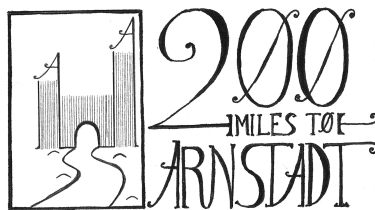


The Dream of the Rood

PREVIEW

Douglas Buchanan

PREVIEW



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The Dream of the Rood

Dedicated to the Choir of St. David's, Baltimore

A Choral Cycle in Four Movements
for SSAATTBB Choir (accompaniment *ad libitum*)

Premiered March 30, 2018 at St. David's Episcopal Church, Baltimore, Maryland

Music by Douglas Buchanan
Text c. 8th-century Old English

Duration ca. 11'

PREVIEW

Program Notes

The Dream of the Rood is the earliest extant instance of Old English, appearing in a 10th-century manuscript now located in Vercelli, Italy. An earlier instance of the text, however appears on the Ruthwell cross, a stone cross from the 8th century located in Ruthwell, Scotland. Upon the cross is carved four runic passages which are excerpts from this narrative, written in an epic style similar to *Beowulf* and other Old English narrative poems. The four movements of the present work correspond to these four passages carved into the Ruthwell cross. The passages relate portions of the Biblical Passion narrative, taking the point of view of the cross itself, and utilizing metaphors which reveal the unique perspective of the Anglo-Saxon warrior culture from which the poem emerged.

Texts and Translations

I. *Ongyrede hine þa geong hæleð*

Ongyrede hine þa geong hæleð, (þæt wæs god ælmihtig), modig on manigra geþeode, þa he wolde mancyn lysan. Bifode ic þa me se beorn ymbclypte. Ne dorste ic hwæðre bugan to eorðan, feallan to foldan sceatum, ac ic sceolde fæste standan.

He stripped himself then, the young hero – that was God almighty – strong and resolute; he ascended on the high gallows, brave in the sight of many, when he wanted to ransom mankind. I trembled when the warrior embraced me; even then I did not dare bow to earth, but I had to stand fast.

II. *Rod wæs ic aræred*

Rod wæs ic aræred. Ahof ic ricne cyning, heofonra hoford, hyldan me ne dorste. þurhdrifan hi me mid deorcan næglum. On me syndon þær wæsiene, opene inwidhlemmas. Ne dorste ic hira nænigum sceððan. Bysmeredon hie unmetu ætgædere. Eall ic wæs mid blode bestemed, begoten of þæs guman sidan. Scedðan he hæfde his gast onsended.

I was reared a cross. I raised up the powerful King, the Lord of heaven; I did not dare to bend. They pierced me with dark nails; on me are the wounds visible, the open wounds of malice; I did not dare to injure any of them. They mocked us both together. I was all drenched with blood poured out from that man's side after he had sent for his spirit.

III. *Crist wæs on rode*

Crist wæs on rode. Hwæðere þær euse feorran cwoman to þam æðelinge. Ic þæt eall beheold. Sare ic wæs mid sorgum gedrefed, hnag ic hwæðre þam secgum to handa, eaðmod elne mycle.

Christ was on the cross, for there eager ones came from afar to that noble one; I beheld all that. I was all drenched with sorrow; nevertheless I bowed down to the hands of the men, humble, with great eagerness.

IV. *Genamon hie þær ælmihtigne god*

Genamon hie þær ælmihtigne god, ahofon hine of ðam hefian wite. Forleton me þa hilderincas standan steame bedrifenne; eall ic wæs mid strælum forwundod. Aledon hie ðær limwerigne, gestodon him æt his lices heafdum, beheoldon hie ðær heofenes dryhten, ond he hine ðær hwile reste, meðe æfter ðam miclan gewinne.

