## Cassandra

Thomas DeLio
1972

## Duration

approximately $111 / 2$,

## Instrumentation

5 sopranos
5 altos
5 tenors (sounding one octave lower than written)
5 basses
10 tin cans (approximately $5 "$ tall, 3 " diameter, one end open), five for the altos and five for the tenors

3 slapsticks, for tenors 1-3
1 cello
percussion (3 players)
3 bongos (h, m, l)
3 snare drums (h, m, l)
3 tom-toms (h, m, l)
3 triangles (h, m, l)
2 sets of metal wind chimes
percussion 1 - high bongo, high snare, high tom-tom, one set metal wind chimes
percussion 2 - medium bongo, medium snare, medium tom-tom, one set metal wind chimes
percussion 3 - low bongo, low snare, low tom-tom, three triangles (h, m, l)

## Notation

Accidentals apply only to the notes they immediately precede.

## Chorus:

cupped hands - sing, speak or whisper into cupped hands tin can - sing, speak or whisper into tin can open - cancels 'cupped hands' or 'tin can'

$$
\begin{gathered}
\text { Pronunciation Guide } \\
\text { e - feet } \\
\text { ai - kite } \\
\text { ay - may } \\
\text { a - colony } \\
\text { o - rote } \\
\text { u - boot }
\end{gathered}
$$

All pronounced as in American English.

## Stage Placement

$$
\text { Percussion } 2
$$

Cello


Text

## CASSANDRA

## Robinson Jeffers

The mad girl with the staring eyes and long white fingers
Hooked in the stones of the wall,
The storm-wrack hair and the screeching mouth: does it matter, Cassandra, Whether the people believe

Your bitter fountain? Truly men hate the truth; they'd liefer Meet a tiger on the road.

Therefore the poets honey their truth with lying; but religion-
Venders and political men
Pour from the barrel, new lies on the old, and are praised for kindly
Wisdom. Poor bitch, be wise.
No: you'll still mumble in a corner a crust of truth, to men And gods disgusting.-You and I, Cassandra.


Text A: 1. The mad girl with the staring eyes
2. The long white fingers hooked in the stones of the wall
3. The storm-wrack hair hair and the screeching mouth
Text B: 1. Whether people believe your bitter fountain
2. Truly men hate the truth

Text C: 1. Religion venders and political men
2. Pour from the barrel new lies from the old

Text D: screeching, stones, eyes
Text E: mad, hate, wall

## Text B




Text C


## Text D

ppp


Text E
Text E
$m f$

whisper as fast as possible
 three words randomly often as necessay to fill this measure.

## ppp

whisper as fast as possible, into cupped hands
5 EACH soprano repeats these three words randomly and as often as necessay to fill this measure.



## Text D



ca. $3^{\prime} 45^{\prime}$








Text I: mad, long, wall, men, road, hate Text II: eyes, stones, screeching, lies, crust, Text III: fountain, mouth, truth, believe





$20$








$28$



ca. $41 / 2^{\prime}$

