

O MAGNA VASTI CRETA

8 Women's Voices and String Quartet

Recording: New World 80525

Duration: ca. 9 minutes



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Vocal ranges:

The image displays eight musical staves, numbered 1 through 8, each representing a different vocal part. Each staff contains a single note with a slur extending upwards to a higher note, illustrating the range of the voice. The notes are positioned on various lines and spaces of the five-line staff, showing a general upward trend in pitch from staff 1 to staff 8. The notation is in treble clef, and the notes are quarter notes.

In a piece such as this, in which each part usually enters independently, it is difficult to notate dynamics, especially since a lot of them are written into the piece, created by the voicings. I have tried to indicate areas where changes in dynamic levels are needed, but rather than follow them strictly, it would be better to let the conductor determine the parameters and pace of changes. In all cases, a gradual change from one level to another is preferred, rather than abrupt changes.

The strings should try to match their sound, especially when playing unisons. Vibrato can be used - enough to create a nice sound, but not so much that the tone loses its focus.

O Magna Vasti Creta

Queen.

Wanassa.
ancient Cretan

But how did it all begin?

Ma com'era cominciato tutto?

Holiness, queen of heaven.

Hosia potna theon.
Euripides, *The Bacchantes*

Glorious Ariadne.

Ariadni agaklea
ancient Greek

Oh mighty, awe-inspiring Crete.

O magna vasti Creta.
Seneca, *Phaedra (Hippolytus)*

Oh holy places of Crete.

O thalameuma kureton zdathoi teh Kretas.
Euripides, *The Bacchantes*

The vowels and consonants in the transliterated Greek should be sung as in Italian. Especially in the first part of the piece, each part usually only sings one syllable of a word, with entries staggered so that the entire word is sung. I have used hyphens and punctuation to indicate these "orphan" syllables (i.e. for the word "Wanassa," "Wa-", is the first syllable; "-nas-", is the second; and "-sa." is the third).

All translations are by Mary Jane Leach.

O MAGNA VASTI CRETA

Mary Jane Leach
(1997)

• = 84 Mysterious

1 *p* Ma ——— co ———

2 *p* Ma ——— co ———

3

4

5 *p* Wa —, —sa. ———

6 *p* —nas —, ———

7 *p* Wa —, —sa. —nas —, ———

8 *p* —nas —, ——— Wa —, —sa. ———

FOR PERUSAL ONLY

Violin 1 *p*

Violin 2 *p*

Viola

Cello

9

1 — -ra?

2 — -ra?

3 *p* -m'e-, Ma, ma, *mp* ma,

4 *p* -m'e-, Ma, ma, *mp* ma,

5 Wa-, -sa. -nas-,

6 -nas-, Wa-, -sa.

7 -nas-, *mp* -nas-,

8 *mp* Wa-, -sa. Wa-,

9

V1 *mp*

V2

Va *p* *mp*

C *p* *mp*

17 *mp*

1 co-, -ra? co-, ra?

2 *mp* co-, -ra? co-, -ra?

3 -m'e-, Ma, -m'e-, Ma,

4 -m'e-, Ma, -m'e-, Ma,

5 *mp* Wa-, -sa. -sa. -nas-, Wa-,

6 *mp* -nas-, Wa- nas-, Wa-, -sa.

7 -nas-, Wa-, -sa.

8 -sa. Wa-, -sa. -nas-, Wa-,

17

V1

V2 *mp*

Va

C

25

1 *mf* co-, -ra? co-, -ra?

2 co-, -ra? co-, -ra?

3 -m'e-, Ma, -m'e-,

4 -m'e-, Ma, -m'e-,

5 -sa. -m'e-, Co-,

6 -nas-, Co-, -ra? -m'e-,

7 -nas-, Ma, ma, ma co-, -ra? Ma,

8 -sa. Ma co-, -m'e-, Ma

25

V1 *mf*

V2 *mf*

Va *mf*

C *mf*

32

1 co-, -ra? Ma, -m'e-, Ma,

2 co-, -ra? co-, -ra?

