

Gilad Cohen

Three Goat Blues

arranged for flute, violin, viola and cello

(2015)

*Commissioned by Apollo Chamber Players for 20x2020 project,
underwritten by a grant from Houston Arts Alliance*

© 2015 ASCAP/ACUM. All rights reserved.

www.giladcohen.com

gilad@giladcohen.com

Gilad Cohen

Three Goat Blues

arranged for flute, violin, viola and cello

(2015)

Program Notes:

“Chad Gadya” (“one little goat” in Aramaic) is a popular prayer from the Jewish holiday of Passover. While the holiday celebrates the biblical journey of the Israelites from slavery to freedom, “Chad Gadya” tells the story of one little goat that, right at the beginning of the prayer, is eaten by a cat. This tragic event begins a horrific fable about the power of nature, in which each being is killed by one larger than itself. Following the 20th-century French composer Darius Milhaud, who wove Provençal Jewish prayers into his music, I chose to use an old Provençal tune of “Chad Gadya” as a musical source for my piece. I decided, however, that the poor animal deserves a second chance.

Instead of one goat, my piece portrays three (or possibly three aspects of the same goat).

The first one is an oppressed, captive goat who sings the blues through the low-ranged cello.

The viola represents a second goat that finds its way out of captivity and frolics here and there, but unfortunately its memories of oppression do not allow it to find peace. Only the third goat, featured by the violin, reaches true salvation. In a free adaptation of the original Provençal melody, the goat celebrates its freedom by dancing among the hills using awkward meters (since I can't really imagine a goat dancing in 4/4 time). The piece was commissioned by Apollo Chamber Players for 20x2020 project, underwritten by a grant from the Houston Arts Alliance, and was written for their program “Oppression to Expression” that connects pieces influenced by Provençal Jewish and African-American traditions.

© 2015 ASCAP/ACUM. All rights reserved.

www.giladcohen.com
gilad@giladcohen.com

8

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

3 gl. 3 gl. 3 gl. 3 gl. 3



11

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

pp *somber*
softer than viola, like echo

simile

3 gl. *b* gl. 3 gl. *b* gl.

sul pont. gradually

14

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

constantly alternate colors, e.g. sul ponticello, sul tasto and ord.

16

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

A

p

mp

f solo, rough

(keep playing with colors)

18

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

espress.

21

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

Poco sul pont.

bright and rough

24

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

ord.

dramatic

sfz

gl

pizz. arco

27

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

pp

pp

p

sfz

arco

pizz. arco

C

36

Fl. *poco a poco dim.*

Vn. *poco a poco dim.*

Vla. *poco a poco dim.*

Vc. *mf* *sfz*

dark, dramatic

39

Fl.

Vn. *pp*

Vla.

Vc. *sfz*

10

D

42

Fl. *pp* *ppp*

Vn. *pp*

Vla. *p* II III IV glis. II III IV

Vc. pizz., long *mf* rich and comforting

48

Fl. *pp* mysterious

Vn. sul pont. IV III (e) *pp* change bow seamlessly

Vla. II III IV glis.

Vc. *mp*

jump between harmonics ad lib. using D fingering

53

Fl. *p* *espress., ruminating*
rubato

Vn.

Vla. II III *pp*

Vc. *v. tr.* *p*

58

E Moderato Molto Rubato (♩=100)

Fl.

Vn. *sul pont.* *pp* *sul pont.*

Vla. *sul pont.* *gliss.*

Vc. *b* *tr.* *ppp* *sul pont.* *gliss.*

F Allegro, accurate, lighter (♩=140)

63

Fl. *pp*

Vn. (II) *subp* *pizz.* *p elegant*

Vla. *p* *pizz.*

Vc. *p*

66

Fl.

Vn. *con sord.*

Vla. *mf cantabile, determined*

Vc.

G Quickly improvise on harmonics using D fingering ad lib.

69

Fl. *pp*

Vn. *con sord.*

Vla. *3*

Vc.

73 simile

Fl. *pp*

Vn. pizz. *p*

Vla. *p* sul pont. *pp*³

Vc.

77 **H**

Fl. *f* melodramatic

Vn. *f* melodramatic

Vla. ord. *f* melodramatic

Vc. *f* melodramatic

flz. molto vib.

81

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

84

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

pizz.

mp rhythmic, light

p

poco a poco cresc.

87

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

f

f

89

I Subito Moderato giusto,
like a clock (♩=120)

ord.

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

arco

p percussive

pizz.

subp giusto, determined

p giusto

f *subp* giusto, determined

arco

mf solo
giusto, passionato

92

Fl. *mp* *harm.*

Vn. *p* *gentle*

Vla. *p* *gentle*

Vc. *gentle*

J Allegro, as before (♩=140)

94

Fl. *pp*

Vn. *pp* I *8va* II (#) *sul pont.*

Vla. *pp*

Vc. *p* *pizz.*

96

Fl. *f* *melodramatic*

Vn. *f* *melodramatic* *senza sord*

Vla. *f* *melodramatic* *senza sord*

Vc. *f* *melodramatic*

K

99

Fl. *flz.*

Vn. *molto vib.*

Vla. *molto vib.*

Vc.

