

Full Score

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*

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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.

# Three Goat Blues

arranged for flute, violin, viola and cello

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**Andante, bluesy, wandering around,  
but keeping a very constant beat ( $\text{♩}=90$ )**

Flute

Violin

Viola

Violoncello

Gilad Cohen  
Original for string quartet 2015  
Arranged for flute and strings 2022

l.h. pizz while bowing, and then rapidly gliss once (back and forth) on the same string  
**b gl.**  
**p somber**  
*introverted at first*

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

5

l.h. pizz while bowing, and then rapidly gliss once (back and forth) on the same string  
**b gl.**  
**pp somber**  
*softer than viola, like echo*

simile  
**b gl.**  
**+ more confident**

8

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

=

11

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

*pp somber  
softer than viola, like echo*

*simile*

*sul pont. gradually*

14

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

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

==

**A**

16

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

*f solo, rough*

(keep playing  
with colors)

18

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

*espress.*

==

21

Fl.

Vn. *gl*

Vla. *gl*

Vc. *Poco sul pont.*  
*bright and rough*

24

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

pizz. arco

*dramatic*

ord.

27

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

pp

arco

pizz. arco

*sffz*

**B**

30

Fl.

Vn. pizz. arco

Vla.

Vc.

*f solo, rough*

33

Fl.

Vn. arco

Vla.

Vc. pizz. arco

**C**

36

Fl.      poco a poco dim.

Vn.       $\text{gl}$       poco a poco dim.

Vla.       $\text{gl}$       poco a poco dim.

Vc.       $mf$        $sfz$   
dark, dramatic

39

Fl.

Vn.      +

Vla.       $pp$

Vc.       $sfz$

10

42

**D**

Fl. *pp*

Vn. *pp*

Vla. *p*  
pizz., long

Vc.

*mf rich and comforting*

II III IV II III IV

III IV

IV

48

Fl.

Vn. sul pont. IV III mysterious *pp*

Vla. II III IV

Vc. *mp*

jump between harmonics ad lib. using D fingering

change bow seemlessly

*mysterious*

53

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

*p*

*p espress., ruminating rubato*

==

E Moderato Molto Rubato ( $\text{♩}=100$ )

58

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

*sul pont.*

*pp*

*pp*

*sul pont.*

*gliss.*

*tr*

*sul pont.*

*gliss.*

*ppp*

12

**F** Allegro, accurate, lighter ( $\text{♩}=140$ )

63

Fl.

Vn. (II) *sub p*

Vla.  $\frac{5}{4}$

Vc.  $\frac{5}{4}$  *pizz.*

*p elegant*



66

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

*con sord.*

*mf cantabile, determined*



69

**G** Quickly improvise on harmonics using D fingering ad lib.

Fl. *pp*

Vn.

Vla. *con sord.*

Vc.

73

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

simile

*pizz.*

*p*

*sul pont.*

*p*

*pp*<sup>3</sup>

77

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

**H**

*f melodramatic*

*f melodramatic*

*ord.*

*f melodramatic*

*molto vib.*

*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*

89

**I** Subito Moderato giusto,  
like a clock ( $\text{♩}=120$ ) ord.

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

arco

*ppercussive*

*subp giusto, determined*

*p giusto*

*f*

*subp giusto, determined*

arco

*mf solo*  
*giusto, passionate*

92

Fl. Vn. Vla. Vc.

*mp* *II* *harm.*

*p gentle*

*p gentle*

*gentle*

**J Allegro, as before ( $\text{♩}=140$ )**

94

Fl. Vn. Vla. Vc.

*pp* I  $8\text{va}$  II ( $\# \text{B} \text{ C}$ ) *sul pont.*

*pp*

*pizz.*

*p*

96

Fl. Vn. Vla. Vc.

*senza sord* *f melodramatic*

*senza sord* *f melodramatic*

*f melodramatic*

**K**

99

Fl. flz.

Vn. molto vib.

Vla. molto vib.

Vc.