3 Ma, -m'e-, Co-, -ra? -ra?

4 Ma, -m'e-, Co-, -ra? -m'e-,

5 -ra? -m'e-, -m'e-, Ma,

6 Co-, -ra? -m'e-, co-,

7 -m'e-, Ma, -m'e-, Ma, -ra? -nas-,

8 co-, -ra? co-, -ra? co- m'e-, Wa-, -sa.

32

V1

V2

Va

C

39

1 ma, ma, ma, ma, Ma,

2 co-, co-, co-, co-, co-

3 co-, co-, co-, -ra?

4 Ma, ma, ma, -m'e-,

5 Ma, -m'e-, Ma, Co-, -cia-, tu-,

6 co-, -ra? co-, -min-, -to, -to?

7 Wa-, -sa. -nas-, Wa-, -sa. -nas-, -nas-, -sa.

8 -nas-, Wa-, -sa. -nas-, Wa-, -sa.

39

V1

V2

Va

C

46

1 *f* Ma, Ma, ma, Ma, -m'e-,

2 *f* co-, co-, -co, co-, co-,

3 -ra? -ra? -ra? co-,

4 -m'e-, -m'e-, -m'e-, Ma,

5 Co-, tu-, -cia-, Co-,

6 -min-, -to? -to-, -min-,

7 *f* co-, -cia-, Co-, tu-, Ma, ma,-

8 *f* Ma, -to-, -min-, -to? co-,

46

V1 *f*

V2 *f*

Va *f*

C *f*

54

1 *mf* -m'e-, Ma, -m'e-,

2 -ra? -ra? Ma, *mf*

3 co-, co-, co-, co-, co-, *mf*

4 Ma, ma, Ma, ma, co-, *mf*

5 -cia-, tu-, Ma, ma, co-, co-, -ra?

6 -to, -to? co-, Ma, ma, -m'e-,

7 ma, -m'e-, Co-, -ra? -m'e-, Co-, -ra?

8 co-, co-, -ra? -m'e-, Co-, -ra? -m'e-,

54

V1

V2

Va

C

61

1 Ma, -m'e-, -m'e-, -me? Ma, ma, co-,

2 -m'e-, Ma, -ra? -ra? Co-, co-, Ma,

3 -ra? co-, Ma, Ma, -min-, tu-,

4 -ra? co-, co-, co-, -cia-, -to?

5 *mf* Ma -m'e-, Co-, -ra? Co-, -to-, -ra?

6 *mf* Ma, co-, -ra? -m'e-, -ra? Ma, -m'e-,

7 *mf* -m'e-, Ma, -m'e-, Co-, -m'e-, ma, Ma,

8 *mf* Co-, -ra? co-, -ra? -m'e-, -ra? co-,

61

V1 *mf*

V2 *mf*

Va *mf*

C *mf*

68

1 *decresc.*
-m'e-, -m'e-,

2 *decresc.*
me? -ra? -ra?

3
Ma, Ma,

4
co-, co-,

5 *decresc.*
Co-, -ra? co-, co-, Co-,

6
-m'e-, -m'e-, Ma, ma,

7 *decresc.* *mp*
-ra? Ma, ma, -m'e-, -m'e-, -nas-,

8 *decresc.* *mp*
co-, Co-, co-, co-, -ra? -ra? Wa-,

68

V1

V2 *decresc.*

Va *decresc.*

C *decresc.*

75

1 *reverently* *mp* Ho- sia pot- na the-

2 *mp* Ho- sia pot- na the-

3 *mp* Wa-,

4 *mp* -nas-,

5 *mp* -sa.

6 *mp* -sa. -sa. -sa.

7 -nas-, -nas-,

8 Wa-, Wa-,

75

V1

V2

Va

C

83

1 -on.

2 -on.

3 *mf* A- ri- ad- ni a- ga- kle- a. A- ri- ad- ni a- ga- kle- a.

4 *mf* A- ri- ad- ni a- ga- kle- a. A- ri- ad- ni a- ga- kle- a.