There they took almighty God, lifted him from that oppressive torment. The warriors forsook me then, standing covered with moisture; I was all wounded with arrows. They laid the weary-limbed one down there, they stood at the head of his body, they beheld the Lord of heaven there, and he himself rested there a while, weary after the great battle. - Translations © Elaine Treharne

The Dream of the Rood

I. Ongyrede hine þa geong hæleð Douglas Buchanan (b. 1984)

With growing intensity (♩ = c. 44 / ♪ = c. 88)

Soprano *mf* *mp cresc.* *mf > mp*
On - gy-re-de hi-ne þa— geong hæ - leð (þæt wæs god _____ æl-mih - tig)

Alto *mf* *mp cresc.* *mf > mp*
On - gy-re-de hi-ne þa— geong hæ - leð (þæt wæs god _____ æl-mih - tig)

Tenor *mf* *mp cresc.* *mf > mp*
On - gy-re-de hi-ne þa— geong hæ - leð (þæt wæs god _____ æl-mih - tig)

Baritone *mf* *mp cresc.* *mf > mp*
On - gy-re-de hi-ne þa— geong hæ - leð (þæt wæs god _____ æl-mih - tig)

S *mf*
5 strang ond stið-mod. Ges-tah he geal-gan hean-ne, mo-dig on ma-ni-gra ge-syh - ðe,

A *mf*
strang ond stið-mod. Ges-tah he on geal-gan hean-ne, mo-dig on ma-ni-gra ge-syh - ðe,

T *mf*
8 strang ond stið-mod. Ges-tah he on geal-gan hean-ne, mo-dig on ma-ni-gra ge-syh - ðe,

B *mf*
strang ond stið-mod. Ges-tah he on geal-gan hean-ne, mo-dig on ma-ni-gra ge-syh - ðe,

S *cresc.* *f* *p* *cresc.*
9 þa— he wol-de man - cyn ly-san Bi-fo - de ic þa— me se beorn ymb-clyp-te

A *cresc.* *f* *p* *cresc.*
þa— he wol-de man-cyn ly-san Bi-fo - de ic þa— me se beorn ymb-clyp-te

T *cresc.* *f* *p* *cresc.*
8 þa— he wol-de man - cyn ly-san Bi-fo - de ic þa— me se beorn ymb-clyp-te

B *cresc.* *f* *p* *cresc.*
þa— he wol-de man-cyn ly-san Bi-fo - de ic þa— me se beorn ymb-clyp-te

13 *mp cresc.* *mf cresc.*

S Ne dor - ste ic hwæ - ðre bu-gan to eor - ðan feal - lan to

A *mp cresc.* *mf cresc.*

A Ne dor - ste ic hwæ ðre bu-gan to eor - ðan feal - lan to

T *mp cresc.* *mf cresc.*

T 8 Ne dor - ste ic hwæ - ðre bu-gan to eor - ðan feal - lan to

B *mp cresc.* *mf cresc.*

B Ne dor - ste ic hwæ ðre bu-gan to eor - ðan feal - lan to

17 *f cresc.* *ff*

S fol-dan scae-tum, ac ic sceol-de fæs-te stan-dan, ac ic sceol-de fæs - te stan-dan,

A *f cresc.* *ff*

A fol-dan scae-tum, ac ic sceol-de fæs-te stan-dan, ac ic sceol-de fæs - te stan-dan,

T *f cresc.* *ff*

T 8 fol-dan scae-tum, ac ic sceol-de fæs-te stan-dan, ac ic sceol-de fæs - te stan-dan,

B *f cresc.* *ff*

B fol-dan scae-tum, ac ic sceol-de fæs-te stan-dan, ac ic sceol-de fæs - te stan-dan,

22 *f* *mf* *mp* *p* *mp* *p*

S ac ic sceol-de fæs - te stan-dan, ac ic sceol-de fæs - te stan-dan.

A *f* *mf* *mp* *p* *mp* *p*

A ac ic sceol-de fæs - te stan-dan, ac ic sceol-de fæs - te stan-dan.

T *f* *mf* *mp* *p* *mp* *p*

T 8 ac ic sceol-de fæs - te stan-dan, ac ic sceol-de fæs - te stan-dan.

