



KING SAUL

An Oratorio in Four Acts
For Soloists, Mixed Chorus & Orchestra

Words by
Hubert Parry and the Holy Bible (Old Testament)

Music by
C. Hubert H. Parry

Composed for the Birmingham Musical Festival - 1894

HORN 2

COVER IMAGE

“David Playing the Harp before Saul”
Rembrandt Harmenszoon van Rijn, c.1629
Stadelesches Kunstinstitut, Frankfurt



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The “renaissance” in English music is generally agreed to have started in the late Victorian period, beginning roughly in 1880. Public demand for major works in support of the annual choral festivals held throughout England at that time was considerable which led to the creation of many large scale works for orchestra with soloists and chorus.

Although a number of those works were engraved, printed and are regularly performed today, performance scores for a considerable number of compositions, both large-scale and more intimate works, are not available. These works were either never engraved or were engraved and printed but are no longer available in the publishers’ catalogues. While the existence of these works is documented in biographies of the composers, the ability to study and, most importantly, to perform these compositions is not possible.

Changes in the International copyright laws, coupled with changing musical tastes, played a pivotal role in creating this void. As a result, music publishers lost the ability to generate revenue from the sale/rental of such music. In 1964, holograph and copyist scores from both Novello and from publishers it represented were offered to the British Library and the Royal College of Music Library (see *The RCM Novello Library – The Musical Times*, Feb. 1983 by Jeremy Dibble).

These autograph full score manuscripts along with copies of engraved vocal scores, widely available through various online library sources, are now the only resources available for studying and performing these works.

The English Heritage Music Series has been created to ensure that these compositions are preserved, are accessible for scholarly research and, most importantly, are available for performance by future generations. Its mission is to:

- Source non-engraved/out-of-print English composer compositions that are in the U.S. public domain
- Preserve these compositions through the preparation of performance scores using notation software
- Provide open Internet access to the scores to facilitate study, performance and sharing of performance material (program notes, audio, reviews, etc.)

In preparing the English Heritage Music Series editions, every effort has been made to adhere strictly to the notation contained in the manuscripts. Because of the passage of time and its effect on the condition of the manuscript, the absence of clear information often times by the composer in notating divided instruments, and with emendations in the composer and other hands resulting from use of the manuscript in performance, there were numerous circumstances which required interpretation and decisions for notes, accidentals, dynamics, articulations and tempi. Should questions arise in the use of these editions, the composers’ autograph manuscripts and the Novello vocal scores should be consulted for clarification.

Matthew W. Mehaffey
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Source Information

Autograph Manuscript:

Royal College of Music Library, London: MS 4247

Vocal Score:

Novello’s Original Octavo Edition no. 8207, Novello, Ewer & Co., 1894

Royal College of Music Library

Jonathan Frank, Ass’t. Librarian - jonathan.frank@rcm.ac.uk

Manuscript Transcription & Score Preparation

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IMAGE: Samuel Blessing Saul Book of Samuel 9:21 Illustration by Gustave Doré 1891

Horn (D) 2, Horn (E) 2, Horn (E♭) 2 & Horn (F) 2

KING SAUL

C. Hubert H. Parry

Act I - Introduction

Hn in Eb

Andante



Horn (D) 2, Horn (E) 2, Horn (E♭) 2 & Horn (F) 2

81

E

p

mf cresc.

Meno mosso.

91

3

p

dim.

94-96

p

pp

The musical score consists of two staves. The top staff begins at measure 81 with a dynamic **p**. The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes. A crescendo instruction *mf cresc.* is followed by a fermata symbol. The bottom staff begins at measure 91 with a dynamic **p** and a *dim.* instruction. The tempo changes to **3** (three measures). The dynamic remains **p** with a fermata. Measure 94-96 follows with a dynamic **p**, a key change to **4**, and a final dynamic **pp**.

Act I - Scene I

Hn in F Allegro maestoso

3

11

20 **F**

28

36 **G** **H**

50

58 **J** **5**

69 **2** **rit.** **10** **2** **meno mosso** **pp** **poco cresc.**

79

96 **cresc.** **ff** **3**

Allegro moderato

101-103

Allegro moderato

6 3
105-110 116-118
Poco più mosso

119 3 3
120-122 127-129
mf cresc.

131 2
135-136
poco animando.

