1988

Prayer of Mesas

Michael Mauldin

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MICHAEL MAULDIN

PRAYERS OF MESAS
for large orchestra and chorus*
Commissioned by the University of New Mexico and the City of Albuquerque for the University of New Mexico Centennial Celebration

*SATB score with piano accompaniment also available
The Spanish word for “table,” a “mesa” is a high or flat tableland with steep sides, often covered by a layer of rock. Mesas sometimes have vivid colors and interesting shapes that make them resemble great creatures, reclining throughout the Southwestern landscape. The text comes from my pondering what such beings might think of people:

*Father the Sun, Our Mother the Earth, Bless this place where the powers move—the great powers move between earth and sky! May the people that move upon us know from whence they came, that they may let the earth heal. May they let the earth heal, that they may live among us, and know from whence they came. Let the space of the land open their minds, that they may let the earth heal.*

For the University of New Mexico Centennial Celebration, I was asked to write a piece for forces assembled from the school’s chorus, band and orchestra. The group premiered the work October 20, 1988 at the University of New Mexico Arena. It was written so it might be successfully performed also by a smaller orchestra. The saxophone parts may be omitted since their notes are doubled by other instruments. The piece has also been performed effectively as a work for chorus and piano.
Bless this place where the pow-ers move the great pow-ers move be-tween earth and sky!
May they let the earth heal.

That they may let the
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instrument</th>
<th>Notation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Picc.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fls.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Obs.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>B♭ Cls.</td>
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<tr>
<td>B♭ Bass Cl.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bsns.</td>
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<tr>
<td>E♭ Alto Sxs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>B♭ Tenor Sxs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>E♭ Bari. Sxs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Has. (F)</td>
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<tr>
<td>B♭ Tpts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trbs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuba</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Glock Chimes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vibes</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Vibes Tri.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Susp. Cym.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tri. R.D. S.D.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Timp.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Harp</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>S A</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>T B</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Vlns.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Vla.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cello</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bass</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Susp. Cym.**

**Bass**
2nd time to CODA

poco a poco dim.

mf > mp

cresc.

dim.

D.S. al fi

Coda

cresc.

f

ff
1st and 2nd B♭ Clarinets - 2

2nd time to CODA

[66-67] ff

[71-73] f

poco a poco dim.

[82-83] mp >> p < mp >> p

[94-98] mp >> p mp >> p

D.S. al fi

1st and 2nd B♭ Clarinets - 2
Commissioned by the University of New Mexico and the City of Albuquerque

PRAYER OF MESAS
for large orchestra and chorus

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1st and 2nd Horns in F - 2

2nd time
to CODA

D.S. al

Coda

unis.)

D.S. al

unis.)
PRAYER OF MESAS

3rd and 4th Horns in F

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PRAYER OF MESAS

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Tuba

\( J = 126-132 \)

\( \text{PRAYER OF MESAS} \)

for large orchestra and chorus

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Tuba - 2

2nd time to CODA

D.S. al

Coda

cresc.
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Percussion I

Glockenspiel, Chimes, Vibraphone, Triangle - 2

2nd time to CODA

[84-86] 3

[106-107] 2

130
to triangle
Percussion III
Timpani

\[ J = 126-132 \]

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Harp

\[ J = 126-132 \]

\[ \sum \sum \]
2nd time to CODA

Violin II - 2

D.S. al Coda

PRAYER OF MESAS
for large orchestra and chorus

\[ J = 126-132 \]

\( \frac{5}{8} \) pizz.

\( \text{mf} \)

\( \text{cresc.} \)

\( \text{f} \)

\( \text{ff} \)

\( \text{ff} \)

\( \text{poco a poco dim.} \)

\( \text{f} \)

\( \text{mf} > \text{mp} \)

\( \text{p} \)

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Bass - 2

2nd time to CODA

D.S. al fi

Coda

(f)
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SATB score with piano accompaniment
Fa - ther, the sun, 

Mo - ther, the Earth,
Bless this place where the powers move the great powers move between earth and sky!
May the people that move upon us...
Know from whence they came.

May the people, May the people, May the people, May the people, May the people.

That move up on us

Know from whence, from whence they came.

(cresc.)
Let the space of the land open their minds,
May they let the earth heal.

that they may live among us.

and
know from whence they came.

D.S. al Coda

Bless this place where the powers move the
Great powers move between earth and sky.