5 *mf* -nas-, _____ -nas-, _____ Wa-, _____ -sa. _____

6 *mf* Wa-, -sa. Wa-, -sa. -nas-, Wa-, _____

7 *mf* -nas-, _____ -nas-, _____ Wa-, _____ -sa. _____

8 *mf* Wa-, -sa. Wa-, -sa. -nas-, Wa-, _____

83

V1

V2

Va

C

91

mf

1 Wa-, -sa. Ho- sia, ho- sia pot- na

mf

2 -nas-, Ho- sia, ho- sia pot- na

3 A- ri- ad- ni a- ga- kle- a.

4 A- ri- ad- ni a- ga- kle- a.

5 -nas-, Wa-, -sa. -nas-, Wa-, -sa. -nas-,

6 -sa. -nas-, Wa-, -sa. -nas-, Wa-,

7 -nas-, Wa-, -sa. -nas-, Wa-, -sa. -nas-,

8 -sa. -nas-, Wa-, -sa. -nas-, Wa-,

91

V1

V2

Va

C

99

1 the- on. Wa-, -sa. Ho- - sia, *f*

2 the- on. -nas-, Ho- - sia, *f*

3 A- ri- ad- ni a- ga- - kle- a. A- ri- ad- ni a- ga- *f*

4 A- ri- ad- ni a- ga- - kle- a. A- ri- ad- ni a- ga- *f*

5 Wa-, -sa. -nas-, Wa-, -sa. -nas-, Wa-, sa. *f*

6 -sa. -nas-, Wa-, -sa. -nas-, Wa-, -sa. -nas-, *f*

7 Wa-, -sa. -nas-, Wa-, -sa. -nas-, Wa-, -sa. *f*

8 -sa. -nas-, Wa-, -sa. -nas-, Wa-, -sa. -nas-, *f*

99

V1

V2

Va

C

107

1 *mf* ho- sia pot- na the- on. Wa-, -sa. Ho- sia pot- na the-

2 *mf* ho- sia pot- na the- on. -nas-, Ho- sia pot- na the-

3 *mf* -kle- a. A- ri- ad- ni a- ga- kle- a.

4 *mf* -kle- a. A- ri- ad- ni a- ga- - kle- a.

5 *mf* -nas-, Wa-, -sa. -nas-, Wa-, -sa. -nas-,

6 *mf* Wa-, -sa. -nas-, Wa-, -sa. -nas-, Wa-,

7 *mf* -nas-, Wa-, -sa. -nas-, Wa-, -sa. -nas-,

8 *mf* Wa-, -sa. -nas-, Wa-, -sa. -nas-, Wa-,

107

V1

V2

Va

C

114 *Solemnly*

1 -on.

2 -on.

3

4

5 *mp*
— Wa—, —sa—

6 *mp*
-sa. -nas—

7 *mp* *mp*
— Wa—, —sa— O, —

8 *mp* *mp*
-sa. -nas— O, — O,—

114 *Solemnly* *cantabile*

V1 *mp*

V2 *cantabile* *mp*

Va *mp*

C *mp*

121

1 *mp* Mag- na va- sti Cre- ta. O tha- la- meu- ma ku- re-

2 *mp* Mag- na va- sti Cre- ta. O tha- la- meu- ma ku- re-

3 *mp* O mag- na va- sti Cre- ta. O mag- na va- sti Cre- ta, mag- na

4 *mp* O mag- na va- sti Cre- ta. O mag- na va- sti Cre- ta, mag- na

5 *mp* Cre-, Cre-,

6 *mp* Cre-, Cre-,

7 O, O, -ta. O, -ta.

8 O, O, O, O, O,

121

solemnly

V1

solemnly

V2

Va

C

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for a choral and instrumental piece. It consists of eight vocal staves (1-8) and four instrumental staves (V1, V2, Va, C). The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The vocal parts 1 and 2 have lyrics: 'Mag- na va- sti Cre- ta. O tha- la- meu- ma ku- re-'. Parts 3 and 4 have lyrics: 'O mag- na va- sti Cre- ta. O mag- na va- sti Cre- ta, mag- na'. Parts 5 and 6 have lyrics: 'Cre-, Cre-,'. Part 7 has lyrics: 'O, O, -ta. O, -ta.'. Part 8 has lyrics: 'O, O, O, O, O,'. The instrumental parts are marked 'solemnly'. The score includes a large watermark 'FOR PERUSALONLY' diagonally across the page.