4 2
139-142 143-144
p

149 L meno mosso, ad. lib. 3 a tempo 7
153-155 156-162

163 6
165-170 f
mf
meno mosso, allargando *colla voce.* *a tempo animato.* *Allegro molto*

174 2
181-182
sf *mf*

183 6 M 6
192-197 198-203 f
f *sf* *sf*

209 2
213-214 f *cresc.* *rit.*

217 Lento 3 Allegro moderato. rit. Lento 6

Act I - Scene II

Hn in F Allegretto grazioso **A**

20 **6** **5**

1-20 21-26 Hn 1 30-34 **p**

36 **2** **1** **13**

38-39 43-55 **p**

57 **7** **1**

59-65 *mf* *cresc.* **p**

71 **17**

73-89 Cl. 1

94 Allegro vivace **1**

f

101 **2**

102-103 **3**

D

109-111 *mf*

Allargando.

E

118

125

131

6

134-139

mf

142

3 **F** 1

144-146

f

151

1

Poco allargando.

159

3 **G** 6

160-162 *f* 165-170

p

L'istesso tempo [Allegretto grazioso]

173

5

176-180

p

184

2 **H** 9

186-187 190-198

p

200

5 **J**

201-205

p

213

4

215-218

mf

cresc.

224

K

f = *p*

dim.

232-256

25

257 Saul sostenuto

What words are these? thou a - ged seer! What would the God of Is - ra - el with me? ***mf***

262 L

270 Meno mosso

278 M N allargando 2 1 284-285

287 rit... Tempo ed animando.

295

301 O Allegro vivace. Alla breve.

306

311 1 1

P 4 317-320 f

325

Q

> is placed above the first note."/>

333

339

R

> is placed above the eighth note in the second measure."/>

346

1

> is placed above the first note. Measure 1 ends with a repeat sign and a '1' above it."/>

353

360

S

> is placed above each note in the first measure."/>

366

5

sforzando (*sf*)

371-375

> is placed above the first note. Measure 5 ends with a long black bar indicating a sustained note or rest."/>

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376 T

382

389 U

396

403 rit...

409 W a tempo - poco meno mosso.

416 rit... a tempo

423

428

433 Con fuoco poco rit.

Act II - Scene I

Hn in F Recitative

12

2

4-5

9

1 1 1 1 >

f f f f

17

1 3 >

f 21-23 f

26 Allegro moderato

mf cresc.

33 A

1 mf f

42 > 1 >

mf f

51 B

1 >

f f

59

p

68 C

1 f

77 > >

< < p

This block contains the first ten staves of the musical score. It starts with a recitative section for Horn in F (measures 12-25). The score includes dynamic markings like *f*, *mf*, *cresc.*, *p*, and performance instructions like *>* and *<*. Measure 26 begins an *Allegro moderato* section. Measures 33, 51, and 68 are labeled with boxes A, B, and C respectively, likely indicating different melodic patterns or sections for rehearsal.

85 D

93 E
poco rit. a tempo 4
97-100 mf

103 F

111 Allargando rit G a tempo, animato

119 4
121-124 f

128

133 2 f H

140 J

143 2
146-147

148

K

153

L

159

165

M

170

176

O

182

P

187

rit.

Meno Allegro.

193

Q

198

1

204

Animando.

Allargando.

1

A musical score for piano, page 10, system 1. The score features a treble clef staff. A tempo marking of "210" is at the top left. The music consists of a series of eighth and sixteenth note patterns, primarily consisting of eighth-note pairs and sixteenth-note pairs. The notes are connected by horizontal beams. The first measure starts with an eighth note. The second measure starts with a sixteenth note. The third measure starts with an eighth note. The fourth measure starts with a sixteenth note. The fifth measure starts with an eighth note. The sixth measure starts with a sixteenth note. The seventh measure starts with an eighth note. The eighth measure starts with a sixteenth note.

Act II - Scene II

Hn in Eb Maestoso. poco rit. a tempo 8

Evil Spirit

Who shall dare hin - der thee,

17 A

from what is thy right. *f* $\overbrace{\quad \quad}$ *pp*

26 poco animando. animando. B Tempo I 2

36 1 animando. 3 1 *f* 38-40 *f*

46 Allegro moderato. $\text{d} = \text{d}$ C 1 Vivace. Hn in F

mf $\overbrace{\quad \quad}$ *f*

54

ff

62

f $\overbrace{\quad \quad}$ *mf*

70 *pp* *p* $\overbrace{\quad \quad}$ *mf*

78 **D**

86

94 poco rit. **E** a tempo

103 Moderato.

107-112 To Hn in E♭ **6** 1 Animato.

