

SEATTLE OPERA.



JUBILEE SENSORY GUIDE

Runtime

Jubilee! takes place in 2 acts with an intermission after Act I. The first act is approximately 1 hour long, there is a 25 minute intermission, and Act II is approximately 1 hour long.

Environmental Considerations for *Jubilee!*:

1. This performance takes place in McCaw Hall. McCaw Hall is an expansive, 2,900 seat auditorium. The sensory experience is very much affected by the seat chosen in the performance space. There are three main seating areas: orchestra, first tier and second tier. Generally, the orchestra section is closer to the stage and feels more open with the ceiling rising over 100 feet above the seats. The first tier starts approximately 85' feet from the stage.
2. The lyrics of the opera are projected in English above the proscenium.

Performance Content Considerations for *Jubilee!*

1. *Jubilee* includes racist language, acts of violence, and depictions of racist actions directed at the character throughout the performance.

Musical Considerations for *Jubilee!*:

1. *Jubilee!* features a 52-piece orchestra. There are 31 string instruments (violin, viola, cello, double bass), 11 woodwinds (flute, piccolo, oboe, bassoon, contrabassoon, clarinet, bass clarinet), 7 brass instruments (trumpet, trombone, horn), and 3 percussionists.
2. Musically, *Jubilee!* is dynamic and complex. At times the music and singers crescendo from a lower volume, soft and warm in timbre. to a robust, full sound with either a bright or resonant timbre. Volume ranges as heard from the front row of the orchestra level average around 70 dB and reach up to 90 dB briefly during some songs*. When the entire cast sings the sound is full and robust, often at a louder volume.
3. *Jubilee* features 13 singers, 4 sopranos, 3 altos, 3 tenors, and 3 basses. The opera is performed almost entirely as an ensemble piece.

*The dB scale does not take into account the timbre and resonance of a sound and is only one component of how pleasant or unpleasant one might experience a sound. Moments of music with outstanding timbre or resonance are noted below. Those who are sensitive to loud sustained notes from singers and orchestra may wish to wear noise dampening headphones. 70 dB is about the volume of a noisy restaurant. 80 dB is about the volume of a vacuum cleaner. 90 dB is about the volume of a lawn mower.

In the following guide, the performance is divided by groups of songs within a scene, and moments of heightened sensory intensity are noted within each scene.

Key to Symbols



Auditory Intensity

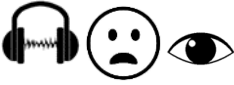








Emotional Intensity








Visual Intensity

| Scene | Sensory Category | Heightened Sensory Moments |
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| Warmup | | |
| Prologue <i>Over My Head</i> | | |
| ACT I Scene I <i>There's a Meetin' Here Tonight</i> | | - The cast crescendos into a full, rich sound reaching 90 db |
| Scene 2 Ella <i>Grace</i> <i>Let us Break Bread Together</i> | | - Ella describes violence African Americans faced under enslavement |
| Scene 3 Ella <i>Set Down, Servant</i> <i>Lord I Got a Right</i> | | |

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| <p>Scene 4</p> <p>Ella</p> <p><i>On Ma Journey Now</i></p> <p><i>will you pray for me?\</i></p> <p><i>Motherless child</i></p> <p><i>Gilead</i></p> |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ella describes “instruments of tortures and oppression” found in the ground - Images of these items are projected onto the backdrop, and slowly float down - The ensemble reaches 90 db |
| <p>Ella</p> <p><i>Trampin’</i></p> <p><i>I am a Poor Pilgrim of Sorrow</i></p> |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lights suddenly flash and rain sounds start playing - Rain drops fall on the backdrop - A soprano sings high, resonant notes over the group |
| <p>Scene 5</p> <p>Ella</p> <p><i>Lord, How Come me Here?</i></p> <p><i>Over my Head/It’s Me?</i></p> <p><i>Standin' in the Need of Prayer</i></p> |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The group is surrounded by an angry mob - Lights flash and drums pound - The cast embodies acts of violence by the mob while lights flash - The group sings a bright final note, reaching 85 db |
| <p>Ella</p> <p><i>I Got a Robe</i></p> <p><i>Great Day</i></p> |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The group ensemble comes together in a robust sound |
| <p>Scene 6</p> <p>Ella</p> | | |
| <p>Scene 7</p> <p>Ella</p> <p><i>‘Dere’s No Hidin’ Place Down Here</i></p> |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The group sings a final, resonant note, reaching 90 db |

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| <p>Scene 8</p> <p>Ella</p> <p><i>Didn't my Lord Deliver Daniel?</i></p> <p><i>Maggie's Aria</i></p> <p>Ella</p> <p><i>Didn't my Lord Deliver Daniel?</i></p> |  | <p>- The Jubilee sings proudly together reaching 90 db</p> |
| <p>INTERMISSION</p> | | |
| <p>ACT II</p> <p><i>Good News, Chariots A-Comin'</i></p> <p><i>Swing Low, Sweet Chariot</i></p> <p><i>Gonna Ride up in the Chariot</i></p> |  | <p>- The ensemble crescendos reaching 90 db</p> |
| <p>Scene 9</p> <p><i>O, What a Beautiful City</i></p> | | |
| <p>Scene 10</p> <p>Ella</p> <p><i>Steal Away</i></p> | | |
| <p>Ella</p> <p><i>Go Down, Moses</i></p> | | |

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| <p>Scene 11</p> <p><i>Wade in the Water</i></p> <p>Jennie</p> <p>Mabel</p> <p>Minnie</p> <p>Ella</p> |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water ripples are projected on the background - The Jubilee ensemble join powerfully together, reaching 90 db |
| <p>Greene</p> <p><i>Plenty Good Room</i></p> <p>Benjamin</p> <p>Frederick</p> <p>Thomas</p> <p>Edmund</p> <p>Issac</p> |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Steam billows up on the backdrop - Thomas describes being violently separated from his mother as a child - Edmund describes frantically fleeing his owners |
| <p>Scene 11</p> <p><i>We are Almost Home</i></p> | | |
| <p>Scene 12</p> <p><i>I Believe I'll go Back Home/</i></p> <p><i>Lordy, Won't you Help me?</i></p> <p><i>Deep River</i></p> |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Projected lights rotate on the stage floor - A singer sings a full high note, reaching 85 db |
| <p>Scene 13</p> <p><i>Sun Don't Set in the Mornin'</i></p> |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The men sing a bright chorus, reaching 85 db - A tenor sings a resonant note, reaching 85 db |
| <p>Scene 14</p> <p><i>All Them Bones/Ezekiel saw the Wheel</i></p> | | |

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| <i>My God is so High</i> <i>Jubilee</i> The Characters' Stories | | |
| <i>Over my Head Reprise</i> <i>Do Lord Remember me</i> |  | - The ensemble finished with a robust, joyful crescendo reaching 90 db |