support

DICTION

- Pure vowels such as ‘fall’, ‘night’, ‘o’
- Careful not to spread words such as ‘night’, ‘hear’, ‘birth’
- Not too much ‘r’ on ‘worth’, ‘born’, ‘morn
- Very short ‘s’ on words such as ‘knees’, ‘voices’
- Strong and clean closing consonant words such as ‘horn’, ‘name’, ‘earth’, etc.
- “Divine” first syllable as “dih” not “dee”
- “Christ”, with a “k” consonant

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

- **Measure 13: Beat 3 is a ¼ rest**
- Measure 38: Please rehearse these 2 measures with attention to beat 3
- Measure 18: Hold “Birth” to release on beat 1 of measure 19
- Measure 23: Release “Worth” on beat 4
- Measure 24: Soprano ‘p’ of “hope” make audible and short, crisp
- Measure 27: Male voices sing with confidence through beat 4 into measure 28, and 33-34
- Measure 37: Maintain pitch accuracy and balance in sopranos
- Measure 24: Altos & Tenors, sing through the notes, balance
- Measure 40-41: These have re-written and simplified, during the ritard in measure 41, the changing alto and tenor pitches will be dictated.