

Hultgren – Staines emails re Joshua

4 Aug 2005 8.10am

Hi Gavin,

Thanks for this - it will help in the thinking. Please remind me of the time line you have in mind too.

I will consider all of this and get back to you on a price. When do you need that?

I am pleased to consider any of the ideas you have but I would like you to think more on it. Not that I am scant on ideas mate!! My mind is running all the time but if you can focus on something more than that may make you happier. BUT - if you like the Masada idea and the type of rhapsodic thing it is then that would be great too. I have some Biblical ideas but....

Keep in touch. as you can tell, I answer email better than the phone!

Best wishes

Ralph

19 Aug 2005 9.51am

Hi Gavin,

That's great re timing etc. Please just keep emails coming and ideas running out. My mind is going a million miles an hour at present (status quo!) but there are always musical ideas running through so if we keep the dialogue going something will click in soon.

Re the cost; I said around _ and I have just finished a work that took forever to edit the parts so if we say toward the upper end of that and if it works out less then it's best to have been over the top first. Have you investigated an Arts Council grant? Local, state and federal governments have them for this sort of thing.

I hope that's all OK. Be assured I will write my best for you and the students and I am very aware of costs being a music program parent myself (and selling and eating more chocolates than one should safely eat!)

Keep talking to me about this - it really helps

Best wishes

Ralph

5 Sep 2005 8.39am

Hi Gavin,

Thanks for this. I have been thinking a great deal. Last night Julie and I were talking and I said that the mind was bubbling away!

I will find the biography and attach it.

Have you thought of anything else about the work? Narratives, broad ideas, anything? I hope to hear about them if you have.

Cheers

Ralph

5 Sep 2005 8.40am

These might help also

(attachments with bio information sent with this and the previous message)

6 Oct 2005 8.13am

Hi Gavin,

I am about to do the contract but I need the correct name of the school the full address and the name of who is the person that will be pursued when you don't pay!!

Hope you are well

Ralph

223 Oct 2005 6.27am

Hi Gavin,

It's been busy and I have had a commission for the Singaporean Ministry of Education to complete. It's been head down and backside up!

I will do the contract this afternoon after church. sorry I have taken so long mate. I tried to reply to one of your calls but it was the school number and I couldn't leave a message

Cheers

Ralph

1 Nov 2005 8.30am

Hi Gavin,

It's on the way - you should have it by now

Cheers

Ralph

24 Nov 2005 12.44pm

Hi Gavin,

I do appreciate your call. Not all my commissioners have been as consistently considerate as you!

I have attached the sketches so far. They are very rough but the general idea is there. I would be pleased to come and visit the group after they have had their first look at it over a week or so and then come back in April. Let me know when would be good for the first visit.

Thanks again Gavin. Have a safe and blessed Christmas and the family too!

Ralph

(first sketches included as scanned images)

25 Nov 2005 11.58am

Hi Gavin,

Just hoping to confirm that you will deposit the advance into the following account:

I will be going to the USA on Sunday and that money into that account from the 1st of December will mean I can use some of that account for the trip.

Also, the date to visit before April - just seeing if it is possible.

Thanks again

Cheers

Ralph

22 Dec 2005 5.20am

Dear Gavin Staines,

Attached are the first pages of the completed sketch of Joshua.

Thank-you,

Ralph

(James sent these for me)

22 Dec 2005 5.20am

Dear Gavin Staines,

Attached are the last pages of the complete sketch of Joshua,

Ralph

(James sent these for me)

22 Dec 2005 5.20am

Dear Gavin Staines,

Attached are the next few pages of the completed sketch of Joshua.

Ralph

(James sent these for me)

23 Dec 2005 12.20pm

Hi Gavin,

I asked my youngest son to scan the sketch as it is now and send it yesterday. I hope that all arrived OK.

I am sitting in the study now working on the full score and I will send some drafts of that as it progresses if you like.

Tim Robinson sends his regards. He speaks very highly of you and he thinks that what you have done with high school musicians is first class. He is the youth and families worker for our congregation and a delightful young man.

Well mate, my very best to you for a safe and a blessed Christmas time

Ralph

28 Dec 2005 8.28am

Hi Gavin,

I will pass on your good wishes to Tim. He is a delight to have in our ministry team

I'll be in touch again soon with some score pages for you to look at.

Cheers

Ralph

2 Jan 2006 8.53am

Happy New year Gavin,

I have some pages reduced (I write on A3 manuscript) to send and will have James scan and send them a little later in the morning.

I hope you are well

Ralph

2 Jan 2006 10.32/3am

Contains Joshua Score 1 – 4

Contains Joshua Score Pg 5 - 7

Contains Joshua Score Pg 8 - 10

(James sent these for me)

21 Jan 2006 9.23am

Hi Gavin,

I am pleased you like what you have received so far.

I have posted the finished manuscript score to you and you should have it by now. I posted it Wednesday from the Sunshine coast.

I have a copy of the Midwest program that I brought home for myself but I will get it to you to read through. I had so much stuff to get back and when you see the program you will see why no extra copies are given away. It's a great event and you really must get to it mate!

