

BENJAMIN BRITTEN

Phaedra

Dramatic cantata for mezzo-soprano and  
small orchestra

Op. 93

Words from a verse translation of Racine's Phèdre  
by

ROBERT LOWELL

FULL SCORE

FABER *ff* MUSIC

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translation of Racine's *Phèdre*

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## PROLOGUE

**Broadly flowing** (♩. = 54)

The score is for the Prologue of Benjamin Britten's opera *Phaedra*. It is in 3/8 time with a tempo of ♩. = 54. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#). The score includes parts for Timpani, Percussion (Tubular Bell and Cymbals), Voice, Harpsichord, Violins (1 and 2), Violas, Cellos, and Double Basses. The Timpani part uses wooden sticks and has a dynamic of *mf*. The Percussion part includes Tubular Bell (*f*) and Cymbals (always clashed, *dry*, *mf*). The Violins and Cellos have various dynamics and markings, including *f*, *fp*, *p*, and *f*. The Double Basses have a dynamic of *p*. The Harpsichord part is mostly rests. The Voice part is also mostly rests.

Timpani (wooden sticks) *mf*

Percussion 1 Tubular Bell *f*

Percussion 2 Cymbals (always clashed) *dry* *mf*

Voice

Harpsichord

Violins 1 div. last 2 or 3 players *f* (non div.) *fp*

Violins 2 div. last 2 or 3 players *p*

Violas div. *f* last 2 or 3 players *p*

Cellos div. (solo with tutti) last 2 or 3 players *f* *p*

Double Basses *p*

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**Timp.** *p* repeat *sim.*

**Perc.** 1 *p* Cym. 2 Bell *f*

**Voice** PHAEDRA *freely* (♩ = ♩ approx. of orchestra) *f*  
In May, in bril - liant A - thens, on my mar - riage day. —

**Vln. 1** *f* *fp*

**Vln. 2** *f* *p*

**Vla.** *f*

**Vc.** (nat.) *f* *p*

**Db.** *p*