**=**

104

Fl. 3

Vn. arco

Vla. 3 over pressure

Vc. + arco f aggressive

**=**

108

Fl.

Vn. f

Vla.

Vc.

III

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

*ff*

*fmp*

*ff*

L Subito Moderato giusto ( $\text{♩}=120$ )

114

Fl. *ff*

Vn. *ff* *submf* *giusto, determined*

Vla. *submf* *giusto, determined*

Vc. *ff* *duet with flute* *giusto, passionate*

*mf* *duet with cello* *giusto, passionate*

*arco*

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

118

*mp*

*gentle*

==

**M** **Moderato**  
( $\text{♩}=120$ )

*rit.***Molto Rubato ( $\text{♩}=100$ )**

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

122

*pp*

*con sord.*

*occasional sul pont. ad lib.*

*p* *espress., ruminating, rubato*

*8va*

I  
II

*pp*

*pizz.*

*p ruminating*

**N**

126

Fl. *pp somber*

Vn. *non vib.* 3 3 3 6 3

Vla. *pp somber*

Vc. *arco IV pp somber*

128

Fl.

Vn. 6 3 6 6 3 6

Vla.

Vc.

**O** *Moderato, flowing (♩=120)*

130

Fl. *p solo light and dance-like*

Vn. 3 3 5 tr 3 4 3 4

Vla. *mp pp pizz.*

Vc. *p gentle*

134

Fl.  
Vn. *p*  
Vla. *arco* 3 3 3  
Vc. *pizz.*

pp

tr

This section shows four measures of music for Flute, Violin, Viola, and Cello. The Flute has a sustained note. The Violin plays eighth notes. The Viola has sixteenth-note patterns with dynamics *pp* and *tr*. The Cello plays eighth-note patterns with *pizz.*

136

Fl.  
Vn.  
Vla.  
(tr)  
Vc.

con sord.

This section shows four measures of music. The Flute, Violin, and Viola play eighth-note patterns. The Cello plays eighth-note patterns with *con sord.* (with mute).

P

139

Fl. *p as before*  
Vn. *arco* 3 3 5  
*pp*  
Vla. *b tr*  
Vc. *pp cantabile*

This section shows four measures of music. The Flute has a rhythmic pattern with dynamic *p as before*. The Violin plays eighth notes with *arco*. The Viola has sixteenth-note patterns with *b tr*. The Cello has eighth-note patterns with *pp cantabile*.

143

Fl. pizz.

Vn. *p*

Vla. 3 3 3 3

Vc. ○○○○ ○○○○ ○○○○ ○○○○

Fl. -

Vn. (tr).....

Vla. -

Vc. ○○○○ ○○○○ ○○○○ ○○○○

145

Fl. -

Vn. -

Vla. -

Vc. ○○○○ ○○○○ ○○○○ ○○○○

Fl. -

Vn. (tr).....

Vla. -

Vc. ○○○○ ○○○○ ○○○○ ○○○○

**Q**

148

Fl. *p*

Vn. arco 3 3 5

Vla. *pp*

Vc. *pp cantabile*

Fl. 3

Vn. tr.....

Vla. 3

Vc. 3

150

Fl. *Lunga*

Vn. (tr) *senza sord.*

Vla. *senza sord.*

Vc. *mf*

**R Allegro vivace, joyous (♩=150)**

153

Fl. *senza sord.*

Vn. *pizz.*

Vla. *p*

Vc. *pizz.*

*p mischievous*

*pp*

157

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc. *pizz.*

*p solo*

*mischievous*

161

Fl.  $p^3$

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

165

Fl.  $f_{\text{folky}}$   
poco sul pont.

Vn.  $f_{\text{folky}}$   
poco sul pont.

Vla. arco  
 $f_{\text{energetic}}$

Vc. (pizz.)  $mf$  let ring arco  
 $sfz$   $f_{\text{energetic}}$

S

169

Fl.