B *f* *mf* *mp* *p* *mp* *p*

B ac ic sceol-de fæs - te stan-dan, ac ic sceol-de fæs - te stan-dan.

II. Rod wæs ic aræred

Expansive; expectant;
chant-like (♩ = c. 52)

poco rall. *a tempo* *poco rall.* *mp* *p* *a tempo*

p *p* *mp* *p* *mp*

p *p* *mp* *p* *mp*

p *p* *mp* *p* *mp*

Soprano
Rod wæs ic a - ræ - red. — A - hof ic ric - ne cy - ning,

Alto
Rod wæs ic a - ræ - red. — A - hof ic ric - ne cy - ning, heo -

Tenor
Rod — wæs ic a - ræ - red. — A - hof ic ric - ne cy - ning,

Bass
Rod wæs ic a - ræ - red. — A - hof ic ric - ne cy - ning,

poco rall. *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf*

7

S
heo - fa - nan hla - ford, hyl - dan me ne dor - ste.

A
fa - na hla - ford, hyl - dan me ne dor - ste.

T
heo - fa - nan hla - ford, hyl - dan me ne dor - ste.

B
heo - fa - nan hla - ford, hyl - dan me ne dor - ste. þurh -

con moto *poco rall. a Tempo I.*

12

S *mf* *f*
 burh - dri - fan hi me deor - can næ - glum. —

A *mf* *f*
 burh - dri - fan hi me deor - can næ - glum.

T *mf* *f*
 bur - dri - fan me mid deor-cannæ - glum.

B *f*
 dri-fan me mid deor-can næ - glum, — næ - glum, —

a tempo *molto rall.*

17

S *mf* *f* *mf* //
 — On me syn-don þa dolg ge - sie - ne, o - pe-ne in - wid-hlem - mas. —

A *mf* *f* //
 — On me syn-don þa dolg ge - sie - ne, o - pe-ne in - wid-hlem-mas.

T *mf* *f* *mf* //
 On me — syn-don þa dolg ge - sie - ne, o - pe-ne in - wid-hlem - mas. —

B *mf* *f* *mf* //
 On me — syn-don þa dolg ge - sie - ne, o - pe-ne in - wid-hlem - mas. —

a tempo *poco rall.* *a tempo*

22 *mp* *mp* *cresc.* *f*

S Ne dors - te ic — hi - ra næ - ni - gum sceð - ðan. — Bys -

A Ne dors - te ic — hi - ra næ - ni - gum sceð - ðan. — Bys -

T *mp* *mp* *cresc.* *f*

B Ne dors - te ic — hi - ra næ - ni - gum sceð - ðan. — Bys -

molto rall.

25 *mf* *cresc.* *mf* *cresc.* *mf* *cresc.*

S me - re - don hie unc bu - tu æt - gæ - de - re. Eall ic wæs mid

A me - re - don unc bu - tu æt - gæ - de - re. Eall ic wæs mid

T me - re - don hie unc bu - tu æt - gæ - de - re. Eall ic wæs mid

B me - re - don hie unc bu - tu æt - gæ - de - re.

29

S *ff* *a tempo f dim.* *mp*
 blo - de bes - tem - ed, — be - go - ten of þæs gu - man si - dan,

A *ff* *f dim.* *mp*
 blo - de bes - tem - ed, — be - go - ten of þæs gu - man si - dan, —

T *ff* *f dim.* *mp*
 blo - de bes - tem - ed, — be - go - ten of þæs gu - man si - dan,

B *ff* *f dim.* *mp*
 blo - de bes - tem - ed, — be - go - ten of þæs gu - man si - dan,

32 *poco a poco rall. a fine* *p* *pp* *p*
 S sið - ðan he hæf - de his gast on - sen - de. —

A *p* *pp* *p*
 sið - ðan he hæf - de his gast on - sen - de. —

T *p* *pp* *p*
 sið - ðan he hæf - de his gast on - sen - de. —

B *p* *pp* *mp*
 sið - ðan he hæf - de his gast on - sen - de. —

III. Crist wæs on rode

With grim eagerness (♩ = c. 63)

Soprano *p* *poco* *simile*
Crist — was

Alto *p* *poco* *simile*
Crist wæs on ro-de. Crist wæs on ro-de. Crist wæs on ro-de.