116 Hn in E♭ **6** To Hn in F Hn in F

129 con mosso. **F** Allegro.

135 allargando. **4** 140-143

Allegro moderato - quasi agitato. ♩=♩

144

1

p ≈

150

G

p

155

159

H

1

2

164-165

167

6

169-174

mf cresc.

3

179-181

182

Allegro molto.

J

1

189

allargando

1

6

191-196

f

3

200-202

203

K

f

1

f ≈

211

8

214-221

p

224

230

L

237

245

2 2

247-248 f 251-252 sf

254

1

f

262

M

269

Vivacissimo.

dim.

1

276

p

> >

f 283-288

6

301

p

A musical score for piano, page 10, system 1. The score features a treble clef staff. The tempo is marked as 310. The music begins with a series of eighth and sixteenth notes, some of which have small vertical strokes above them. This is followed by a measure containing only rests. The next measure begins with a note, followed by a series of eighth and sixteenth notes, also with vertical strokes. The score continues with another measure of rests.

Musical score for the first section of the piece, starting at measure 336. The score consists of two staves. The top staff shows a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a common time signature. It contains measures 336 through 342. Measure 336 starts with a sixteenth note followed by eighth notes. Measures 337-338 show eighth notes. Measure 339 begins with a sixteenth note, followed by eighth notes. Measure 340 starts with a sixteenth note, followed by eighth notes. Measure 341 starts with a sixteenth note, followed by eighth notes. Measure 342 starts with a sixteenth note, followed by eighth notes. The bottom staff shows a bass clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a common time signature. It contains measures 336 through 342. Measure 336 starts with a quarter note followed by eighth notes. Measures 337-338 show eighth notes. Measure 339 begins with a quarter note, followed by eighth notes. Measures 340-341 show eighth notes. Measure 342 starts with a quarter note, followed by eighth notes.

Allegro moderato.

Musical score fragment 353. The page number 353 is at the top left. The music consists of a single melodic line on a treble clef staff. It features several grace notes (short vertical strokes) before the main notes. A fermata (a small bracket over two notes) is placed over the second and third notes. A crescendo arrow (>) points to the fourth note. The key signature changes to one sharp (F#) for the fifth note. The dynamic level is indicated as *f* (fortissimo) with a wavy line. Above the staff, the instruction "rit...." is written, followed by a large square containing the letter "R" with the text "a tempo" to its right.

Musical score for piano, page 10, measures 360-361. The score consists of two staves. The top staff shows a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a tempo of 360. The bottom staff shows a bass clef. Measure 360 starts with a half note followed by a whole note. Measure 361 begins with a fermata over a half note, followed by a dotted half note, a sharp sign, another dotted half note, a sharp sign, a fermata over a half note, a sharp sign, another dotted half note, a sharp sign, a fermata over a half note, a sharp sign, and a fermata over a half note.

Allargando.

369

rit... colla voce rit. S a tempo

376

rit. Meno mosso. 6 T animando.

383

387-392

395

p

400

406

412

V allargando.

419

f

427

rit. a tempo

434

W 1 rit..... animando. 4

442-445

446 Allegro non troppo.

446

Allegro non troppo.

2

X

1

452-453

460

f

465

470

7

mf

cresc.

482

p

mf

488-489

2

1

Animato

495

Z

488-489

501

3

poco rit. a tempo

1

p

cresc.

511

AA

ff

518

ff

525

BB

1

531

Andante sostenuto.

2

9

534-535 536-544

545

Evil Spirit

Allegro molto. $\text{d} = \text{b}$

What shall he have more but thy king - dom ?

ff

551

Animato.

cresc.

558

Act III - Scene I

Hn in F Andante

5
1-5 **p** poco cresc.

12 **A**
p

8 20-27 **mf** 4 35-38 **f**

39 **C**
6 40-45 **pp** 1 **pp**

53 **D**
5 55-59 **pp** 1 **f**

66 1 **mf**

75 **E** Animando.
p 1 1 **mf**

84 più mosso. 4 > > Allegro moderato. 8 91-98 **mf** < >
85-88 **p** 91-98 **mf** < >

102 5
104-108 **mf** <

115 **G** **10** poco animando. a tempo **1**

133 poco allargando. **H** largamente. **12** Allargando.