Vn.  $mf$

Vla.  $mf$

Vc. solo  $sfz$   $sfz$

173

Fl. *mf*

Vn.

Vla. *f*

Vc.

177

Fl. flz.

Vn. *p*

Vla. *pp*

Vc. *pizz.* *mp*

T

180 ord.

Fl. *p intensive*

Vn. pizz.

Vla. >*pp* *p*

Vc. spiccato *p*

*mp* arco

184

Fl. subp

Vn. *mf express.*

Vla. *mf express.*

Vc. arco *mf express.*

186

Fl.

Vn. 3 3

Vla. 3

Vc. 3 3

*fp*

*f* *pizz.*

*f* *f*

*f* *f soli pizz.*

*f soli*

189

U

Fl. *mp*

Vn. *mp* *tr*

Vla. *arco*

Vc. *tr*

192

Fl. *f*

Vn. *f* molto vib.  
while glissing

Vla. *gliss.*

Vc.

II  
I.  
(IV)

*3*

196

Fl. *p*

Vn. pizz. *f*

Vla.

Vc.

199

Fl. *mf*

Vn. sul G

Vla. *mf*

Vc.

molto vib.

*f energetic*

*f rocky&dirty*

*f energetic*

arco

*mf*

V

Fl. 203 *sffz*

Vn. *sffz*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *f*

Fl. 205 *flz.*

Vn. *fmp* spiccato *p*

Vla. spiccato *subp* pizz.

Vc. *p*

Fl. 208 *molto vib.* *rocky&dirty* *mf* *f*

Vn. *poco sul pont.* *molto vib.*

Vla. *f rocky&dirty* *mf* *f*

Vc. *v*

212

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

215

*rhythmic*

flz.

pp

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

W

217 ord.

*p intensive*

pizz.

*mp*

arco

*f express., broad*

*> pp*

*p*

*spiccato*

*mp*

*f express., broad*

*p*

*f express., broad arco*

*p*

*f express., broad*

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

222

Fl.  $\# \text{p}.$

Vn.  $\# \text{p}.$

Vla.  $\# \text{p}.$

Vc.  $\# \text{p}$

*pizz.*

226

Fl.  $\# \text{p}$

Vn.  $\# \text{p}$

Vla.  $\# \text{p}$

Vc.  $\# \text{p}$

*pp* non vib.

*mf*

*mf*

*arco*

*pizz.*

*mp*

*arco*

*f*

229 X

Fl.  $\# \text{p}$

Vn.  $\# \text{p}$  intensive

Vla.  $\# \text{p}$

Vc.  $\# \text{p}$

*ord. vib.*

*pizz.*

*pizz. slap fingerboard*

*slap tongue*

*slap fingerboard*

*f*

*f*

*slap fingerboard pizz.*

*f*

233

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

**Y** Largo, heavy and pompous ( $\text{♩} = 50$ )      poco a poco accel.  
a la kleizmer

237

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

241

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

**Z** Allegro vivace ( $\text{♩}=150$ )

31

Fl.  $f$  non legato  
Vn.  $f$  non legato  
Vla.  $f$  non legato  
Vc.  $f$  non legato

**AA**

Fl.  $ff$  3 5  
Vn.  $ff$  3 subp 5  
Vla.  $ff$  3 subp  $mf$   
Vc.  $ff$  3 subp  $mf$

Fl.  $fp$   $f$   $fmp$   $f$   $fmp$   $f$   $p$  mischievous  
Vn.  $fp$   $f$   $fmp$   $f$   $fmp$   $f$   $ff$   
Vla. arco  $f$  driven  $f$  driven  $f$  driven  $sffz$   
Vc.  $f$  driven  $f$  driven  $f$  driven  $sffz$

**BB**

258

Fl. arco spiccato

Vn. *p* arco spiccato

Vla. *p*

Vc. (arco)

*p mischievous*

263

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

267

Fl.