Tenor *p* *poco* *simile*
Crist wæs on ro-de. Crist wæs on ro-de. Crist wæs on ro-de.

Bass *p* *poco* *simile*
Crist wæs on ro-de. Crist wæs on ro-de. Crist wæs on

4
S *poco*
— on ro-de. Crist

A *mp* *poco* *simile*
Crist wæs on ro-de. Crist wæs on ro-de. Crist wæs on ro-de.

T *mp* *poco* *simile*
Crist wæs on ro-de. Crist wæs on ro-de. Crist wæs on ro-de.

B *mp* *poco* *simile*
ro-de. Crist wæs on ro-de, Crist wæs on ro-de. Crist wæs on ro-

A little faster (♩ = c. 72) *simile*

poco a poco accel.

S
 wæs on ro-de. Crist wæs on ro-de. Crist wæs on ro-de. Crist

A
 Crist wæs on ro-de. Crist wæs on ro-de. Crist wæs on ro-de.

T
 Crist wæs on ro-de. Crist wæs on ro-de. Crist wæs on ro-de.

B
 de. Crist wæs on ro-de. Crist wæs on ro-de. Crist wæs on ro-de.

mf

S
 — was — on — o - de. Crist — wæs — on — ro - de. Crist

A
 Crist wæs — on — ro - de. Crist wæs on ro - de.

T
 Crist wæs on — ro - de. Crist — wæs on ro - de.

B
 Crist wæs on ro - de. Hwæ - 3 de - re

lontano *poco a poco accel.* *lontano* *lontano* *to the fore* *f*

12

S was on ro - de, *mp*
Crist wæs on ro - de, feor - - -

A Crist was on ro - de, Crist was on ro - de. Crist

T Crist was on ro - de, Crist was on ro - de. Crist

B *f* Hwae - - 3 ðe - re - þa fu - e, - *mp* feor -

14

S - ran, feor - - ran, feor - ran cwo - man, *mf > mp* *mf* *f > mf* *f* *piu f*

A - - was on ro - de. Crist - - was on ro - de. Crist *mf*

T - - was on ro - de. Crist was on ro - de. Crist was on *mf*

B - ran cwo - man *mf > mp* *mf* *f > mf* *f* *piu f* feor - ran cwo-man, feor - ran cwo-man,

16 *f* *poco rall.* *a tempo* *piu f* *mp*

S
feor - ran cwo-man to þan ae - thi - lin - ge.

A
was on ro - de. Crist was on ro - de. Ic þæt

T
ro - de. Crist was on ro - de, æ - ðe - lin - ge, — æ - ðe - lin - ge, —

B
feor - ran cwo - man, æ - ðe - lin - ge, — æ - ðe - lin - ge,

19 *mp* *mf*

S
Ic þæt eall be - heold. —

A
eall be - heold. — Ic þæt eall be - heold. — Ic þæt

T
æ - ðe - lin - ge, — æ - ðe - lin - ge, æ - ðe - lin - ge. Ic þæt eall be - heold. —

B
— æ - ðe - lin - ge, æ - ðe - lin - ge, — ic þæt eall be - heold. —

23

S *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *f*
Ic þæt eall be - heold. Ic þæt eall be - heold. ³

A *mf* ³ *mp* *mf* ³ *mp* *mf*
eall be - heold. Ic þæt eall be - heold. Ic þæt eall

T *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *f*
8 Ic þæt eall be - heold. Ic þæt eall be - heold.