152 a tempo **K** **M** *dim.* **pp**

161 **4** Meno mosso. **14** Meno mosso. **2** Meno mosso. **4** David 8ba From this time forth,

188 rit... **O** a tempo **6** *mf* **<>** **pp**

202 **1** poco rit. **1** a tempo **mf**

213 **P** **3** **f** **p** poco rit.....

224 Poco più mosso. **1** **Q** **pp**

233 **1** **p** cresc. **f** dim. **2** **241-242**

243 R 5 12 David 8ba
 245-249 250-261 Let me hear thy voice, let me

265 S Allargando. a tempo
 see thy face. *f*

275 Animato. 1 1
 275-281 Measures showing eighth and sixteenth note patterns."/>

285 T 2 1 rit.
mf Allegro David 8ba
 Meno mosso. rit. 2 Who is this that look - eth forth as the morn - ing; fair as the morn,
 290-291 295-301
 302-303 305-306

313 V
 clear as the sun, ter - ri - ble as an *f*

322 13 David 8ba
 323-335 The hair of thine head is like pur - ple; in the tress - es there

342 W Animando.
p cresc.

352 Allegro molto. - alla breve 1
 352 Measures showing eighth and sixteenth note patterns."/>

361

X

6

366-371

p

374

rit.

1

383 a tempo

6

384-389

p < **mf**

Z

1

1

405

mf

1

f

414

rit.

Act III - Scene II

Hn in E Maestoso.

10 1-10 f>p 1 1 6 15-20

A 21 2 23-24 f 27-28

30 p

B stopped stopped Allegro energico. >>>

43 f

C Più allegro. 1 1 10 56-65

D

66 Allegro. Animando. f

E To Hn in E♭ meno mosso. rit... 4 16 74 1 2 77-78 80-83 84-99

Allegro tranquillo.

F 6 David 8ba Hn in E♭ 4

100-105 His arm shall be my shield and buck - ler. 112-115

rit. 2 G a tempo 4 pp

116-117 118-121

127

134 1 mf

141 1 H 1 p dim.

149

156 1 J Animando. f

163 Allegro con fuoco. 3 1

164-166 f

171 K 7

f 176-182

183

191

196

201

208

216

226

235

243



Act III - Scene III

Hn in F Allegro vivace

1-7 **f**

13 **A**

21 **mf**

29 *cresc.*

37 **B**

45 **1** **6**
49-54 **f**
p cresc.

58 **C**

67 **5** **5**
71-75
76-80 **p**

83 **mf** *cresc.*

92 **1** rit.....

101 **E** a tempo **7** **7** **F** **14**

102-108 109-115 118-128 129-142

143 **G** **9** **pp**

147-155 161 **2** **8**

164-165 **pp** 170-177

Maestoso ma non troppo Lento **4** L'istesso tempo **10** poco rit.

179-182 **p** 185-194 **mf**

a tempo, e poco più mosso **3**

197 **H** poco agitato **1** **1** **1** **1**

mf > **p** **sf** > **sf** > **sf** > **sf** >

208 **K** con fuoco **3**

198-200 **pp** 225-227

M allargando.

Più mosso - animando **5** **1** **1** **2**

228-232 **f** **#o** 239-240 **p**

rit. **2** Meno mosso. **3** **3** **3** **2**

242-243 **pp** 248-249

Horn (D) 2, Horn (E) 2, Horn (E♭) 2 & Horn (F) 2

O

250 Animando. **4** poco rit..... a tempo **1** **f**

261 Animato.

267 **P** sostenuto. **3** **p**

276 Lento maestoso. **4** **1**

287 **Q** **1**

295 **f**

303 rit..... **R** Allegro. **6** **309-314**

315 **S** **6** **p** **318-323**

2 **6** **T** **3**

David 8ba

340 animando.
Ho ! ye that guard your migh - ty King, in sleep ! *mf*

346 animando. Vivace.

354 **V**
ff

361 **W**
f >

368 Andante. **15** **1**
369-383 *sf*

390 **X** rit..... a tempo **7**
pp 397-403

404-410 Saul Be - cause my life was pre - cious in thine hand this day, And thou hast spar - ed

417 **6**
— to do me harm : *mf* <> 421-426 **p**

430 rit..... **4** **2**
435-438 439-440

441 a tempo accelerando.....

