

# **K U B L A      K H A N**

for chorus, piano, and percussion ensemble

**James M. David (2012)**

Text by Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1816)

# K U B L A   K H A N

for chorus, piano, and percussion ensemble

## Instrumentation:

Chorus (SATB, full divisi; six tuned crystal glasses played by members of the chorus)

Piano (amplified, if needed)

Percussion (7 players: see parts for detailed instrumentation)

Duration: ca. 9'40"

## Text:

In Xanadu did Kubla Khan  
A stately pleasure-dome decree:  
Where Alph, the sacred river, ran  
Through caverns measureless to man  
Down to a sunless sea.  
So twice five miles of fertile ground  
With walls and towers were girdled round;  
And there were gardens bright with sinuous rills,  
Where blossomed many an incense-bearing tree;  
And here were forests ancient as the hills,  
Enfolding sunny spots of greenery.

But oh! that deep romantic chasm which slanted  
Down the green hill athwart a cedarn cover!  
A savage place! as holy and enchanted  
As e'er beneath a waning moon was haunted  
By woman wailing for her demon-lover!  
And from this chasm, with ceaseless turmoil seething,  
As if this earth in fast thick pants were breathing,  
A mighty fountain momently was forced:  
Amid whose swift half-intermitted burst  
Huge fragments vaulted like rebounding hail,  
Or chaffy grain beneath the thresher's flail:  
And mid these dancing rocks at once and ever  
It flung up momently the sacred river.  
And 'mid this tumult Kubla heard from far  
Ancestral voices prophesying war!

A damsel with a dulcimer  
In a vision once I saw:  
It was an Abyssinian maid  
And on her dulcimer she played,  
Singing of Mount Abora.  
Could I revive within me  
Her symphony and song,  
To such a deep delight 'twould win me,  
That with music loud and long,  
I would build that dome in air,  
That sunny dome! those caves of ice!  
And all who heard should see them there,  
And all should cry, Beware! Beware!  
His flashing eyes, his floating hair!  
Weave a circle round him thrice,  
And close your eyes with holy dread  
For he on honey-dew hath fed,  
And drunk the milk of Paradise.

# KUBLA KHAN

James M. David (2012)  
text by Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1816)

Expansive, with freedom (♩ = 58)

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Piano

I

II

III

IV

V

VI

VII

Percussion

Timpani w/ very hard mallet.

Sus. Cym. bowed

Wind Gong bowed

B.D.

Marimba

3 Toms

Bongos + Timbales

*f* *pp* *f* *mp* *mf* *ffz*

S *mp* *fp* *mp* *fp* <

In Xan-a-du did Ku - bla Khan A state-ly plea - sure - dome de - cree —

A *mp* *fp* *mp* *fp* <

In Xan-a-du did Ku - bla Khan A state-ly plea - sure - dome de - cree —

T *mp* *fp* *mp* *fp* <

In Xan-a-du did Ku - bla Khan A state-ly plea - sure - dome de - cree —

B Xan - a - du, in Xan - a - du In Xan - a - du, in Xan - a - du In Xan - a -

Pno.

Percussion

I *f*

II

III

IV

V *p*

VI

VII

S *mf* Where Alph, the Sa-cred ri-ver ran *fp* Through *f*

A *mf* Where Alph, the Sa-cred ri-ver ran *fp* Through *f*

T *mf* Where Alph, the Sa-cred ri-ver ran *fp*

B du, in Xan - a - du In Xan - a - du, in Xan - a - du In *mf*

Pno. *f* *p*

I *f* *pp* *mf*

II **Crotales** *f* *l.v. sempre*

III **Chimes** *f* *l.v. sempre* *mf*

IV **+ Tam-Tam** *f*

V

VI *f* *Sizzle Cym.*

VII *f* *Sizzle Cym.*

22

S  
 — cav - erns mea - sure - less — to — man — — — — —  
 Down to a sun - less — sea — — — — —

A  
 — cav - erns mea - sure - less — to — man — — — — —  
 Down to a sun - less — sea — — — — —

T  
 8 Through cav - erns mea - sure - less to man — — — — —  
 Down to a sun - less — sea — — — — —

B  
 Xan - a - du, in Xan - a - du In Xan - a - du, In Xan - a - du,

*ff* *ff* *f* *ff* *ppp*

Pno.

22

*f* *ff*

I

22

*f* *ff*

II

22

Crotales

*f*

III

22

IV

22

Glock.

