

Dide ta Deo

Performance Notes

Wendell P. Whalum (1931-1987) was a highly acclaimed educator, musicologist, arranger and director of the Morehouse College Glee Club. Much of his professional life was dedicated to collecting African and African American folk songs. Over a period of 19 years, he was teacher, mentor, colleague and friend. In preparation for the glee club's historic tour of Africa (1972), the melody of this folk song was sung by a native Nigerian who was a student at Morehouse College. The original TTBB setting (Whalum/Brown) bore particular significance for the glee club. It vividly captured the spirit of its members as a song of celebration, signifying God's blessings for a safe return to Africa, the motherland.

TRANSLATION

That we are back home, Good Father,
 We give Thee thanks.
 We journeyed safely,
 We arrived safely;
 We praise Thee, Jesus Christ.

Percussion: The rhythms below are suggestions of patterns which may be used in the performance of this song; other rhythms may be freely improvised. The pitch location of the parts bear no significance except to suggest that instruments of contrasting range and timbre be used (bongos, congas, woodblocks, shakeres, etc.) It is important, however, to establish the rhythmic patterns of percussion 1 & 2 from the beginning and retain throughout the piece. Other patterns may be added during the eight-measure percussion improvisation (mm. 53-60).

The image shows five staves of musical notation for percussion parts, labeled Perc. 1 through Perc. 5. Each staff begins with a 6/8 time signature and a key signature of one flat (Bb). Perc. 1 and Perc. 3 feature a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with accents (>) above them. Perc. 2 and Perc. 5 have a more complex pattern with eighth notes and rests, also with accents below. Perc. 4 has a steady eighth-note pattern with accents below. All parts end with double bar lines.

Dide ta Deo

SATB a cappella with Percussion

Arr. by Uzee Brown, Jr.

Energetically ♩ = 60

mf

SA

Di - de ta De - o Ba - ba, Ba - ba re - re, A - wa fo - gpe fun -
Phonetics: Dee-day tah Day - o Bah - bah, Bah-bah ray-ray, Ah-wah fo-kpay fā -

TB

4

o, fun - o — A - lo - la - yo, — A - bo - la - yo; A - wa - yi Je - su Lo -
o, fā - o, Ah - lo - lah - yo, — Ah - bo - lah - yo; Ah - wah - yee Jay - soo Lo -

8

pp

go. _____
go. _____

p B only

De-o, De-o, Di-de ta De-o; De-o, De-o,

15

mp A only

De-o, De-o, Di-de ta De-o; De-o, De-o, Di-de ta De-o;

Di-de ta De-o;

20

mf *f*

TB

De-o, De-o, Di-de ta De-o; De-o, De-o, Di-de ta De-o,

32

p *f* *mp*

Di-de ta De-o, Di-de ta De-o,

De-o, De-o, Di-de ta De-o; Di-de ta De-o, Di-de ta De-o,

De-o, De-o, Di-de ta De-o; Di-de ta De-o, Di-de ta De-o,

De-o, De-o, Di-de ta De-o; Di-de ta De-o, Di-de ta De-o,

p *f* *mp*

p *f* *mp*

36

f *mp* *f*

Di-de ta De-o, Di-de ta De-o, Di-de ta De-o Ba-ba, Ba-ba re-re,

f *mp* *f*

Di-de ta De-o, Di-de ta De-o, Di-de ta De-o Ba-ba, Ba-ba re-re,

f *mp* *f*

Di-de ta De-o, Di-de ta De-o, Di-de ta De-o Ba-ba, Ba-ba re-re,

f *mp* *f*

Di-de ta De-o, Di-de ta De-o, Di-de ta De-o Ba-ba, Ba-ba re-re,

f *mp* *f*

40

A - wa fo - gpe fun - o, fun - o, A - lo - la - yo, A - bo - la - yo;

A - wa fo - gpe fun - o, fun - o, A - lo - la - yo, A - bo - la - yo;