127

1 -ton zda- thoi teh— Kre- tas. O tha- la- meu- ma ku- re- *cresc.*

2 -ton zda- thoi teh— Kre- tas. O tha- la- meu- ma ku- re- ton zda- thoi- teh— *cresc.*

3 va- sti Cre- - ta. O mag- na va- sti Cre- ta, mag- na va- sti Cre- *cresc.*

4 va- sti Cre- - ta. O mag- na va- sti Cre- ta, mag- na *cresc.*

5 Cre-, _____ *cresc.* Cre-, _____ Cre-, _____

6 Cre-, _____ *cresc.* Cre-, _____

7 O, -ta. O, -ta. O, -ta. *cresc.*

8 O, O, O, O, O, O, *cresc.*

127

V1 *cresc.*

V2 *cresc.*

Va *cresc.*

C *cresc.*

132

1 *mf*
-ton zda- thoi teh Kre- tas. O tha- la- meu- ma ku- re- ton zda-

2 *mf*
Kre- tas. O tha- la- meu- ma ku- re- ton zda- thoi teh—

3 *mf*
- ta. O mag- na va- sti Cre- ta, mag- na va- sti Cre-

4 *mf*
va- sti Cre- - ta. O mag- na va- sti Cre- ta, mag- na va-

5 *mf*
Cre-, _____ Cre-, _____

6 *mf*
Cre-, _____ Cre-, _____

7 *mf*
-ta. -ta. O, -ta. -ta.

8 *mf*
O, O, O, O, O,

132

V1 *mf*

V2 *mf*

Va *mf*

C *mf*

137

1 -thoi teh— Kre- tas. O tha- la- meu- ma ku- re- ton zda- thoi teh— Kre-

2 Kre- tas. O tha- la- meu- ma ku- re- ton zda- thoi teh— Kre- tas.

3 - ta. O mag- na va- sti Cre- ta, mag- na va- sti Cre- - ta.

4 -sti Cre- - ta. O mag- na va- sti Cre- ta, mag- na va- sti Cre- ta.—

5 — O mag- na va- sti Cre- ta, Cre- ta. O—

6 Cre-, — O mag- na va- sti Cre- ta. — O,

7 -ta. -ta. Cre-, O va- sti Cre- ta, Cre-

8 — O, O, — -ta, — -ta. O va- sti Cre-

137

V1

V2

Va

C

142

1 *f* -tas. O tha- la- meu- ma ku- re- ton zda- thoi teh Kre- tas.

2 *f* O tha- la- meu- ma ku- re- ton zda- thoi teh Kre- tas. Ho-

3 *f* O mag- na va- sti Cre- ta, mag- na va- sti Cre- ta. Ho- sia

4 *f* — O mag- na va- sti Cre- ta, mag- na va- sti Cre- ta.

5 *f* va- sti Cre- ta. Cre-, O va- sti Cre- ta. Cre-, O va- sti

6 *f* O mag- na va- sti Cre- ta. O mag- na va- sti Cre- ta. O

7 *f* -ta. O mag- na va- sti Cre- ta. Cre-, O mag- na va- sti Cre- ta.

