

## **Spem in Alium MIDI Files**

As you all probably realise, a 40-part piece is not so straightforward to represent in the MIDI format.

Firstly, I need to point out that these files are all shifted up by one tone, as requested by Tom, even though the scores you have are at the normal pitch. This is to aid the second altos, many of whom are singing tenor. By coming up one tone, they stand a chance of hitting a low E, rather than a low D!

Secondly, a word on what you will hear. For each choir, I have highlighted those five parts above the background of all the other 35 parts, which you will hear in the background at low volume. If you listen to a Choir SATBB file, you will hear those five parts in balance, but all boosted up compared to the other 35 parts. Then, if you listen to a specific parts file, eg Choir5 Soprano, you will hear that soprano voice boosted yet again above her colleagues in that choir, with the other 35 parts at lower volume.

I have not tried to create files from where your part comes in- that would be unnecessarily difficult. So, you may need to forward the file to where your part comes in, although it may be good practice to start counting from the beginning to where you come in. To that aim I have included a low volume 'bar counter' that sounds at the beginning of every bar. Once your choir starts up, that click track gets drowned out, but by then it has served its purpose.

I wasn't quite sure what tempo to set, so I have gone for something that is not so slow that it drags.

Hope this all helps. Good luck

Fraser 9<sup>th</sup> Jan 2011