104

Fl. *ord.*

Vn. *arco*

Vla. *f aggressive*

Vc. *f aggressive*

mf aggressive

mf aggressive

over pressure

108

Fl.

Vn. *f*

Vla.

Vc.

111

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

ff

fmp

ff



L Subito Moderato giusto (♩=120)

114

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

ff

mf duet with cello giusto, passionate

submf giusto, determined

submf giusto, determined

arco

mf duet with flute giusto, passionate

N

126

Fl. *pp* *somber*

Vn. *non vib.*

Vla. *pp* *somber*

Vc. arco IV *pp* *somber*

128

Fl.

Vn. 6 3 6

Vla.

Vc.

O Moderato, flowing (♩=120)

130

Fl. *p* solo light an dance-like

Vn. *mp* *pp* pizz.

Vla. *p* *gentle*

Vc. *p* *gentle*

134

Fl.

Vn. *pizz.* *p*

Vla. *arco* 3 3 3 3 3 *tr* *pp*

Vc. *pizz.* *p*

136

Fl.

Vn.

Vla. *(tr)* *con sord.*

Vc.

P

139

Fl. *p as before*

Vn. *arco* 3 3 5 *tr* *pp*

Vla. *pp cantabile*

Vc.

143

Fl.

Vn. pizz. *p*

Vla. 3 3 3 3 *tr* #

Vc. *vco*

145

Fl.

Vn.

Vla. (tr)

Vc. *vco*

Q

148

Fl. *p*

Vn. arco 3 3 5 *pp* *b* *tr*

Vla. *pp cantabile*

Vc.

150 Lunga

Fl. senza sord.

Vn. senza sord.

Vla. mf

Vc. mf

R Allegro vivace, joyous (♩=150)

153 senza sord.

Fl. *p* mischievous

Vn. *p*

Vla. *p*

Vc. arco

pp

157

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc. *p* solo mischievous

161

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

*p*³

165

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

f folkly
poco sul pont.

f folkly
poco sul pont.

arco

f energetic

(pizz.)

let ring

arco

mf

sfz

f energetic

169

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

sfz *sfz*

mf

mf

sfz *sfz*

ord.

mf

mf

solo

173

Fl. *mf* *f*

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

177

Fl. flz. *pp*

Vn. *p* *pp*

Vla. *p* *pp*

Vc. *p* *mp* pizz.

180

ord. *p* intensive pizz. *mp* arco

Vn. *pp* *p* *mp*

Vla. spiccato *p*

Vc. *p*

184

Fl. *subp*

Vn. *mf espress.*

Vla. *mf espress.*

Vc. *mf espress.* arco

186

Fl. *f*

Vn. *fp* *f* *f* pizz.

Vla. *f* *f* *f* soli pizz.

Vc. *f* *f* *f* soli

189

Fl. *mp*

Vn. arco *mp* *trmmmm*

Vla. *mp*

Vc. *mp*

192

Fl. *f*

Vn. *f* *molto vib. while glissing*

Vla. *gliss.* (IV)

Vc.

196

Fl. *p*

Vn. *pizz.* *f*

Vla.

Vc.

199

Fl. *mf* *f energetic*

Vn. *sul G* *f rocky&dirty* *molto vib.* *f energetic*

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *arco* *mf*

V

203

Fl. *sffz*

Vn. *sffz*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *f*

205

Fl. *flz.*

Vn. *fmp* *f*

Vla. *spiccato*

Vc. *subp* *pizz.* *p*

208

Fl. *ord.* *molto vib.* *frocky&dirty* *mf* *f*

Vn. *f*

Vla. *poco sul pont.* *molto vib.* *frocky&dirty* *mf*

Vc. *f*

212

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

215

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

rhythmic

flz.

pp

pp

mp

217

ord.

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

p *intensive*

pp *p*

spiccato

pizz.

mp *arco*

f *espress., broad*

f *espress., broad*

f *espress., broad*

arco

f *espress., broad*

233

Fl.
Vn.
Vla.
Vc.

Y **Largo, heavy and pompous** (♩=50) **poco a poco accel. a la kleizmer**

237

Fl.
Vn.
Vla.
Vc.

mf
(arco)
mf
f solo heavy, pompous
arco non legato
mf heavy
tr
sfz
IV

241

Fl.
Vn.
Vla.
Vc.

f solo accented
tr
mf
tr
sfz

Z Allegro vivace (♩=150)

246

Fl. *f* non legato

Vn. *f* non legato

Vla. *f* non legato

Vc. *f* non legato

AA

250

Fl. *ff* *subp*

Vn. *ff* *subp*

Vla. *ff* *subp* *mf*

Vc. *ff* *subp* *mf*

254

Fl. *fp* *f* *fmp* *f* *fmp* *f* *p* *mischievous*

Vn. *fp* *f* *fmp* *f* *fmp* *f* *pizz.* *ff*

Vla. arco *f driven* *sffz*

Vc. *f driven* *sffz*

258

Fl. arco
spiccato

Vn. *p* arco
spiccato

Vla. *p*

Vc. (arco)
p mischievous

263

Fl. *tr*

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

267

Fl. *f* folkly

Vn. *f* folkly
poco sul pont.