Let me know what you think of the score you have now.

My best

Ralph

1 Feb 2006 7.11pm

Hi Gavin,

The work is finished - engraving all done and three proofs done also.

I will send the set tomorrow with a letter about details etc

My best wishes

Ralph

2 Feb 2006 7.57am

Dear Gavin,

I am saddened by your news. Please let me know your bother in law's name and we will pray too!

Bless you mate

Ralph

2 Feb 2006 10.31am

Hello Gavin,

I have run around dropping kids at school and having coffee with Julie and I thought I would come back to this email and ramble about the piece.

I have sent the score and parts etc via express post to you at school. You should have them tomorrow. I have done a midi file too but it's not a great sound. I have enclosed a letter explaining all of that also.

I have the dates for your music camp in my diary and intend coming down if that's OK. Where will it be? Where will the premiere be? I have those dates written in too.

About the piece:

Given our discussions and the reactions from some students and parents I thought a narrative work like Masada would be the best way to go. I let it sit in my mind for a little while but I knew something would develop quickly as I always have ideas running around up there!

The program notes included in the score say:

Joshua was a great commander of Israel, a leader of his people and a servant of God.

The perspective from which this work should be viewed is the one you choose for yourself. There may well be religious overtones (I am a devout believer) or it may well be just a really good story! The notes I wrote before I began to compose tell of the stories of battle and submission to his Lord, the God of Israel. They tell a story like this:

- His name means “The Lord is salvation”
- He was very close to Moses and went with him to Mt Sinai and became close to God, as Moses was
- Moses appointed him as leader of Israel
- He was a master tactician and fearless leader
- He helped spy out the ‘promised land’

- Among other battles, he fought the legendary battle for Jericho
- He commanded the sun to stand still at Gibeon and the moon at Ajalon
- He called the people together at Shechem and told them they must decide between the God of Israel (Yahweh) or the gods of the local population and he enjoined them to choose their nations God. He stated his position with the resolute commitment that, “As for me and my family, we will serve the Lord”

I hope you enjoy the work and the story it brings to your ears – religious overtones or not!

I am very aware of the need to not evangelise to school students but this story is really a very good adventure even when the religious elements are taken out. I also have no doubt that my Christian experience influences the way I write and what I write about. That is another story for another time.

The only defined narrative idea is the last section which is a hymn reflecting on "As for me and my family..." The rest of the work can evoke various ideas.

The trumpets are obvious but they may be a call to battle or the trumpets at Jericho etc.

The marching feet idea that comes at 162 - 195 may well be the Jericho battle. The percussion that follows it (196 - 198) may well be the walls falling. So there may be more than one narrative idea! Not very bright really!

The six eight is the preparation and engagement in battle and spying out the land - who knows? The 32nd note figures may be the middle eastern ideas - who knows? That's all your musicianship's job mate!

So, I would like it if you look at the score (when you have time and during the rehearsal process and email back and forward and we can discuss ideas.

I am very aware of the emotional angst at present and I would hope that this email 'tells a story and doesn't add to your concerns

Bless you Gavin

Ralph

6 Feb 2006 8.38am

Hi Gavin,

I sent the score and parts etc express post. Please let me know when they arrive

Cheers

Ralph

7 Feb 2006 8.09am

Hello Gavin,

I am pleased about the safe arrival of the work.

I will await your advice about when I visit but I did have the 18 and 19 of March down as a camp. If it accessible for me to get there for some time I would be pleased to visit then. I come back from Taiwan on the 16th and have a rehearsal on the morning of the 18th BUT I could fly down after the rehearsal and spend some time with the band.

What do you think?

Would an afternoon be better?

I feel a little longer would be best but let me know.

Ralph

10 Feb 2006 9.23am

Hi Gavin,

I know you don't need me annoying you at present but I would love to know if you have tried the piece yet?

Cheers

Ralph

10 Feb 2006 2.28pm

Hi Gavin,

Good to chat. Here is the invoice.

Thanks for your advice about the errors.

I look forward to working with the band in a month.

Best wishes

Ralph

19 Feb 2006 8.26pm

Hi Gavin,

My comments in **bold** in your text below

Cheers

Ralph

----- Original Message -----

From: [Gavin Staines](#)

To: [Ralph Hultgren](#)

Sent: Saturday, February 18, 2006 3:10 PM

Subject: 'Joshua' Score

Dear Ralph,

Trust you and your family are well. When does Uni start for you?

We started on the 3rd of January - I teach a summer school program. I have had some leave since then (to finish Joshua) and now next week is orientation

You should be receiving the money owing to you this week.

Thanks - that is appreciated

I have handed out a schedule for the term to my Band members.

Sunday March 19th - I have arranged a rehearsal with you from 3.30pm until 6.30pm, in our school hall.

If you can book a return flight, I will make arrangements to pick you up from the airport or if I cannot meet you, I will have a parent from our Music committee meet you. I've got a good idea of what you look like; I might have you send me your most current photo in case someone else needs to meet you. In any case I will use your photo for publicity purposes. I will also get you back to the airport for your flight home.

