The Holy Spirit
and the Eggplant
(Introit for Pentecost)

SATB chorus, speaking chorus and piano

Jonathan David
Who is this Holy Spirit?
And what is He doing in the eggplant?
--David Craig

And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.

And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.
--Acts 2: 2-4

*Speaking Chorus directions*

With the exception of the soloist, the members of the Speaking Chorus say their lines as individuals, repeating them, each at his or her own tempo, and with his or her own idiosyncratic inflections. The effect should be as of a babbling crowd. Every effort should be made to avoid speaking one’s line in unison with another member.

There are two categories of texts for the Speaking Chorus:

A. **The Question.** “Who is this Holy Spirit?” All members speak the same line. It may also be translated into other languages and spoken “in many tongues.” The number of languages used is limited only by the skills and resources of the chorus.

B. **Acts.** The three lines from Acts should be divided up as equally as possible among the members of the Speaking Chorus and all spoken on top of each other. No attempt should be made to articulate the lines in consecutive order.

Entrance points for the tutti are specifically marked, however ending points for the lines are indeterminate, and lines will often be cut off unfinished.

The soloist may be male or female, and speaks the line once each time, in (loosely) notated rhythm. A subtle air of rhetorical skepticism would not be inappropriate to the tone.

If desired, the Speaking Chorus, may process to the choir or stage as noted in the 2nd measure.

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The Holy Spirit and the Eggplant
for SATB Chorus, Speaking Chorus and Piano
Premiered June 19, 2007 by Howl! and the St. Mary's Gospel Choir,
St. Mary's Episcopal Church, NYC

Jonathan David

Fervently, with \( \frac{d}{n} \) = \( \frac{6}{4} \) 
great drama

Solo \( f \) poco

[Process—(optional)]

Who is this Holy Spirit?

Solo (always \( f \) as in m. 1)

Who is this Holy Spirit?

Tutti \( m_p \) Who is this Holy Spirit?

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Repeat, if nec., ad lib., until procession is complete.

Who is this Holy Spirit?

Who is this Holy Spirit?

Who is this Holy Spirit?

Who is this Holy Spirit?
Who is this Holy Spirit?

And what is He doing...?
1. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty
2. wind, and it filled all the place where they were sitting.
3. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat
4. upon each of them.
Introit for Pentecost: J. David

wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.
upon each of them.
other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.
Who is this Holy Spirit?

Who is this Holy Spirit?

Who...

Who...

What is He doing...?

What is He doing...?

What is He doing...?

What is He doing...?

What is He doing...?
Who is this Holy Spirit?

1. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty (etc.)
2. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and (etc.)
3. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with (etc.)
Who is this Holy Spirit?

Who is this Holy Spirit?
Who is this Holy Spirit?

And what is He doing in the eggplant?
Who is this Holy Spirit?

What is He doing in the egg-plant?
Who is this Holy Spirit?

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Approx. dur.: 4'30"
NYC, May, 2007