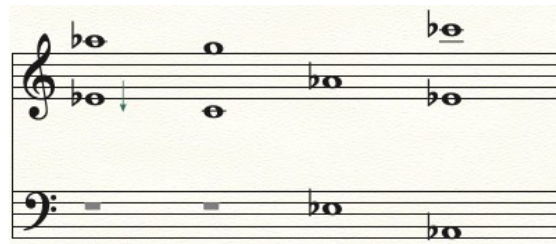


If Trees Could Talk

Performance Note:

Each of the 4 singers can be assigned one bowl. Each Tibetan bowl has two primary pitches, the lower being the most pronounced when struck with a beater. Beaters can be a hard wool (like a timpani or small gong mallet) or a yarn mallet (like a marimba mallet), depending on the size of the bowl: the larger the bowl, the larger the mallet. The pitches for the bowls used in this piece are as follows:



Tibetan bowls are microtonal and their pitches oscillate slightly. On the first bowl, the Eb is slightly flat but most of the other pitches are fairly at "concert" pitch by our Western ears. Note that on the low Ab bowl, a third top pitch is quite pronounced. Played alone, the bowl projects an Ab minor triad (something I have rarely seen in a bowl). In places where I call for just the high pitch (notated as B(Cb)), use the handle end of the mallet to strike the bowl. This will bring out a strong upper B. In all other cases, when the lower pitch is indicated, the upper partials will also ring in harmonious balance. When all four bowls are sounding at the same time, the Ab major triad resonance will prevail.

Bowls are struck on the side 1-3 inches down from the top of the rim. Be sure that the bowl rests either on a flat surface or on the flat of the palm of the hand. Be careful not to damp the sides of the bowls with your fingers. This will damp the decay which is long and beautiful so let the bowls ring unless otherwise indicated. For more information on how to play Tibetan bowls, please go to: <https://www.sheilasilver.com/being-in-life/>

If bowls are not available, a set of bowl samples (available from the publisher) can be loaded into any keyboard set-up. It is also possible to perform the piece incorporating the bowls into the piano part by just playing the fundamental pitch indicated and depressing the pedal.

The video projections can be loaded into any software such as Q-Lab. Projections and samples are available from the publisher, Argenta@sheilasilver.com. The piece can also be performed without the projections.