OK - I will book a flight for then. Attached is a photo - new ones have been done but I haven't seen them yet. I will bring my baton to scare them!

Friday April 7th and Saturday April 8th - At this stage, I am hoping that on the Friday morning from 9.15am, you might discuss your composition with my Year 11 and 12 Elective Music Students. As part of the Higher School Certificate in Music, students are required to compose a 2 minute work. 'Australian Music - last 25 years' is their topic. I would ask you to discuss 'Joshua' in some detail, and then have a look at some of my students' work and offer some advice.

That's all great. I will book a flight to get me to Sydney for about 8 - 8.15. Will that work I should I get in earlier? I would be very pleased to spend time with the students. If they have the sketches they can ask questions too. Do you have the whole of the sketch? Maybe they could look at it before I visit and have some questions too.

I am hoping that we will have until 12pm to do all of this - and of course we will have morning tea for you as well as coffee on tap. At 12pm, I am wanting to have another rehearsal with the Band. The idea would be that we would have about an hour, have lunch and then a final rehearsal finishing by around 3.15pm. At this stage you would be finished for the day.

Excellent. You must let me know how you want to make that work - me working with them is OK but at the distance from the premiere maybe it would be best for you to work and me to advise - what do you think?

I am open as to what you would like to do at this point.
You may have some friends that you would like to catch up with.
I am happy to have you come and stay with my family for the evening - you may well like to have some peace and quiet and stay at a place like the Collaroy Conference Centre. They have beautiful units; overlooking the Collaroy Beach. We are prepared to cover your cost of accommodation if you would like to do this.

I would be pleased to do whatever suits your situation. I am very pleased to sit and chat about things in a family situation and comfortable to sit in a unit and work - always something to do.

On Saturday evening we will have our pretour concert and the first performance of 'Joshua'. Prior to this you would have a fairly free day.

Then maybe a unit would be best - somewhere I can sit and be out of the way. Maybe do that and we could have dinner together on the Friday evening. I have no desire to be an impost on anyone.

I would imagine that you will probably want to get home later that evening; I am hoping that the concert will conclude by 9.30pm.
I will ask you to book your return air travel for this weekend and Chatswood High will cover your costs. We should allow 40 min. to get to and from the airport.

Maybe 9.30 could be too late to get there, booked in and away. Maybe I go home early Sunday morning. I could get a cab and get home to church with the family - our service is at 9.30 am.

Let me know your thoughts about my suggested arrangements.

Regarding the Score - Bars 90 and 250, the "Bass" part - should it be a D or a Db concert on the second dotted crotchet beat of the bar? You have the Bass instruments playing in 5ths - Bassoon 2, Eupho, Tuba and String Bass you have playing Db or D? What should they be playing?

D flat - sorry!

We are enjoying your piece; I am hoping that by the time you come down, we will be well and truly under way with our preparation.

I am looking forward to all of this - very excited indeed.

Look forward to hearing from you.

Regards,

Gavin

3 Mar 2006 9.12am

Hi Gavin,

I read through Joshua with my group the other day as a way to proof a little more and found a couple of errors. They are:

1st Trumpet bar 301 first quaver is an E flat

1st trombone bar 106 and 266 4th quaver is an F
bar 275 3rd quaver is G and 4th is F

3rd trombone bar 284 note is E natural
Cheers

Ralph

15 Mar 2.40pm

Hi Gavin,

I know they are booked - it's Virgin but I am not sure of the times. I will check and let you know

Cheers

Ralph

15 Mar 2.49pm

Hi,

Checked out the information - well, Julie saved my bacon here mate!

Arriving at 2.30 on DJ 236 (I have to do the Children's in church so I can't to leave too early)

Departing at 8 pm on DJ 257

I am always happy to sit at the airport and work so don't worry about dropping me there early Gavin (I have a trombone concertino I am trudging along on at present - the flight to Taiwan helped!)

Best wishes

Ralph

17 Mar 2006 2.39pm

Hi Gavin,

I would be very pleased if they are pleased for me to have a copy and use it in my doctoral work.

It will be good to work with them all

Ralph

29 Mar 2006 5.23am

Hi Gavin,

I am coming down early on the Friday but I will need to go home on the Sunday because the last QANTAS flight out is at 8.15 pm and that would mean being at the airport at 7.15. I can stay in an airport hotel and get the early flight home.

I can get details for you if you need them.

Cheers

Ralph

4 Apr 2006 9.49am

Hi

Here is the travel information for this coming weekend

Cheers

Ralph

(Travel internet connection included)

Post premiere

16 apr 2006 4.50pm

Hi Gavin,

The whole event - the project and the people I worked with made it a delight for me. I am blessed to do what I do and so very privileged!

Many parents have contacted me via email and I will endeavour to respond to them before I go to Singapore (tomorrow).

Thank you again Gavin - for your faith in me and my work and for your unending good humour.

Bless you mate!

Ralph
