Belsen Silence

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Duration: ca 3'

Belsen Silence
A Holocaust Remembrance Piece

 Monica Gil (1996-)
Text by Iolo Lewis

\( \text{\( \downarrow \)} = 68-72, \text{andante} \)

Speaker

Clarinets in B\(\flat\)

Cello

\(4\ \text{rit.}\)

\(6\ \text{a tempo}\)

Sp.

Cl.

Vcl.

Long gone the sound of battle from this foreign dell,
As we tread again the Belsen grass,

Remembering comrades, young men all,
Who died to reach this awful Hell,

Hallowed now for Eternity,
As the clouds from memory swiftly pass.

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Listen then, can't you hear,
The silence here around,
How real is this silence,
Telling us of terror, and ancient bestial fear;
How real is this silence,
That permeates from underground?
Only fifty years ago, but now,
Forever, the silence condemns,
For here there lie, anonymous,
Whose silence still transmits, transcends.

Listen to the silence still,
And lift your head on high,

Are you waiting for a question,
Or an answer, and a void to fill?

Quicken then the pulse, breathe deeper still,
Answer the silence to question,