

George F. Katralis

"The Conquest"

Symphonic work for Orchestra, No. 37

{Musical representation of the Liberation of Tripolitsa}

First part (9:40)

Andante Maestoso, Con Dolore, Agitato, Moderato Ardito, Allegro
Furioso, Disperato, Pomposo

The imprisonment of the elders and chief priests and the preparation for the
Liberation Fight

Measure 1 - 21. Musical portrait of Tripolitsa before the Liberation.

Measure 22 - 36. In February 1821, the Turkish government invited at Tripolitsa all the elders and chief priests of the Peloponnese, in the guise of consultation. This scene describes the farewell of their relatives and the road of no return for most of them to Tripolitsa.

Measure 37-41. The elders face the city walls and reflect on the hardships awaiting them.

Measure 42 - 60. Meanwhile the free bandits at the surrounding mountains are getting prepared with enthusiasm and determination.

Measure 61 -76. The elders walk in the streets of the city and head towards the seraglio. The Turkish mob mock and abuse them.

Measure 77 -86. The arrest and imprisonment

Measure 87-140. The battle of Levidi and the heroic sacrifice of Anagnostis Striftombolas.

Measure 141-166. The elders are slowly dying in the prisons of Tripolitsa. The torment of hunger and thirst.

Measure 167-185. Sporadic fighting around the city (Valtetsi, Doliana and Grana)

Second part n(10:00)
Adagio Imperioso, Moderato Risoluto, Allegro Vivo
The siege

Measure 1 –30. The Nation ponders. Kolokotronis is overlooking the city from Ag. Theodoros.

Measure 31 - 63. Kolokotronis on horseback together with his brave men, approaches Tripolitsa.

Measure 64-96. Scene that describes the gloom and fear of the tyrants inside the city.

Measure 97 -145. Turkish aid under the leadership of Moustafabei (Kechagiabei) arrive in Tripolitsa.

Measure 146 - to end. The Greeks lay siege to Tripolitsa. They are just outside the city walls.

Third part (9:30)
Largo Drammatico, Allegretto Furioso, Lento Doloroso, Violente

The Attack
(Friday, September 23, 1821)

Measure 1 - 40. Shortly before the attack • Death hovers on the plateau of Tripolitsa.

Measure 41-64. The Tsakonas fighter Manolis Dounias from Prastou with two other compatriots succeeded to kill the guards at Dapia of Nafplio and managed to take over the canon house. Inside the city the situation is dramatic. The Turkish beys consult the surrender of the city.

Measure 65 -96. At Dapia of Nafplio other Greeks using ropes climbed on the walls and opened the gates, while others occupied the gate of Mystras.

Measure 97-124. The wailing and weeping of women and children inside the city.

Measure 125-to end. From the nearby hills of Volime and Agios Sostis the greek troops stormed down under the leadership of Kefalas, Zafiropoulos, Papapanastasis and they opened all castle gates, from which more greek forces poured in. Generalized invasion of the city. Massacre.

1. ‘Hymn to freedom’ by Dionysios Solomos. 2 Recounting the events of the Greek race, Kolokotronis family memoirs, Nastos Publications, vol. 1 page 112.

Part 4 (9:20)

AllegroArdito, Andantino Imperioso, Con bravura, Vivace Wild revenge

Measure 1-36. Deadly battles around the resisting Great Dapia
They are descending and the shining of war flashes...
The rifle burns and the shining sword cuts terribly...

Measure 37-55. Brutal massacres in the city. Unsettled accounts for centuries are being paid off. Shadows of unjustly killed greek slaves come out of the graves and seek justice.
Blood became like a river flowing in the valley
and the innocent grass drinks blood instead of dew.

Measure 56-74. The Seraglio in flames. The city is burning from end to end.
The dogs were eliminated crying "Allah"
And Christian lips screamed "Fire, fire"

Measure 75-95. The flag is raised on the Great Dapia.
Theodoros Kolokotronis: "The greek troops that were inside the city killed all, women, children and men, thirty two thousand, and this lasted for days, from Friday to Sunday. Only one hundred Greeks were killed."

Everywhere fear and fright, cries and moans.
Everywhere screams and chaos, everywhere
killings and massacres.