Vn. *f folky*

Vla. *f folky*  
*poco sul pont.*

Vc. *f energetic*  
let ring  
pizz. Ⓜ arco  
*mf* *sffz* *f energetic*

**CC**

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

*f sfz f*

*sfz*

*ff wild*

*ord.*

*sing in flute ad lib.  
a la Ian Anderson*

**275**

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

*ord.*

*f*

*IV*

*submp heavy*

*submp heavy*

*submp heavy*

279

Fl. flz. *pp*

Vn. *f* *pp*

Vla. *mf* pizz. *p*

Vc. *f* *subp*

**DD**

283 ord.

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

Vn. *>pp* *pp* spiccato *mp*

Vla. *mp* *p* arco

Vc. *p*

287

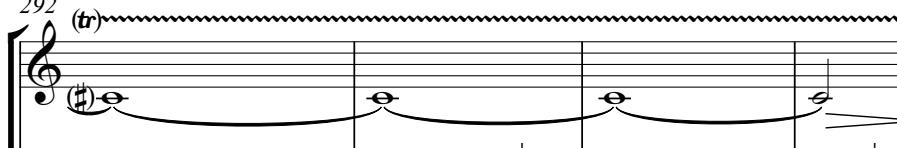
Fl. *fp*

Vn. *ff molto express., glorious*

Vla. *f giusto, energetic*

Vc. *f giusto, energetic*

292 (tr) 

Fl. 

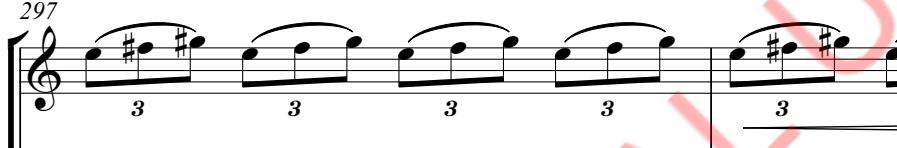
Vn. 

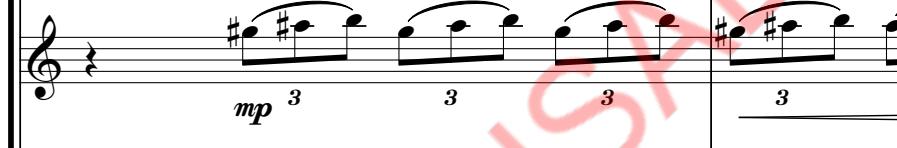
Vla. 

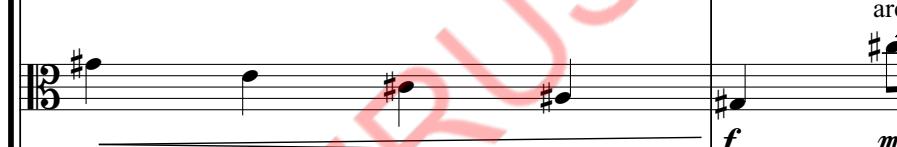
Vc. 

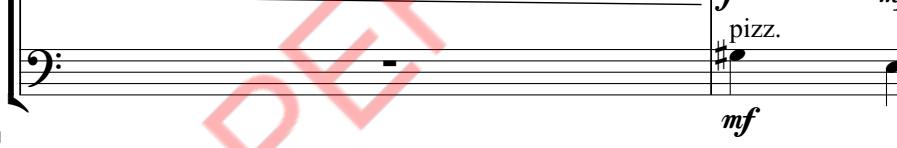
**====**

297 

Fl. 

Vn. 

Vla. 

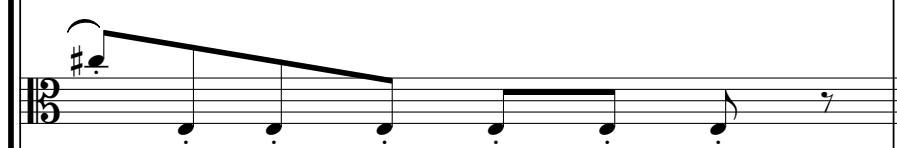
Vc. 

