

Performance Notes

IDEAL CHOIR SETUP (adjust as necessary):

At least 5/6 singers on a part, balanced between sections as much as possible.

Arranged in two rows: SA in front, TB in back.

Soprano soloist is at the extreme left side from the conductor's view; **tenor soloist** on the extreme right.

4 singers in the front row have **finger cymbals**. Widely spaced evenly from left to right.

The rows can be curved as needed.

The above instructions are represented by this diagram (curved rows are not shown):

BBBBBT'TTTT

SSSSSA AAAAAT (S, T = soprano/tenor soloists SA = soprano or alto with finger cymbals)

Cond.

FINGER CYMBALS:

Each of the four players has their own line on a separate, central staff.

Top to bottom lines = left to right players as viewed from audience, with the two Soprano parts on top.

Rests are only to clarify the rhythm. **Always let the cymbals ring for as long as possible!**

DICTION:

IPA (International Phonetic Alphabet) is used throughout. Phonemes are in **[square] brackets**.

A gradual transition in vowels and other voiced sounds is indicated by a **thin arrow**:



Swampy Cree words (n-dialect from the Cumberland House area) are also written in Roman orthography.

SPECIAL EFFECTS

Snapping (one hand) is shown **above** the Tenor/Bass staff (**open triangle noteheads**).

Stomping (one foot) is **below** the Tenor/Bass staff (**solid triangle noteheads**).

Other effects (whispers, shouts, etc.) are indicated in the score with special noteheads and instructions.

Molto vibrato (and accelerating/decelerating vibrato) is shown graphically



ALEATORIC SECTIONS:

Material in **boxes** should be rearranged and repeated for the length of the **thick arrow**:



When singing boxed material, individual singers **should not coordinate** with each other, nor with the meter.

Dashed arrows: singers drop out one-by-one (until the group is silent):



OTHER:

Long notes always require **stagger breathing** within sections. This should be imperceptible.

Glissandos should occur over the **full duration** of the note.