*f* *lv. sempre*

V

22

VI

22

*ff* *ffz* *p*

Sus. Cym. w/ tri. beater

VII

22

Bongos + Timbales

*ff* *ffz* *p* *lv. sempre*

Sus. Cym. w/ tri. beater

31 *poco rit.* **32 Relaxed, Flowing** (♩. = 50)

S *ppp*

A *ppp*

T

B

Pno. *p* *mf*

I

II

III

IV

V

VI

VII *p* *l.v. sempre*

2 Triangles

S *mf* So twice five

A

T

B *p* Oh

Pno. *f*

I

II Vibes *mf* *lv. sempre*

III Shekere *mp*

IV

V Marimba *mf*

VI Sus. Cym. w/ tri. beater *mp*

VII Sus. Cym. w/ tri. beater *mp*

41

S  
 miles of fer - tile ground With walls and to - wers were gir - dled round

A  
*mp*  
 So twice five miles of fer - tile ground With walls and to - wers were

T  
*mp*  
 So twice five miles of fer - tile ground With walls and to - wers were gir - dled

B  
 Oh Oh Oh

Pno.

I

II

III  
 Chimes  
*mf*

IV

V  
*mf*

VI

VII

46

S

A  
gir - dled \_ round

T  
round

B

Pno.

*f*

Crotales

*f*

III  
Percussion

*f*

Glock.

*f*

V  
*f*

Sm. B.D. + Tam-Tam

VI

VII

S  
A  
T  
B

*f*  
And there, and there were, and there were gar - dens

*f*  
And there, and there were, and there were gar - dens

*f*  
And there, and there were, and there were gar - dens

*f*  
And there, and there were, and there were gar - dens

Pno.

*f*

*mf*

P  
E  
R  
C  
U  
S  
S  
I  
O  
N

I  
II  
III  
IV  
V  
VI  
VII

*mf*

56

(♩ = ♩)

S  
bright with sin-u-ous rills Where blos-somed ma - ny a in - cense

A  
bright with sin-u-ous rills Where blos-somed ma - ny a in - cense

T  
bright Where blos-somed ma - ny a in - cense

B  
bright

Pno.

I

II

III  
4 Metal Cans  
w/ heavy plastic brushes  
*mf*

IV

V  
*f*

VI

VII

60 (2+2+3, sempre)

(♩=♩) *ff*

S  
bear - ing tree And here were for - ests, for - ests

A  
bear - ing tree And here were for - ests, for - ests,

T  
bear - ing tree And here were for - ests, for - ests,

B  
And here were for - ests for - ests,

Pno.  
*ff*

I  
-

II  
*ff* senza Ped.

III  
*f*

IV  
-

V  
*ff*

VI  
2 Metal Pipes  
*f*

VII  
-

62

S  
And here were for - ests an - cient as the hills!

A  
And here were forests an - cient as the hills! *mp* En -

T  
And here were for - ests an - cient as the hills! *mp* En - fold - ing

B  
And here were for - ests an - cient as the hills! *mp* En - fold - ing sun - ny

Pno.  
62 *f* *mf*

P  
I  
II  
III  
IV  
V  
VI  
VII

P  
e  
r  
c  
u  
s  
s  
i  
o  
n

67 *mp* 68 (♩ = ♩) (♩ = 75)

S En - fold - ing sun - ny spots of green - er - y \_\_\_\_\_

A fold - ing sun - ny spots of green - er - y \_\_\_\_\_

T sun - ny spots of green - er - y \_\_\_\_\_

B spots of green - er - y \_\_\_\_\_

Pno. *f*

67 Timpani

I *mf*

67

67 Tam-Tam

IV *mp*

67

V *mf*

67

67

67

Percussion



78

S  
 down the green hill a-thwart a ce-darn co-ver A sav-age place! as ho-ly and en-chan-ted as e'er be-neath a wan-ing moon

A

T

B

Pno.

I

II  
 improvise random rhythms on given notes  
 p *lv. sempre*

III

IV

V  
 improvise random rhythms on given notes  
 p

VI

VII

83 **85** (in strict tempo)  
 (2+2+3, sempre) (2+3, sempre)

S  
 was — haunt-ed — By wo-man wail-ing for her de-mon lo-ver!

A

T

B  
*mp*  
 And from this cav-ern with

Pno.

I

II  
*p*

III

IV

V  
*p*

VI

VII

P  
e  
r  
c  
u  
s  
s  
i  
o  
n



S *f* Huge frag - ments vault - ed like re-bound-ing hail;

A *f* Huge frag - ments vault - ed like re-bound-ing hail;

T *f* A - mid whose swift half - in - ter - mit - ted\_ burst Huge frag - ments vault - ed like re-bound-ing hail;

B *f* A - mid whose swift half - in - ter - mit - ted\_ burst Huge frag - ments vault - ed like re-bound-ing hail;

Pno. *mf* *f*

I *f* Crotales

II *mf* *f*

III Chimes *f*

IV Glock. *f*

V *mf* *f*

VI + China Cym. + B.D. Sm. & Med. W.B.'s

VII + Splash Cym. Timbales

97 *ff*

S Or chaf-fy grain be-neath the thresh-er's flail \_\_\_ and mid these danc-ing rocks at once and ev - er It flung up

A Or chaf-fy grain be-neath the thresh-er's flail \_\_\_ and mid these danc-ing rocks at once and ev - er It flung up

T Or chaf-fy grain be-neath the thresh-er's flail \_\_\_ and mid these danc-ing rocks at once and ev - er It flung up

B Or chaf-fy grain be-neath the thresh-er's flail \_\_\_ and mid these danc-ing rocks at once and ev - er It flung up

Pno.