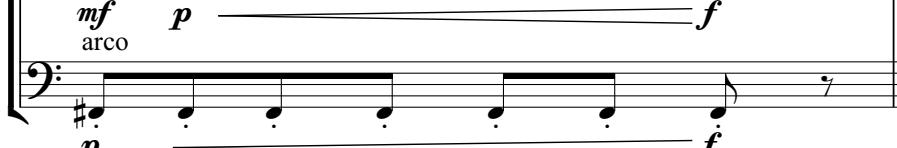
**====**

299 

Fl. 

Vn. 

Vla. 

Vc. 

**EE**

301

Fl. *p intensive*

Vn. pizz. *p*

Vla. *p*

Vc. pizz. *p*

arco *f broad*

arco *f broad*

arco *f broad*

**FF Broad, rhythmic and accurate in time**

305

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc. driven

309

Fl. *molto espress.*

Vn. *molto espress.*

Vla. *f energetic*

Vc. *f energetic*

*fp*

*fp*

*mf*

*mf*

*tr*

3/4

4/4

3/4

4/4

3/4

4/4

314

Fl. *fp*

Vn. *fp*

Vla. *f energetic*

Vc. *f energetic*

*mfp*

*ff espress. celebrative*

*ff espress. celebrative*

**GG**

318

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc. *ff*

323

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

*ffp molto express.*

*ffp molto express.*

*ff*

*ff*

III  
IV

==

A red diagonal watermark reading "FOR PERUSAL USE ONLY" is overlaid across the page.

326

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

*fmp*

*fff*

*fmp*

*fff*

*fff*

*fff*

*fff*

*ff rough*

$\frac{5}{4}$

$\frac{5}{4}$

$\frac{5}{4}$

$\frac{5}{4}$

A red diagonal watermark reading "FOR PERUSAL USE ONLY" is overlaid across the page.

**HH** Andante rubato  
peaceful ( $\text{♩}=100$ )

330 non vib.

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

Vn. smoothly switch to harmonics IV (pp)

Vla. **pizz.** **pp** special; not audible at first due to the rest of the ensemble III IV smoothly switch to harmonics (pp)

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

experiment with weird sounds including harmonics on C fingering  
experiment with weird sounds including sul pont. III IV (pp)

334

Fl. -

Vn. -

Vla. **p** con sord.

Vc. -

40

337

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

**II**

339

Fl. *p like a memory*  
sul pont.  
IV

Vn. *con sord.*  
*pp*

Vla.

Vc. *pizz.*    *arco*  
*pp*            *pp*

harm. gliss.  
sul G

*6*    *6*

sul pont.    *8va*

342

Fl.

Vn. *simile*  
*6*

Vla.

Vc. *ord.*

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

*pp*

*espress.*

III  
IV

*pp*

Poco rubato    A tempo

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

*sul pont.* *espress.*

*p*

*mp* *3* *espress.*

**JJ**

Fl.

Vn.

*p*

*p cantabile*

Vla.

*pizz.*    *arco*

Vc.

*pp*    *pp*

*sul pont.*    *8va* *(=)*

Poco rubato A tempo

353

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc. ord.

III  
IV

zul pont.  
II  
harm glisses ad lib.  
sul D, sul pont.

mp express.

p

III  
IV

sul pont.

pp

mp express.

**KK**

357

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

pp (softer)

pp cantabile (softer than before)

espress.

pizz.

arco  
ord.

pp

pp

rit.

361

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

sul pont. 8va

ord.

III  
4

p

III  
IV  
pp

**Poco rubato A tempo**

365

Fl.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

sul pont.

II

harm glisses ad lib.  
sul D, sul pont.

pp

simile

rubato  
alternate between harmonics  
on D fingering ad lib.

mp express.

3

mp express.

3

espress.

A tempo

369

F1.

Vn.

Vla.

Vc.

poco rit.

*very slowly*

*arco*

*ppp*

*pizz.*

*Ridgewood, NJ*

*September 2015*

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