450

456 Allegro moderato.

466

474

480

489 Andante sostenuto. AA rit. a tempo Animato.
Michal
My be - lov - ed is chief - est a - mong ten

512 thou - sand, His head is as the most fine animando. 4

522-531 BB 10 poco rit. a tempo 9 4 Bsn 1 animando

549

poco cresc. **p**

CC

1 > 5

mf 564-568

DD

>

EE animando.

1 4 593-596 **mf**

3 3 3 3

2 **FF** 608-609 cresc. cresc.

cresc.

GG Animato. 9

f 630-638

639

646

647-650

HH

656

664

665-668

JJ

675

1 >

684

2

688-689

KK

693

700

LL

710

718

725

rit. molto.....

The musical score consists of a single staff in common time, starting with a treble clef. The key signature is one flat. The first six measures show a repeating pattern of eighth notes: D, E, E, D, F, G. Measures 7 and 8 show a similar pattern: E, D, C, B, A, G. Measure 9 starts with a B, followed by a G, A, G, B, and ends with a G. Measure 10 begins with a G, followed by an F, E, D, C, B, and ends with a G.

Act IV - Scene I

Hn in D Maestoso

4 3
1-4 10-12

A 2 3 Animando. **B** 4 1
13 15-16 19-21 22-25

27 9 To Hn in F
sf 29-37 **D** f > p f
accelerando.....

3 1 Più moto 5 Hn in F 4 Allegro
42-44 46-50 mf

55 ff

60

E 1 f
65

71 2
75-76

77 F ff f ff

Act IV - Scene II [Endor]

Hn in F Maestoso G.P.

10 **A**

25 **B**

40 **C**

67 **D**

108 largamente **E**

117 **3** **1**

Measure details: Measure 1: Dynamic **p**. Measure 10: Dynamic **pp**, Measure 11-17: Dynamic **7**. Measure 25: Dynamic **p**, Measure 31-33: Dynamic **p**, Measure 36-39: Dynamic **pp**. Measure 40: Dynamic **f**, Measure 44-47: Dynamic **p**, Measure 50-56: Dynamic **p**. Measure 67: Dynamic **sf**, Measure 69-71: Dynamic **p**, Measure 75-88: Dynamic **p**. Measure 89-104: Dynamic **mf**. Measure 108: Dynamic **f**. Measure 117: Dynamic **f**.

120-122

poco allargando Vivace.

126

135

137-138

144-152

Samuel and to - mor - row shalt thou and thy sons be with me

161

Lento espressivo $\text{d}=\text{d}$

164-166

171

cresc.

Molto Allegro

180

185

191

J

197

mf

cresc.

203

Largo.

206-209

1 **3** **F** **G** **H** **1** **1** **1** **4**

210

K

1 *mf* 2 *p* 216-217

219 2 1 *p* 220-221

rit. **L** Più mosso. 4

Ob. 1 238 6 *pp* 234-237

241-246

249 rit. Animato 8 255-262

5 263-267 *mf* 1 *f*

274

O

280 **P** 2 *p* 287-288 *poco animando* 2

cresc. *mf* 283-284 *Animando.* 9

289 *mf* 294-302

303 Q

mf 

309 R

f 

316 *molto rit. a tempo* 1 f

ff 

323 S 18

ff  328–345



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346

3

349-351

pp

1

Meno mosso.

358

T

Tranquillo

pp

367

meno mosso, ad lib. Largamente.

375

1

2

Lento.

381-382

385

Maestoso, sostenuto.

7

Hn 1

388-394

399

V

4

403-406

mf

408

f

mf

414

rit.....

3

415-417

mf

cresc.

f

Act IV - Scene III

Hn in F Maestoso energico.

1

f

6

11

A

1

mf

18

cresc.

24

cresc.

30

B

7

31-37

f

ff

42

C

f

dim.

46-47

mf

2

49

poco rit.

p — *mf* — *p*

56

D

a tempo

pp

p

62

E

F

G a tempo

H

poco rit. a tempo

3

119-121

122

pp

128

J

f

134

1

f

dim.

pp

p

rit.

140

K tempo tranquillo.

cresc.

mf

cresc.

145

rit.....

f

p



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