A - wa fo - gpe fun - o, fun - o, A - lo - la - yo, A - bo - la - yo;

A - wa fo - gpe fun - o, fun - o, A - lo - la - yo, A - bo - la - yo;

44

A - wa - yi Je - su Lo - go. *mp*

A - wa - yi Je - su Lo - go. De - o, De - o, *mp*

A - wa - yi Je - su Lo - go. De - o, De - o, *mp*

A - wa - yi Je - su Lo - go. De - o, De - o, Di - de ta De - o, De - o, De - o, De - o, *mp*

48

(eight-measure drum improvisation)

pp

2

8

go. _____ *pp* 8

Di-de ta De-o; go. _____ *pp* 8

Di-de ta De-o; go. _____ *pp* 8

Di-de ta De-o; go. _____ *pp* 8

8

8

8

8

61

mf

Di-de ta De-o Ba - ba, Ba-ba re-re, A-wa fo-gpe fun - o, fun - o—

mf

Di-de ta De-o Ba -

mf

Di-de ta De-o Ba - ba, Ba-ba re-re,

mf

65

f

A - lo - la - yo, — A - bo - la - yo; A - wa - yi Je - su Lo - go.

ba, Ba - ba re - re, A - wa fo - gpe fun - o, fun - o, — A - lo - la - yo, —

A - wa fo - gpe fun - o, fun - o, — A - lo - la - yo, — A - bo - la - yo;

mf

Di - de ta De - o Ba - ba, Ba - ba re - re, A - wa fo - gpe fun - o, fun - o, —

f

69

Di - de ta De - o Ba - ba, Ba - ba re - re, A - wa fo - gpe fun -

A - bo - la - yo; A - wa - yi Je - su Lo - go.

A - wa - yi Je - su Lo - go. Di - de ta De - o Ba -

A - lo - la - yo, — A - bo - la - yo; A - wa - yi Je - su Lo -

72

o, fun - o — A - lo - la - yo, — A - bo - la - yo;
 Di - de ta De - o Ba - ba, Ba - ba re - re, A - wa fo - gpe fun -
 ba, Ba - ba re - re, A - wa fo - gpe fun - o, fun - o, —
 go. Di - de ta De - o, Ba - ba, Ba - ba re - re,

75

A - wa - yi Je - su Lo - go. A - wa - yi Je - su Lo -
 o, fun - o, — A - lo - la - yo, — A - bo - la - yo;
 A - lo - la - yo, — A - bo - la - yo, A - wa - yi Je - su Lo -
 A - wa fo - gpe fun - o, fun - o, — A - lo - la - yo, —

78

go. *mp*

A - wa - yi Je - su Lo - go. *mp*

go. A - wa - yi Je - su Lo - go. *mp*

A - bo - la - yo; A - wa - yi Je - su Lo - go. *mp*

82

f Di - de ta De - o, Di - de ta De - o, Di - de ta De - o,

f Di - de ta De - o, Di - de ta De - o, Di - de ta De - o,

f Di - de ta De - o, Di - de ta De - o, Di - de ta De - o,

f Di - de ta De - o, Di - de ta De - o, Di - de ta De - o,

85

Di - de ta De - o, Di - de ta De - o Ba - ba, Ba - ba re - re,
 Di - de ta De - o, Di - de ta De - o Ba - ba, Ba - ba re - re,
 Di - de ta De - o, Di - de ta De - o Ba - ba, Ba - ba re - re,
 Di - de ta De - o, Di - de ta De - o Ba - ba, Ba - ba re - re,

88

A - wa fo - gpe fun - o, fun - o, — A - lo - la - yo, —
 A - wa fo - gpe fun - o, fun - o, — A - lo - la - yo, —
 A - wa fo - gpe fun - o, fun - o, — A - lo - la - yo, —
 A - wa fo - gpe fun - o, fun - o, — A - lo - la - yo, —