B *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mf*
Ic þæt eall be - heold. ³ Ic þæt eall be heold. ³ Ic þæt

27

S *mf* *f*
Ic þæt eall be - heold. ³

A *f* *mf* *f*
be heold. Ic þæt eall be - heold. ³

T *f* *mf* *f*
8 ³ Ic þæt eall be - heold. ³

B *f* *mf* *mf*
eall be - heold. ³ Ic þæt eall be -

29

S 1 *ff* Sa - re — ic wæs — mid sor-gum ge - dre - fed. *mf* Ic þæt eall —

S 2 *mf* Ic þæt eall — be-heold. *f* Ic þæt eall — be-heold. *mf* Sa - re — *f* *ff*

A 1 *ff* Sa - re — ic wæs — mid sor-gum ge - dre - fed. *mf* Ic þæt eall — be-heold. *f*₃

A 2 *mf* Ic þæt eall — be-heold. *f*₃ Ic þæt eall — be-heold. *f*₃ *ff* Sa - re —

T 1 *ff* Sa - re — ic wæs — mid sor-gum ge - dre - fed, *mf* ic þæt

T 2 *mf* Ic þæt eall — be-heold. *f* Ic þæt eall — be-heold. *ff* Sa - re —

B 1 *f* heold. *mf* Ic þæt eall — be-heold. *f* Ic þæt eall — be-heold. *ff* Sa - re —

B 2 *ff* Sa - re — ic wæs — mid sor-gum ge - dre - fed. *mf* Ic þæt eall — be-

33

S 1 *f* *f* *mf* *f*
 — be - heold. — Ic þæt eall — be - heold, — hnag ic

S 2 *mf* *f*
 — ic wæs mid sor - gum ge - dre - fed, — hnag ic

A 1 *mf* *f* *mf* *f*
 Ic þæt eall — be - heold. — Ic þæt eall — be - hold. —

A 2 *mf* *f*
 — ic wæs mid sor - gum ge - dre fed. — be - heold .

T 1 *f* *mf* *f* *mf*
 8 eall be - heold. — Ic þæt eall be - heold. —

T 2 *mf* *mf*
 8 — ic wæs d sor - gum ge - dre - fed. — Ic þæt eall

B 1 *mf*
 — ic wæs mid sor - gum ge - dre - fed. —

B 2 *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *mf*
 heold. — Ic þæt eall be - heold. — Ic þæt eall be

36

S *mf*
hwæ - ðre — þam sec - gum to han - da, — ic hwæ - ðre, — ic

A *mf* *f*
Ic þæt eall — be - heold, hnag ic hwæ - ðre — þam sec - gum — to

T *mf*
8 be - heold. — Ic þæt eall — be - heold. — Ic þæt eall be - heold,

B *mf*
3 heold. — Ic þæt eall be - heold. — Ic þæt eall be -

39

S *mp* *f* *mf*
hwæ - ðre, — ic hwæ - ðre, ic hwæ - ðre,

A *mp* *mf* *mf* *mf*
han - da, — ic hwæ - ðre, ic hwæ - ðre, hwæ - ðre,

T *f* *mf*
8 hang ic hwæ - ðre — þam sec - gum to han - da. — ic hwæ - ðre,

B *f*
3 heold. — Ic þæt eall be - heold, — hnag ic hwæ - ðre — þam

20
46

The Dream of the Rood - III. Crist wæs on rode

S *p* 3
eað - mod ei - ne my - cle, eað - mod ei - ne my - cle,

A 3 *p*
eað - mod ei - ne my - cle, eað - mod ei - ne

T 8
ei - ne my - cle, eað - mod ei - ne my -

B 3 *p*
eað - mod ei - ne my - cle, eað -

48 *poco rall. a fine*

S
eað - mod ei - ne my - eað - mod ei -

A
my - cle, eað - mod ei - ne my - cle,

T 8
cle, eað - mod ei - ne my - cle, eað mod

B
mod, eað - mod ei - ne my - cle, eað -

50

S *mp* *pp*
- ne my - cle, eað - mod ei - ne my - cle.