I

II *f*

III

IV *f* B.D. + Tam-Tam *mp* *sf* B.D. w/ very hard mall.

V *sf*

VI

VII

allarg. 104 Very Slow (♩ = 48)

S  
mo-ment-ly the sa-cred ri-ver

A  
mo-ment-ly the sa-cred ri-ver

T  
mo-ment-ly the sa-cred ri-ver  
And 'mid this tu-mult Ku-bla heard from far —

B  
mo-ment-ly the sa-cred ri-ver

Pno.

*ff* *p*

6 5 3

I Timpani

*sf* < > *p*

II

III Bamboo Wind Chimes

*sf* >

IV

V w/ very soft mallet.

*n* *pp*

VI Sm. B.D. + Tam-Tam

Spring Drum (slow tremolo, cresc. e dim. ad lib.)

*sf* *p* < >

VII

108

S

A

T

B

Pno.

I

II

III

IV

V

VI

VII

Percussion

An - ces - tral voi - ces pro - phe - sy - ing war!

Crotales

Wind Gong bowed

Tam-Tam bowed

Xylo.

Splash Cym. bowed

*f*

*mp*

*p*

*n*

3

5



117 Doppio Movimento (♩ = 96)

116

S *mf*  
A dam-sel with a dul-ci-mer —

A *mf*

T

B

Pno.

I

II *mp*  
Vibes

III *sf*  
Bamboo Wind Chimes

IV *sf*

V *mp*  
w/ hard mall.

VI

VII *p*  
Sizzle Cym.

122

S  
In a vi - sion once I saw, \_\_\_\_\_ It was an A - bys - sin - i - an maid \_\_\_\_\_ and on her dul - ci - mer she \_\_\_\_\_ played \_\_\_\_\_

A  
In a vi - sion once I saw, \_\_\_\_\_ It was an A - bys - sin - i - an maid \_\_\_\_\_ and on her dul - ci - mer she \_\_\_\_\_ played \_\_\_\_\_

T  
8

B

Pno.

I

II  
*mp*

III

IV

V  
Sus. Cym.  
w/ tri. beater

VI  
*p*

VII  
2 Triangles  
*p*

128 **130** *f*

S Sing-ing of Mount — A - bor - a!

A Sing-ing of Mount — A - bor - a!

T *f* Could I re - vive —

B

Pno.

I

II *mp* *f*

III **Chimes** *mp*

IV **Xylo. w/ soft mall.** *mp*

V *mp* *f*

VI

VII

132

S

A

T  
 8 with - in me her sym - pho - ny and

B  
 her sym - pho - ny and

*f*

Pno.

132

I

II

III

IV

V

VI  
 Sus. Cym.  
 w/ soft mallet.  
*p* *f*

VII

132

135

S

A

T  
8  
song, To such a deep de - light with - in me \_\_\_\_

B  
song, To such a deep de - light with - in me \_\_\_\_

Pno.

I

II

III

IV

V

VI  
China Cym.  
w/ soft mallet.  
*p* ————— *f*

VII

138 *f* (♩. = ♩.) (♩. = ♩.)

S That with mu - sic loud and long.

A That with mu - sic loud and long.

T That with mu - sic loud and long.

B That with mu - sic loud and long.

Pno.

I *mf* *ff*

II

III

IV B.D. *f*

V

VI Sm. B.D. *p* *f*

VII Timb. + Cym.'s *f*

143 *f*  
S I would build that dome

143 *f*  
A I would build that dome

143 *f*  
T I would build that dome

143 *f*  
B In Xan a du, In

Pno.

143 *mp*  
I

143  
II

143  
III

P  
e  
r  
c  
u  
s  
s  
i  
o  
n

143 + Tam-Tam  
IV

143 *ff* *mf*  
V

143 Toms + China  
VI

143  
VII

148 *fp* *f*

S in air, That sun - ny dome! Those caves

A in air That sun - ny dome! Those caves

T in air, That sun - ny dome! Those caves

B Xan - a - du In Xan - a - du,

148 Pno.

148 I *ff* *mp* *mf*

148 II

148 III Bamboo Wind Chimes *sf*

148 IV *f*

148 V *f*

148 VI *f*

148 VII + Bongos Glass Wind Chimes *sf*

153 *fp* *f* *fp* <

S of ice! And all who heard should see them there!

