

Contents

The Great Learning, paragraph 1

2 pages

For chorus (speaking and playing whistles and stones) and organ.

Duration about 30 minutes

Composition dated 31.4.68

Content: WHAT THE GREAT LEARNING TEACHES IS — TO ILLUSTRATE ILLUSTRIOUS VIRTUE; TO RENOVATE THE PEOPLE; AND TO REST IN THE HIGHEST EXCELLENCE.

The Great Learning, paragraph 2

1 page

For singers and drummers.

Duration about 1 hour

Composition dated January 1969

Content: THE POINT WHERE TO REST BEING KNOWN, THE OBJECT OF PURSUIT IS THEN DETERMINED; AND THAT BEING DETERMINED, A CALM UNPERTURBEDNESS MAY BE ATTAINED TO. TO THAT CALMNESS THERE WILL SUCCEED A TRANQUIL REPOSE. IN THAT REPOSE THERE MAY BE CAREFUL DELIBERATION, AND THAT DELIBERATION WILL BE FOLLOWED BY THE ATTAINMENT (OF THE DESIRED END).

The Great Learning, paragraph 3

1 page

For large instruments and voices

Duration about 45 minutes

Composition dated 14.7.70

Content: THINGS HAVE THEIR ROOT AND THEIR BRANCHES. AFFAIRS HAVE THEIR END AND THEIR BEGINNING. TO KNOW WHAT IS FIRST AND WHAT IS LAST WILL LEAD NEAR TO WHAT IS TAUGHT (IN THE GREAT LEARNING).

The Great Learning, paragraph 4

5 pages

For chorus (shouting and playing ridged or notched instruments, sonorous substances, rattles or jingles) and organ.

Duration about 40 minutes.

Composition dated 10.4.70

Content: THE ANCIENTS WHO WISHED TO ILLUSTRATE ILLUSTRIOUS VIRTUE THROUGHOUT THE KINGDOM, FIRST ORDERED WELL THEIR OWN STATES. WISHING TO ORDER WELL THEIR STATES, THEY FIRST REGULATED THEIR FAMILIES. WISHING TO REGULATE THEIR FAMILIES, THEY FIRST CULTIVATED THEIR PERSONS. WISHING TO CULTIVATE THEIR PERSONS, THEY FIRST RECTIFIED THEIR HEARTS. WISHING TO RECTIFY THEIR HEARTS, THEY FIRST SOUGHT TO BE SINCERE IN THEIR THOUGHTS. WISHING TO BE SINCERE IN THEIR THOUGHTS, THEY FIRST EXTENDED TO THE UTMOST THEIR KNOWLEDGE. SUCH EXTENSION OF KNOWLEDGE LAY IN THE INVESTIGATION OF THINGS.

The Great Learning, paragraph 5

12 pages

For a large number of untrained musicians making gestures, performing actions, speaking, chanting and playing a wide range of instruments, plus, optionally, 10 singers singing 'Ode Machines' which may also be performed separately.

Duration about 2 hours

Composed 1969-70

Content: THINGS BEING INVESTIGATED, KNOWLEDGE BECAME COMPLETE. THEIR KNOWLEDGE BEING COMPLETE, THEIR THOUGHTS WERE SINCERE. THEIR THOUGHTS BEING SINCERE, THEIR HEARTS WERE THEN RECTIFIED. THEIR HEARTS BEING RECTIFIED, THEIR PERSONS WERE CULTIVATED. THEIR PERSONS BEING CULTIVATED, THEIR FAMILIES WERE REGULATED. THEIR FAMILIES BEING REGULATED, THEIR STATES WERE RIGHTLY GOVERNED. THEIR STATES BEING RIGHTLY GOVERNED, THE WHOLE KINGDOM WAS MADE TRANQUIL AND HAPPY.

The Great Learning, paragraph 6

1/2 page

For any number of untrained musicians

Duration about 30 minutes

Composition dated October 1969

Content: FROM THE SON OF HEAVEN DOWN TO THE MASS OF THE PEOPLE, ALL MUST CONSIDER THE CULTIVATION OF THE PERSON THE ROOT (OF EVERYTHING BESIDES).

The Great Learning, paragraph 7

1/2 page

For any number of untrained voices

Duration about 90 minutes

Composition dated 8.4.69

Content: IT CANNOT BE, WHEN THE ROOT IS NEGLECTED, THAT WHAT SHOULD SPRING FROM IT WILL BE WELL ORDERED. IT NEVER HAS BEEN THE CASE THAT WHAT WAS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE HAS BEEN SLIGHTLY CARED FOR, AND, AT THE SAME TIME, THAT WHAT WAS OF SLIGHT IMPORTANCE HAS BEEN GREATLY CARED FOR.