A *mp* *pp*
eað - mod ei - ne my - cle, eað-mod ei - ne my - cle.

T 8 *mp* *pp*
ei - ne my - cle, eað - mod ei - ne my - cle.

B *mp* *pp*
mod ei - ne my - cle, eað mod ei - ne my - cle.

IV. Genamon hie þær ælmightigne god

Flexible; chant-like (♩ = c. 66-72)

poco rall.

mf

Soprano & Alto

mp

Tenor

mp

Bass

Ge - na - mon hie þær æl migh - tig - ne

Ge - na - mon hie þær æl - migh - tig - ne

Ge - na - mon hie þær æl - migh - tig - ne

a tempo

poco rall.

meno f *mf* *meno f* *mp* *a tempo*

S

meno f *mf* *meno f* *mp*

A

mf *mp* *mf* *mp*

T

mf *mp* *mf* *mp*

B

5

god, hie þær æl migh - tig - ne of ðam hef - ian wi - le. For -

god, a - ho - fon hie þær æl migh - tig - ne of ðam hef - ian wi - le. For -

god, a - ho - fon hie þær æl migh - tig - ne of ðam hef - ian wi - le.

god, a - ho - fon hie þær æl migh - tig - ne of ðam hef - ian wi - le.

8

S le - ton me þa hil - de - ri - neas. Stan - dan *cresc.*

A le - ton me þa hil - de - ri - neas Stan - dan *cresc.*

B & T *mf* For - le ton me þa hil - de - ri - neas. Stand - *cresc.*

12

S stea - me be - dri - fen - ne; eall ic wæs mid stræl - um for - wun - dod. *f* *poco rall.* *dim.* *mp*

A stea - me be - dri - fen - ne; eall ic wæs mid stræl - um for - wun - dod. *f* *poco rall.* *dim.* *mp*

T dan stea - me be - dri - fen - ne; eall ic wæs mid stræl - um for - wun - dod. *f* *poco rall.* *dim.* *mp*

B dan stea - me be - dri - fen - ne; eall ic wæs mid stræl - um for - wun - dod. *f* *poco rall.* *dim.* *mp*

A little slower (♩ = c. 60)

16

p cresc. *mp cresc.*

S A-le-don hie_ ðær lim-we-rig-ne, ges-to-don him æt his li-ces heaf-dum, be-

p cresc. *mp cresc.*

A A-le-don hie ðær lim-we-rig-ne, ges-to-don him æt his li-ces heaf-dum, be-

p cresc. *mp cresc.*

T A-le-don hie_ ðær lim-we-rig-ne, ges-to-don him æt his li-ces heaf-dum, be-

p cresc. *mp cresc.*

B A-le-don hie ðær lim-we-rig-ne, ges-to-don him æt his li-ces heaf-dum, be-

19

mf cresc. *f* *mf poco lunga* *mp*

S heold hie ðær heo - fe - nes dryh ten, ond he _____

mf cresc. *f* *mf* *mp*

A heold hie ðær heo - fe - nes dryh - ten, ond he _____

mf cresc. *f* *mf* *mp*

T heold hie ðær heo - fe - nes dryh - ten, ond _____ he

mf cresc. *f* *mf* *mp*

B heold hie ðær heo - fe - nes dryh - ten, ond _____ he

poco rall. *a tempo* *poco rall.* *p*

24

S
hi-ne ðær hwi-le res-te, — me-ðe æf-ter ðam mi-cian ge - win-ne.

A
hi-ne ðær hwi-le res-te, — me-ðe æf-ter ðam mi-cian ge - win-ne.

T
hi-ne ðær hwi-le res-te, — me-ðe æf-ter ðam mi-cian ge - win-ne.

B
hi-ne ðær hwi-le res-te, — me-ðe æf-ter ðam mi-cian ge - win-ne.

mp *mp* *mp* *mp*

3 *3* *3* *3*

p *p* *p* *p*