A of ice! And all who heard should see them there!

T of ice! And all who heard should see them there!

B In Xan - a - du In Xan - a -

Pno.

I

II Crotales *ff*

III Chimes *ff*

IV

V

VI

VII

S *f* And all should cry Be - ware!

A *f* And all should cry Be - ware!

T *f* And all should cry Be - ware!

B du, In Xan - a - du In

Pno. *sf*

I *ff* *f*

II

III

IV *5:3*

V

VI *4* *5:3*

VII *4* *5:3*

163

S  
Be - ware! His flash - ing eyes, his float - ing

A  
Be - ware! His flash - ing eyes, his float - ing

T  
Be - ware! His flash - ing eyes, his float - ing

B  
Xan - a - du, In Xan - a - du

Pno.

I

II

III

P  
e  
r  
c  
u  
s  
s  
i  
o  
n

IV  
w/ very hard mallet.  
*ff* *f*

V

VI

VII

169

168

(♩ = ♩)

*ff*

S

hair!

Weave a cir - cle round him thrice,

A

hair!

Weave a cir - cle round him thrice,

T

hair!

Weave a cir - cle round him thrice,

B

Weave a cir - cle,

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

Pno.

168

b

P  
e  
r  
c  
u  
s  
s  
i  
o  
n

Crotales

168

*f*

168

*ff*

*mp*

168

*ff*

*mp*

168

168

*ff*

*mp*

168

168

174

S  
And close your eyes with ho - ly dread, For

A  
and close your eyes with dread,

T  
and close your eyes, for

B  
And close your eyes,

Pno.

I  
*f*

II  
*ff* *mp* *ff* *mp*

III  
*ff* *mp* *ff* *mp*

IV

V  
*ff* *mp* *ff* *mp*

VI

VII

S  
he on hon - ey - dew hath \_\_\_\_\_ fed, and drunk the milk of

A  
For he hath fed, and drunk the milk of

T  
\_\_\_\_\_ he, \_\_\_\_\_ for he hath \_\_\_\_\_ fed, and drunk the milk of

B  
for \_\_\_\_\_ he \_\_\_\_\_ hath \_\_\_\_\_ fed and drunk the milk of

Pno.

P  
e  
r  
c  
u  
s  
s  
i  
o  
n

I  
II  
III  
IV  
V  
VI  
VII

Glass Wind Chimes

189 Even Faster (♩. = 144)

S  
Par - a - dise! In Xan - a - du,

A  
Par - a - dise! In Xan - a - du, In Xan - a - du,

T  
Par - a - dise! In Xan - a - du, In Xan - a - du,

B  
Par - a - dise! In Xan - a - du, In Xan - a - du,

Pno.

I  
Timpani  
*mf*

II  
Sus. Cym.  
bowed  
*mf*

III  
Shekere  
*mf*

IV  
*mf*

V  
*mf*

VI

VII

S  
In Xan - a - du, In Xan - a -

A  
In Xan - a - du, In Xan - a - du, In Xan - a -

T  
In Xan - a - du, In Xan - a - du, In Xan - a -

B  
In Xan - a - du, In Xan - a - du, In Xan - a -

Pno.

I  
*f*

II  
*mf*

III  
*f*

IV  
*f*

V  
*f*

VI  
*mf*

VII

*allarg.*

199

S  
du did Kub - la Khan!

A  
du did Kub - la - Khan!

T  
du did Kub - la - Khan!

B  
du did Kub - la - Khan!

Pno.

I  
*ff* 6 3

II  
Crotales  
*ff*

III  
Chimes  
*ff*

IV  
*ff* 3

V  
Mahler Hammer  
or Slapstick  
*ffz*

VI  
*ff* 6 3

VII  
*ff* 6 3

203 Expansive, with freedom (♩ = 58)

S  
A  
T  
B

Crystal Glasses

*pp* \* - Played by members of the chorus. Rub lightly with moistened finger around the edge of the glass.

Pno.

*mf*

I  
II  
III  
IV  
V  
VI  
VII

scrape across tubes w/ xylo. mall., senza Ped.

Xylo.

Crotales (bowed)

Wind Gong bowed

Tam-Tam bowed

Splash Cym. bowed

*fff*

*p*

*ff*

*ffz*

*p*

*f*

*p*

*f*

206

S

A

T

B

Crystal Glasses

Pno.

I

II

III

IV

V

VI

VII

Percussion

Crystal Glasses part: *f*

Percussion part (IV): *pp*