

# **EVANGELICAL**

a micrOPERA

**James Paul Sain**

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## **Program Note**

**evANGELical** is electroacoustic micrOPERA for solo soprano adapted from the science fiction short story "For I Am A Jealous People" by Lester del Rey.

## **Short Biography**

**James Paul Sain** (b. 1959) is Professor of Music at the University of Florida where he teaches electroacoustic and acoustic music composition, theory, and technology. He founded and directed the internationally acclaimed Florida Electroacoustic Music Festival for 17 years. His compositional oeuvre spans all major acoustic ensembles, instrumental and vocal soloists, and embraces electroacoustic music. His works have been featured at major national and international societal events. He has presented his music in concert and given lectures in Asia, Europe, South America and North America. Dr. Sain is President Emeritus of the Society of Composers Inc. He previously served for several terms on American Composers Alliance Board of Governors. His music is available in print from Brazinmusikanta and American Composers Editions and on CD on the Capstone, Electronic Music Foundation, Innova, University of Lanús, Mark Masters, Centaur, New Ariel, Albany and NACUSA labels.

for Karen Adair

# EVANGELICAL

a micrOPERA

James Paul Sain

## SCENE 1

medatatively ♩ = 66

Soprano *mp* *subito mf*

Al - le - lu - - - ia \_\_\_\_\_ no, Al - le - lu - - - ia \_\_\_\_\_ No, *(nasal)*

Computer **F DRONE (45.6535Hz)**

00:20

Soprano *mp* *subito f* *mp* *subito ff*

Al - le - lu - - - ia \_\_\_\_\_ NO, Al - le - lu - - - ia \_\_\_\_\_ NO!, *(nasal)*

Computer

00:37 00:52

# A

Soprano *mp* *subito fff* **Recitative** *mf*

Al - le - lu - - - ia \_\_\_\_\_ NNNO! My son was killed in The Bat - tle of the

Computer

01:11 01:25

# EVANGELICAL

Soprano *f* *mf* *stretch*

Moon, I ask, let this cup pass from me. Not as I will, Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ but

Computer

Soprano *a tempo* *p* *mf*

as Thou wilt. My hus - band was mur - dered by a - li - en fire,

Computer

01:42

Bb DRONE (58.2705Hz)

Soprano *f* *mf*

out car - ing for our pup. Ask - ing, if pos - si - ble, let this cup pass from me.

Computer

# EVANGELICAL

Soprano *rubato* *strict tempo*

Computer

02:00 02:10

**a1**

Soprano *cresc.* *poco* *a* *poco* *ff*

Computer

02:20

F DRONE UP TO Gb (46.2493Hz)  
Bb DRONE FADEOUT | Gb DRONE DOWN TO F (46.2493Hz)

Soprano *like a church hymn* *subito mp* *prayerful*

Computer

02:42

EVANGELICAL

a2

increasingly frightened

Soprano



war should rise a - gainst me, in this I will stand strong. I heard the a - li - ens land - ed near by.

03:09

Computer

Eb DRONE (38.8909) FADE IN |

Soprano



They con-trol the wea - ther a - gainst us. The snakes are com-ing, oh God! The bi - ble does not fore -

03:31

Computer

Soprano



tell of a - li - en race - s But, they got my son's dog and now my hus - band.

Computer

Eb DRONE FADEOUT |

**B**

EVANGELICAL

questioning  
subito *fff*

*mp*

subito *f*

Soprano

GOD!!!

Al - le - lu - - - ia

GOD!

Al - le - lu - - - ia;

03:50

04:02

Computer

REARTICULATE F DRONE (45.6535Hz)

subito *mf*

*mp*

*mp*

Soprano

God,

Al - le - lu - - - ia;

God,

Al - le - lu - - - ia;

04:14

04:27

Computer

SCENE 2

**b1**

*a tempo*

subito *p*

*rit.*

*mf*

Soprano

God,

Al - le - lu - ia\_\_ Al - le - lu - ia

I'm\_\_ sor-ry! The ways of God are\_\_ not the ways of

04:41

05:01

Computer

ADD 8VE F (87.3071Hz)

EVANGELICAL

b2

Soprano

man. It is not good to hate God!

Computer

05:21

Spoken in stage whisper:  
"Shh, Rover."  
"Quiet, boy. The master is all right."