8 *f* -ta. Cre-, O mag- na va- sti Cre- ta. O va- sti Cre-

142

V1 *f* $\bar{0}$ $\bar{0}$ $\bar{0}$ $\bar{0}$ $\bar{0}$

V2 *f*

Va

C *f*

147

1 Ho- sia— pot- na, ho- sia— the- on. A- ri- ad- ni, ho-

2 -sia— the- on, ho- sia— pot- na, ho- sia— the- on. A-

3 pot- na, ho- sia— the- on. A- ri- ad-

4 Ho- sia— the- on, ho- sia— pot- na, ho- sia— the- on.

5 Cre- ta. O va- sti Cre- ta, mag- na va- sti Cre- ta. Cre- ta, mag- na

6 vas- sti Cre- ta. O va- sti Cre- ta, mag- na va- sti Cre- ta. Cre- ta,

7 O va- sti Cre- ta. O va- sti Cre- ta, mag- na va- sti Cre- ta. Cre-

8 -ta. O va- sti Cre- ta. O va- sti Cre- ta, mag- na va- sti Cre- ta.

147

V1

V2

Va

C

154 *decresc.*

1 -sia— pot- na— the- - on._____

2 -ri- ad- ni, ho- sia— pot- na— the- - on._____

3 -ni, ho- sia— pot- na— the- - on._____

4 A- ri- ad- ni, ho- sia— pot- na— the- - on._____

5 va- sti Cre- ta. Mag- na va- sti Cre- ta. Mag- na va- sti Cre- ta.

6 mag- na va- sti Cre- ta. Mag- na va- sti Cre- ta. Mag- na va- sti Cre-

7 -ta, mag- na va- sti Cre- ta. Mag- na va- sti Cre- ta.

8 Cre- ta, mag- na va- sti Cre- ta. Mag- na va- sti Cre- ta.

154 *decresc.*

V1 _____

V2 _____

Va _____

C _____

decresc.

160

1 *mf* -na, _____ *mysterious* pot-, _____ -on. _____ -ad-, _____ -kle-, _____

2 *mf* the-, _____ -sia, the-, -ri-, a-,

3 *mf* Pot-, -on. -na, _____ -ni, _____ -a.

4 _____ *mf* Ho-, _____ A-, _____ -ga-,

5

6 _____
ta.

7

8 _____ *mf* _____
Wa-, _____

160

V1

V2

Va

C

168

1 -ad-, -kle-, -ni, -ga-, *cresc.*

2 -ri-, a-, -ad-, -a-, *cresc.*

3 -ni, -a. -ri-, a-, -a-, *cresc.*

4 A-, -a-, A-, -a-, *cresc.*

5 -a-, -nas-, -a-, *mf* *cresc.*

6 -ga-, Wa-, -sa., -a-, *mf* *cresc.*

7 -nas-, Wa-, -sa., Wa-, -sa., *mf* *cresc.*

8 -sa., -nas-, -nas-, *cresc.*

168

V1

V2

Va

C

175

1 -a. -sia, -sia,

2 -kle-, Ho-, Ho-,

3 -sia, -sia,

4 Ho-, the-, Ho-, the-,

5 -kle-, pot-, pot-,

6 -a. -na, -on. Ho-, -na, -on.

7 -nas-, Wa-, -sa. -nas-,

8 Wa-, -sa. -nas-, Wa-, -sa.

175

V1

V2

Va

C

181

1 *decresc.*
-ni, -ga-, -a.

2 *decresc.*
-ad-, -a-, -kle-,

3 *decresc.* *mf*
-ri-, a-, -a-, -ri-,

4 *decresc.* *mf*
A-, -a-, A-,

5 *mf*
-a-, Wa-, -sa.

6 *mf*
-nas-,

7 *decresc.*
Wa-, -sa-, -nas-,

8 *decresc.*
-nas-, Wa-, -sa.

181

V1

V2

Va

C

186

1 *mf* -ni, -a-, -a. *decresc.*

2 *mf* -ad-, -a-, -kle-, *decresc.*

3 a-, -a-, *decresc.*

4 -ga-,

5 -a-, *decresc.*

6 -a-, *decresc.*

7 *mf* -nas-, Wa-, -sa-, -nas-, *decresc.*

8 *mf* Wa-, -sa-, -nas-, Wa-, -sa. *decresc.*

186

V1

V2

Va

C