They were so many, that the shooting did not speak anymore
to the ears of those lying down in the fourth courtyard.

Measure 96-124. On the third day, Sunday September 25, Kolokotronis riding his horse arrives at the Seraglio. "The horse from the walls up to the Seraglio did not step on ground. It stepped on a strange, bizarre carpet of corpses. "

Measure 125-to end. The fighters of Tripolitsa led by Panos Kolokotronis entered the city from Kalavryta gate with clarinets and drums. The festivities of the Greeks.
The resurrection of the Nation.

GEORGE F. KATRALIS

Symphonic work for orchestra

The EXODUS

(Musical expression of the Exodus of Mesolonghi)

Op. No. 38

Part 1

Largo Drammatico, Allegro Ardito, Adagio Con dolore, Risoluto

Siege (6.50)

Measure 1-17. On April 15 1825, in front of Mesolonghi, the Turkish army of Mehmet Pasha Kioutachis set up their camp. The clearly outnumbered inhabitants of Mesolonghi together with women and children watch from the walls of the city the parade of the turkish supremacy, their hearts sunken.

Measure 18-67. On July 3 forty Greek ships by Miaoulis and Sachtouri break the blockade of Mesolonghi. The food and ammunition supplies they bring, boost the morale of the besieged. Three days later the Turkish fleet appears in the lagoon.

Measure 68-96. The situation for the Greeks becomes increasingly desperate without any supplies left. Starvation and diseases plague the inhabitants..

Measure 97-133. On August 7, forces and aid led by Souliotis Kitsos Tzavellas enter the city and surround the decimated garrison, while on September 13 more military chieftains and troops come to Mesolonghi.

Part 2

Andante Imperioso, Moderato Pomposo, Lento Brillante, Andantino Religioso

Presage of the Sacrifice (8.20)

Measure 1-22. December 1825. Second phase of the siege. Ibrahim arrives at Mesolonghi with a powerful force of 10,000 men determined to take the city over.

Measure 23-34. The besieged proclaim their faith in the righteous struggle and hope for help.

Measure 35-50. Harrowing scenes take place by young couples who meet in the lull of battle and exchange vows of loyalty and love to the end.

Measure 51-98. In the battle of Kleisova the troop of Kitsos Tzavelas cause grave losses on the turkish attackers.

Measure 99 -116. The Exodus of the besieged heroes is decided.

Measure 117-143. Before the Exodus, they ask forgiveness from one another, receive the Holy Communion and set fire on all the possessions they leave behind.

Part 3

Non molto Moderato Espressivo, Con Fuoco, Disperato

Proudly staring at Death (6.00)

Measure 1-53. The warriors bid farewell to the wounded and sick who decided to be transferred into fortified houses and die there fighting.

Measure 54-75. The inhabitants of Mesolonghi prepare themselves outside the city and await the signal to set off.

Measure 76-112. They expect Georghios Karaiskakis to attack from the slopes of Zygos, so as to create distraction to the besiegers. The chieftain from Roumeli fails to realize his promise.

Part 4

Largetto Maestoso, Violente, Adirato, Malinconico, Moderato Furioso, Adagio Tristamente, Allegretto Cantabile

The Exodus

There with their brothers and here with Charon (9.00)

Measure 1-13. They discern the enemy guards in the darkness.

Measure 14-44. The men of the first two troops storm out with yatagans and swords, breaking the enemy lines. A torrent of desperate souls burst forth.

Measure 45-49. Through the turmoil, a treacherous cry sounds loud: "Back people of Mesolonghi, back to your cannons" (the melody of the clarinet).

Measure 50-53. Two explosions shake the city: the first from the burrows and the second from the blasting powder mill by the heroic Christos Kapsalis.

Measure 54-59. Fighters, women and children trapped in the city. They are all swallowed by the fierce death spread by the hordes of besiegers..

Measure 60-89. Confusion between the forces of Mesolonghi and fighters trapped in the tormented city.

Measure 90-116. Palm Sunday was dawning when the battle ceased. There on the top of Zygos, some were able to breathe a little freely. From the 3000 fighters who took part in the Exodus, only 1300 survived. The remaining 1700 were killed in clashes during their exit from the holy city.

Measure 117-160. The free Greeks head towards Amfissa.