

GOD CALLS SAMUEL

Seán Doherty

2017

Sop. solo, SATB & Organ

PROGRAMME NOTE

In 1 Samuel 3, the boy Samuel hears his name being called during his nightly task of tending the lamp in the temple at Shiloh. Samuel thinks he is being summoned by his guardian, Eli, the high priest of the temple, and answers ‘Here I am!’. Eli tells Samuel that this is God’s voice and to respond with the words, ‘Speak, for your servant hears’, whereupon God speaks to Samuel and promises to destroy the house of Eli because his wicked sons had blasphemed and Eli failed to restrain them. This setting takes the viewpoint of the boy Samuel, who is traumatised by this nightmarish prophecy to the extent that he is afraid to tell Eli about it in the morning.

TEXT

Text	Hebrew	Transliteration	Translation
Samuel	שְׁמוּאֵל	šə-mū-’èl	<i>God hears / the one who hears God</i>
Eli	אֵלִי	‘ê-lî	<i>My God</i>
Hineni	הִנְנִי	hine-nî!	<i>Here I am!</i>
Daber ki shomea abdecha	דַּבֵּר, כִּי שֹׁמֵעַ עַבְדְּךָ	Dab-bêr, kî šhō-mê- a‘ aḇ-de-ḱā.	<i>Speak, for your servant hears</i>

PERFORMANCE NOTES



glissando



Upwards triangle note head:
as high as possible
Downwards triangle note head:
as low as possible



Crossed note head:
non-pitched note

For my Godson, Aodhán

God calls Samuel

written in collaboration with theologian Caleb Froehlich,
for TheoArtistry Scheme, Institute for Theology, Imagination, and the Arts, University of St Andrews.

1 Samuel 3

Seán Doherty

Moderato ♩ = 70

like the wind (non-pitch)

ppp *p lontano*

SOPRANO

Alto

TENOR

BASS

Pedals

pp

==

6 *p semplice, quasi recitativo*

S. Solo

S.

A.

T.

B.

Org.

Ped.

mp *pp* **ppp**

el. come sopra

el. come sopra

el. come sopra

el. come sopra

el. come sopra

el. come sopra

Arpeggiate RH chord at random, as fast as possible

ppp

p

11

S. Solo

El - i? Hi-ne ni, Hi-ne ni, El-i.

S. *mp* *mf* *p* *ppp sub.* *mf*

[S]a - mu - el, Sa - mu - el. Sss [S]a - mu -

A. *mp* *mf* *p* *ppp sub.* *mf*

[S]a mu - el, Sa - mu - el. Sss [S]a-sa sa - mu-

T. *mp* *mf* *p* *ppp sub.* *mf*

[S]a - mu - el, Sa - mu - el. Sss [S]a - sa-sa-mu-

B. *mp* *mf* *p* *ppp sub.* *mf*

[S]a - mu - el, Sa - mu - el. Sss [S]a - sa - mu

Org. *p* *p*

Ped. *mp*

18

S. Solo

El - i? Hi - ne - ni, Hi-ne-ni, Hi ne-ni, El - i.

S. *f* *ppp sub.*

el, Sa - mu - el. Sss

A. *f* *ppp sub.*

- el, Sa - sa - sa - sa - sa - sa - mu - el. Sss

T. *f* *ppp sub.*

el, Sa - sa - sa - sa - mu - el. Sss

B. *f* *ppp sub.*

el, Sa - sa - mu - el. Sss

Org. *mf*

Ped. *mf*

22

S. Solo

S. *f* [S]a - - mu - - el, Sa - - mu -

A. *f* [S]a - sa - sa-sa-sa - sa - mu - el. Sa-sa-sa - sa - [S]a - sa - sa-sa-sa - sa - mu -

T. *f* Sa - - sa - sa-sa-sa - mu - el Sa - sa - - sa - sa-sa-sa - mu -

B. *f* [Sa] sa-sa - sa - - mu - el. Sa-sa-sa - sa - - sa - mu -

Org.

Ped.

25

S. Solo

S. *ff* *p* Da - ber - ki sho - me - a ab - de - cha

A. *ff* *p* el.

T. *ff* *p* el.

B. *ff* *p* el.

Org. *f* non trem.

Ped.

29

f *ff* *f* *ff*

S. *El!!* *El - i.* *El!!* *El - i.* *El - i.*

A. *El!!* *El - i.* *El!!* *El - i.* *El - i.*

T. *El!!* *El - i.* *El!!* *El - i.* *El - i.*

B. *El!!* *El - i.* *El!!* *El - i.* *El - i.*

Org. *f*

Ped.

33

f *ff* *f* *ff* *fff* *fff* *fff* *fff*

S. *El!!* *El - i.* *El - i.* *El - i.* *El!!* *El - i.* *El - i.* *El!!* *El i.*

A. *El!!* *El - i.* *El - i.* *El - i.* *El!!* *El - i.* *El - i.* *El!!* *El i.*

T. *El!!* *El - i.* *El - i.* *El - i.* *El!!* *El - i.* *El - i.* *El!!* *El i.*

B. *El!!* *El - i.* *El - i.* *El - i.* *El!!* *El - i.* *El - i.* *El!!* *El i.*

Org.

Ped.

[illegible]

43

S. Solo

i! _____ El - i! _____ El - i! El - i! El - i! El - i! El -

fff unmeasured trem., like an ululation

S.

measured trem.

fff El i, El i, etc. ||:El i :||

A.

El - i, El - i, etc. ||:El i :||

fff

T.

El! El! El! El! El! El! El! El! El! El!

fff like a bark

B.

El! El! El! El! El! El! El! El! El! El! El! El!

come sopra

Org.

fff

Ped.

46

S. Solo

i! _____ El - i! _____ El -

S.

A.

T.

El!

B.

El! El! El! El! El! El! El! El!

Org.

Ped.

p sub. _____ *pp* _____ *ppp* _____ *pppp*

Meno mosso ♩ = 60

7

51 *p semplice* **molto rit.**

S. Solo El - i? Hi - ne - ni, El - i.

S. *p semplice* like a hush *ppp*
Sa - mu - el? Shh sh sh sh, Sa - mu - el.

A. *p semplice* like a hush *ppp*
Sa - mu - el? Shh sh sh sh, Sa - mu - el.

T. *p semplice* like a hush *ppp*
Sa - mu - el? Shh sh sh sh, Sa - mu - el.

B. *p semplice* like a hush *ppp*
Sa - mu - el? Shh sh sh sh, Sa - mu - el.