F DRONE UP TO GB (46.2493HZ)  
8VE F OUT |

Soprano

*painfully*  
*mp*

I pat-ted his head, closed my eyes, and pulled the trig-ger. It was mer-ci-ful. Then I wait-ed

Computer

05:26

Soprano

*Recitative*  
*mp*

*detached*

here, lis-te-ning for a snake plane. I won-der if they say prayers to God for their dead? Does

Computer

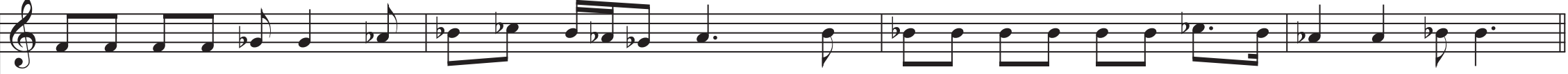
05:56

Bb DRONE DOWN TO F (45.6535HZ)  
& UP TO C (65.4064)




# EVANGELICAL

Soprano



God ex - tend his mer - cy to race - s oth - er than man? These e - vil be - ings sure - ly of - fer him no wor-ship!

Computer




ca. 19 sec.

**b3**

lyrically  
*mf*

Soprano



**Screamed in a frantic tone:**  
"Get out of town! Everybody clear out! This is an order to evacuate!  
The snakes are coming! For God's sake, the snakes are coming!"


I told him, I've al - ways loved you and

06:41


06:22

C & F CONVERGE TO Bb (58.2705Hz)

Computer




Soprano



I still do. And for - sak - ing all oth-ers, cleave on - ly to you. We\_\_ need God to sus - tain us.

Computer



SCENE 3

EVANGELICAL

conversationally

Soprano *mf*

Come in. This is the house of God, and all His child-ren are wel - come.

07:24

Computer

ADD Eb DRONE (38.8909) |



exultantly

Soprano *f*

Spoken as if to a person Off Stage Left:

"Only four strays? I hoped we might have to pack them in. There's a car outside. Garther up the rest of this flock and get going! Get going all of you! You'll have to go without me."

A - rise, O Lord; O God,

07:48

Computer

07:36

FADE OUT Bb & Eb

Bb DRONE (58.2705) SOLO

conversationally

Soprano *mf*

lift up Your hand; for - get not the hum-ble.

We can't do an - y-thing.

When I told them he was my hus-band, I am

08:02

Computer

# EVANGELICAL

Soprano



Computer

3 tak - ing him home with me, the a - li - ens bound me and tossed me on - to their wag-on. I

*f* *ff*

5/4

SCENE 4

Soprano




Computer

08:20

guess we're in for it now! Man has one vir - tue that is im - pos - si - ble to an - y om - ni - po - tent force of God.

5/4 4/4 3/4 5/4

Soprano



Computer

08:43

He can be brave. I pit - y God if man ev - er makes war on Him!

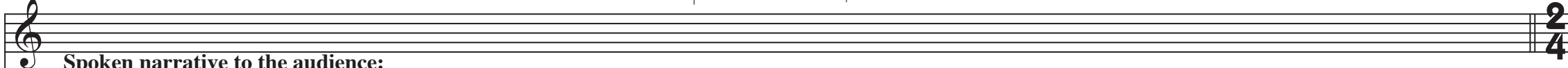
*mf*

5/4 4/4 3/4

**Bb DRONE DOWN TO F (45.6535HZ)  
& UP TO C (65.4064)**

# EVANGELICAL

ca. 45 sec.

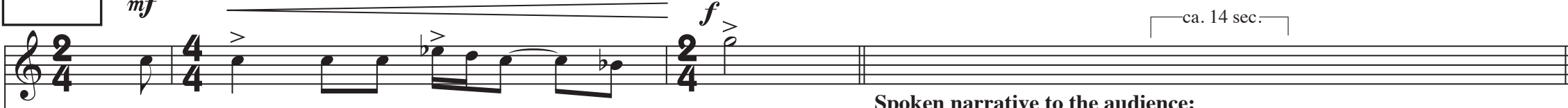
Soprano  **2/4**

**Spoken narrative to the audience:**  
 "There were two races allied against humanity. They put me in a cashiers cage, barred from the floor to ceiling. They said, 'Humans, are peculiar. No standardization.' They spoke in English! They told me, 'Many of the priests of the Lord God Almighty speak all the human languages.' Then they confessed we were to be used for food. 'We eat any kind of meat--even our people--but we have to examine the laws to find you're permitted. If you are, we'll need freshly killed specimens to sample, so we're waiting with you.'"