Vla. *f* energetic

Vc. *mf* pizz. *sfz* arco *f* energetic
let ring

sing in flute ad lib.
a la Ian Anderson

CC
271

Fl. *ff* wild
Vn. ord.
Vla. *f sfz f*
Vc. *sfz*

275

Fl. *f*
Vn. *submp heavy*
Vla. *submp heavy*
Vc. *submp heavy*

279

Fl. *flz.* *pp*

Vn. *f* *pp*

Vla. *f* *mf* *pizz.* *p*

Vc. *f* *subp*

DD

283 ord.

Fl. *mp intensive* *pizz.* *mp arco*

Vn. *pp* *pp* *mp*

Vla. *mp arco* *p* *mp* *spiccato*

Vc. *p*

287

Fl. *fp* *#* *tr*

Vn. *ff molto espress., glorious* *3* *3* *3* *3*

Vla. *f giusto, energetic*

Vc. *f giusto, energetic*

292 (tr)

Fl. *mp* 3 3 3 3

Vn. *pp*

Vla. *mf* pizz.

Vc. *mf*

297

Fl. *mp* 3 3 3 3 *mf*

Vn. *mp* 3 3 3 3 *mf*

Vla. *f* arco *mp* 3 3 3

Vc. *f* pizz. *mf*

299

Fl. *mf* *mf*

Vn. *pp*

Vla. *mf* arco *p* *f*

Vc. *p* *f*

EE

301

Fl. *p* *intensive* *f* *broad*

Vn. *p* *pizz.* *p* *arco* *f* *broad*

Vla. *p* *p* *f* *broad*

Vc. *pizz.* *p* *f* *f* *arco*

FF Broad, rhythmic and accurate in time

305

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc. *driven*

309

Fl. *molto espress.* *fp* *mf*

Vn. *molto espress.* *fp* *mf*

Vla. *f* *energetic*

Vc. *f* *energetic*

tr

314

Fl. *fp* *tr* *mfp* *ff espress. celebrative*

Vn. *fp* *mfp* *ff espress. celebrative*

Vla. *f energetic* *ff espress. celebrative*

Vc. *f energetic*



GG

318

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc. *ff*

323

Fl. *ffp* molto espress.

Vn. *ffp* molto espress.

Vla. *ff*

Vc. *ff*

III
IV

326

Fl. *fmp* *fff*

Vn. *fmp* *fff*

Vla. *fff*

Vc. *fff* *ff* rough

5/4

HH Andante rubato
peaceful (♩=100)

330 non vib.

Fl. *f* decrescendo very slowly, like a dying sound of an explosion *(pp)*

Vn. *f* decrescendo very slowly, like a dying sound of an explosion *(pp)*

Vla. *pp* special; not audible at first due to the rest of the ensemble

Vc. *f* decrescendo very slowly, like a dying sound of an explosion *(pp)*

experiment with weird sounds including harmonics on C fingering

smoothly switch to harmonics IV

experiment with weird sounds including sul pont. III IV

III IV smoothly switch to harmonics

experiment with weird sounds including sul pont.



334

Fl.

Vn.

Vla. *p*

Vc. con sord.

337

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

espress.

II

339

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

p like a memory
sul pont.
IV

con sord.

pp

pp

harm. gliss.
sul G

6

6

pizz.

arco

pp

pp

sul pont.

8va

342

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

simile

6

6

harm. glisses ad lib.
sul G, sul pont.

pp

mp

espress.

ord.

III
IV

pp

345 **Poco rubato A tempo**

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

p

espress.

mp

espress.

sul pont.

JJ

349

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

p

p cantabile

pizz.

arco

sul pont.

8va

pp

pp

Poco rubato A tempo

353

Fl. *pp*

Vn. *mp espress.* *pp*

Vla. *mp* *p*

Vc. *pp* *mp espress.*

ord.

III

III IV

zul pont.

II

harm glisses ad lib. sul D, sul pont.

pp



KK

357

Fl. *pp (softer)*

Vn. *pp cantabile (softer than before)*

Vla. *espress.*

Vc. *pp* *pp*

pizz. arco

ord.

rit.

361

Fl. *mp* *p* *pp*

Vn. III

Vla. *mp* *p*

Vc. sul pont. *8va* ord. III IV

Poco rubato A tempo

rubato
alternate between harmonics
on D fingering ad lib.

365

Fl. *pp*

Vn. sul pont. *mp* *espress.* II harm glisses ad lib. sul D, sul pont. *pp* simile *mp* *espress.*

Vla. sul pont.

Vc. *mp* *espress.*

A tempo **poco rit.**

369

Fl.

Vn. I II 8va

Vla. *pp* *ppp*

Vc. *ppp*

arco

pizz.

very slowly

very slowly

very slowly

Ridgewood, NJ
September 2015