

# Aloys Fleischmann

# Cáhal Mór

## of the Wine-Red Hand

(James Clarence Mangan)

SATB Choir and Piano

## IMPRESSUM

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Scan of the manuscript score:

[alloysfleischmann.ie](http://alloysfleischmann.ie)

There too: the complete Fleischmann compositions  
and Fleischmann family contact details

*Cáhal Mór of the Wine-Red Hand* MS score:  
Fleischmann Papers, University Archives, University College Cork

## NOTE

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Aloys Fleischmann's *Cáhal Mór of the Wine-red Hand*, a short choral setting of the first and third stanzas of James Clarence Mangan's 'A Vision of Connaught in the Thirteenth Century' (1846), was not performed in his lifetime and he never listed it in any catalogue of his works. It is not known when it was written (the MS is undated), nor is it known for what occasion he might have composed it. That a performance was envisaged seems clear from the (incomplete) choral parts in the composer's hand found amongst his papers after his death. Furthermore, although the score is laid out for SATB voices and piano, the introductory bars cued into these choral parts are marked 'orch.', indicating that the work was in fact conceived for chorus and orchestra. No orchestral score has come to light, however, and it seems unlikely that one was ever made. A possible explanation is that, having written the work especially for some specific occasion, no performance took place and the composer simply put the score aside and turned his attention to some other project. As a piece for SATB and piano, however, *Cáhal Mór of the Wine-red Hand* is not only viable but is also a characteristic example of the kind of attractive occasional music Fleischmann was so adept at composing. The idiom, although simpler, recalls that of *Amhrán na gCúigí / Song of the Provinces* (1963) for SATB chorus and orchestra with audience participation. It is possible that *Cáhal Mór of the Wine-red Hand* was written in the wake of the highly successful first performance of *Song of the Provinces* in 1965, and may have been intended for the opening ceremonies of the Cork International Choral Festival.

With the exception of the occasional provision or clarification of accidentals and rests (silently amended) and the addition of two editorial dynamic marks (in square brackets), the present score adheres faithfully to Fleischmann's MS. The rehearsal letters are Fleischmann's own. The punctuation and capitalisation of the text, however – which is not consistent in the MS – follows that in *The Collected Works of James Clarence Mangan, Volume III: Poems 1845-1847*, eds. Jacques Chuto, Rudolph Patrick Holzapfel and Ellen Shannon-Mangan (Dublin, 1997). The only departure from this standard version occurs in the ninth line of the second stanza where the dash after 'angel-band' (see page 2 above) was felt to be potentially confusing and has been replaced in the score by a colon. One further point: Fleischmann's MS ignores Mangan's spelling of the name 'Cáhal' (more commonly spelled 'Cathal'), omitting the *síneadh fada* (length accent) on the first 'a'. This accent is admittedly misleading as, according to normal usage, it implies a distortion of the usual pronunciation of the name (two short syllables). This is perhaps the reason why Fleischmann omitted it. Mangan seems to have intended it to indicate a stressed syllable, however, and as this is consistent with Fleischmann's actual setting of the word, it has been restored in the present edition in order to bring the text in the score into conformity with that of the poet.

Séamas de Barra  
March, 2011

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## CÁHAL MÓR OF THE WINE-RED HAND

I walked entranced  
Through a land of Morn;  
The sun, with wondrous excess of light,  
Shone down and glanced  
Over seas of corn  
And lustrous gardens aleft and right.  
Even in the clime  
Of resplendent Spain  
Beams no such sun upon such a land;  
But it was the time,  
'Twas in the reign,  
Of Cáhal Mór of the Wine-red Hand.

Then saw I thrones,  
And circling fires,  
And a Dome rose near me, as by a spell,  
Whence flowed the tones  
Of silver lyres  
And many voices in wreathèd swell;  
And their thrilling chime  
Fell on mine ears  
As the heavenly hymn of an angel-band —  
"It is now the time,  
These be the years,  
Of Cáhal Mór of the Wine-red Hand!"

James Clarence Mangan (1803-1849), from *A Vision of Connaught in the Thirteenth Century*



4  
13**B**

glanced o-ver seas of corn And lus - - trous gar- dens

o-ver seas of corn And lus - - trous gar- dens

*mf* *mf* *mp*

6 5

17

**C**

a - left and right. E - ven in the clime

a - left and right.

*mp* *mp*

21

Of res-plen - dent Spain, Beams no such sun u-pon such a land; But it was the

Of res-plen - dent Spain, Beams no such sun u-pon such a land; But it was the

*mf* *mp* *mf* *unis.*

*cresc.* 3 3 3

**D**

25

**f** Marziale*più f*

5

time, 'Twas in the reign, of Cá - hal Mór of the Wine - red Hand, it was the

time, 'Twas in the reign, of Cá - hal Mór of the Wine - red Hand, it was the

**E**

29

time, 'twas in the reign, of Cá - hal Mór of the

time, 'twas in the reign, of Cá - hal Mór, of Cá - hal Mór, of Cá - hal Mór of the

time, 'twas in the reign, of Cá - hal Mór, of Cá - hal Mor of the

33

**ff**

Wine - red Hand.

Wine - red Hand.

6  
37**F**

*mf*

Then

*mf*

Then

*cresc.*

*mf*

41

saw I thrones, And cir - cling fires, And a Dome rose

saw I thrones, And cir - cling fires, And a Dome rose

*cresc.*

45

**G**

*f*

near me, as by a spell, Whence flowed, whence flowed the

near me, as by a spell, Whence flowed the tones

*cresc.*

*f*

3

3

3



49 **H** *mf*

tones Of sil - ver lyres, And ma - - ny voi - ces

Of sil - ver lyres, And ma - - ny voi - ces

*mf* *mp*

6 5

53 **I** *mp* And their thril - ling chime

in wrea - thed swell;

in wrea - thed swell;

*mp*

57 *mf*

fell on mine ears As the hea - ven - ly hymn of an an - gel - band: "It is now the

fell on mine ears *mf*

As the hea - ven - ly hymn of an an - gel - band: "It is now the

*mf*

3 3

61 **Marziale**

61 **Marziale**

time, These be the years of Cá-hal Mór of the Wine - red Hand, it is now the

time, These be the years of Cá-hal Mór of the Wine - red Hand, it is now the

65 time, these be the years, \_\_\_\_\_ of Cá-hal Mór, \_\_\_\_\_ of Cá-hal Mór of the

time, \_\_\_\_\_ these be the years, of Cá-hal Mór, \_\_\_\_\_ of Cá-hal Mór \_\_\_\_\_ of the

time, these be the years, \_\_\_\_\_ of Cá-hal Mór, \_\_\_\_\_ of Cá-hal Mór of the

time, \_\_\_\_\_ these be the years, of Cá-hal Mór, \_\_\_\_\_ of Cá-hal Mór \_\_\_\_\_ of the

*p* *più f*

69 *ff*

Wine - red Hand!"

*ff*

Wine - red Hand!"

*ff*