Computer

08:51

**c1**

Soprano  *mf* *f*

You mean you're at - tack-ing us \_\_\_\_\_ for food?

Computer

09:36


ca. 14 sec.

**Spoken narrative to the audience:**  
 "'No!' they said, 'we're on a holy mission to exterminate you. The Lord Almighty commanded us to go down to Earth where abominations existed and to leave no living creature under your sun.'"

09:44

ADD 8VE F (87.3071Hz)

**SCENE 5**

Soprano  *ff* *mf*

I AM THAT I AM, who brought those out of bon-dage from E - gypt. I saw eve-ry prayer of my life

Computer

09:58

moderately agitated

# EVANGELICAL

Soprano *rall.*



ta - bu - lat-ed with - out the di-vine warmth I had felt be-fore. Be - fore me was the Lord God Al - might-y.

Computer

**c3**

disgusted tone

Soprano *a tempo* *f* *mf*



God now was on the side of our en - e - mies. — They're just do - ing God's dirt-y work. The a - li - ens are e - vil by

10:36

10:44

Computer

ADD F# (46.2493Hz)

Soprano *resigned*



eve - ry def - i - ni - tion I know. Does it make an - y dif - frence what I do? I'm on - ly one be - ing. I've

11:01

11:05

11:09

Computer

ADD C# (69.2957Hz)

ADD A# (58.2705Hz)

# EVANGELICAL

Soprano *defiant* *f* *ff* *fff*  
 fo-cused on the Old Tes-ta-ment — like man-y who be-came e - van-ge-lists. Where's Je-sus? Where's — Je-sus? Je - sus!  
 Computer **A# DOWN TO A (55.0000Hz)**  
 11:16

Soprano *defiant* *f*  
 ca. 49 sec. **D**  
**Spoken narrative to the audience:**  
 "Is God testing man again, as He has so often before? The Jews suffered until they finally found mercy. Can a creation defy its creator? Was there a battle once, which Lucifer almost won? Maybe Lucifer was just another race God cast off? Am I with God or against him? Our second atomic missile destroyed the alien base and every alien ship. What next?"  
 They can be beat-en! We know God was here with them.  
 Computer **FADE OUT ALL BUT F** **REARTICULATE F DRONE (45.6535Hz)**  
 11:28 12:17

Soprano *lyrical* *reflective* *moving forward*  
*mp* *mf*  
 Could He stop our bombs by His mir - a - cles? Will I die in less than per - fect grace? My  
 Computer 12:32

SCENE 6

Soprano

grief is strong and new - ly sharp - ened by ha - tred. I still have much work to do.

Computer

12:37

Soprano

Man's own fol - lies have caused this ru - in

Computer

12:59

**Spoken in a preachers tone:**  
"You shall know the truth and the truth will make you free!"

**Eb DRONE (38.8909) FADE IN |**

Soprano

*conversationally*  
*mp*

I have come back from al - i - en cap - tiv - i - ty. I have seen the hordes that de - sire to e -

Computer

13:05

# EVANGELICAL

*cresc.* *poco* *a*

Soprano

rase all memo - ry — of man. I have stood at the al - tar of their God. I have heard Him pro - claim that

Computer

*poco* *f* *rit.* *mp*

Soprano

He is al - so our God and that He has cast us out. I have be - lieved Him, as I believe Him now.

Computer

# E

*ca. 22 sec.* *a tempo* *rit. molto* *mp* *p*

Soprano

**Spoken in a preachers tone:**  
 "God has ended the ancient covenants and declared  
 Himself an enemy of all mankind" (with great emphasis)  
 "I SAY TO YOU: HE HAS FOUND A WORTHY OPPONENT!"

Al - le - lu - ia — Al - le - lu - ia A - men

Computer

14:07      14:29      14:38      14:45      15:00

ADD Ab DRONE (51.9131) |      FADE OUT Ab & Eb |      FADE OUT F |