

יתגדל (Yitgadal)

*ascending viewpoint* (for bill colvig)

*descending viewpoint* (for lou harrison)

יתגדל is a setting of the Hebrew mourner's kaddish, in the form of a chorale. The four instruments which play the chorale (violin, viola, cello, and guitar) play only natural harmonics on strings tuned to the simple integer ratios of a fundamental. In each piece, the direction of the chorale, from dissonance to consonance (or vice versa) is determined by a computer program, written in Java and Nick Didkovsky's JMSL, which uses a simple, number-theoretic concept of harmonic complexity.

The piece was requested by David Rosenboom for the premiere performance by the New Century Players (March, 2004), and written in Aptos, CA, in January/February 2004.