

In the Absence of Your Ringing

for carillon

Carson Cooman (Op. 556)

In the Absence of Your Ringing (2004) for carillon was commissioned by the Friends of the Albany City Carillon and is dedicated to that organization and Charles Semowich.

When preparing to write this work—my first piece for carillon—several carillonneur friends advised me strongly to remember that the carillon consists of bells, and not to write “piano music for the carillon” as some composers are wont to do.

This short piece is thus intended fully as “bell music”—tolling, pealing, resounding, and savoring the complex overtones of each bell.

The title and inspiration is taken from the final lines of a poem by Kathleen Wakefield:

Somewhere
a bell savors your distinction.
Sotto voce, one perfect pitch
in the absence of your ringing.

Carson Cooman
April 2004
Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA

for the Friends of the Albany City Carillon and Charles Semowich

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Opus 556

Freely (♩ = 60-74)

Musical score for measures 1-4. Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Dynamics: *mf*, *f*, *mp*, *f*. Includes a fermata over a measure.

Musical score for measures 5-8. Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Dynamics: *ff*. Includes a fermata over a measure.

Musical score for measures 9-14. Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Dynamics: *mf*, *p*, *f*. Includes a fermata over a measure.

Musical score for measures 15-18. Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Dynamics: *f*. Includes a fermata over a measure.

Musical score for measures 19-24. Treble clef, 7/4 time signature. Bass clef, 7/4 time signature. Dynamics: *mf*. Includes a fermata over a measure.

N.B. Measures with time signatures should be in the meter. Measures marked \emptyset should be free and spacious.

poco stringendo

24

pp mp f ff

a tempo

28

fff ff

32

p (p) f mf

mf (f)

37

mp mf

42

ff p pp

