

# Evergreen

DAWN LENORE SONNTAG

SATB Voices *a cappella*



Ranges:



## Program Notes

*Evergreen* was one of three pieces chosen for a premiere performance at the 2006 European-American Musical Alliance (EAMA) summer composition program in Paris, France. It was premiered by the EAMA Composers' Choir at the L'église St. Etienne du Mont. The poem was written by the composer in 1983 after a difficult loss.

## About the Composer

Composer, conductor, singer and pianist Dawn Lenore Sonntag (b. 1962) has composed chamber music, songs, choral works, and orchestral music. Sonntag's composition teachers have included Alex Lubet, Claude Baker, Igor Karaca, and Burkhard Kinzler. Her choral works have been performed by college, community, and church choirs in Germany, France, Norway, and across the US. In addition to her compositional activities, Sonntag has performed nationally and internationally as a soprano soloist and collaborative pianist specializing in German and Norwegian art song repertoire. A self-taught pianist until the age of 18, Sonntag began formal studies in trumpet and piano performance as at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, where she also studied voice and choral conducting, completing undergraduate music studies at the University of Texas at El Paso. Sonntag holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Minnesota, a Master of Music degree in choral conducting from Ohio State University, a Master of Arts degree in vocal performance from Antioch University, Tübingen, Germany, and a graduate level artist's diploma in piano performance from the Hochschule für Kirchenmusik, Heidelberg, Germany, where she was winner of the Inge Pitler Lied competition in both piano and voice. Sonntag has held teaching appointments in music theory at the University of Minnesota and the College of Saint Catherine. Currently she is Assistant Professor of Music at Hiram College, where she heads the theory and composition area.

# Evergreen

for SATB Voices *a cappella*

DAWN LENORE SONNTAG

$\text{♩} = 60$   
*mp*

Soprano  
Be - yond the wind-ing road so steep, a -

Alto  
Be - yond the wind-ing road so steep, a -

Tenor  
Be - yond the wind-ing road so

Bass  
Be - yond the wind-ing road so

Keyboard  
(for rehearsal only)  
 $\text{♩} = 60$   
*mp*

3

- bove the ram-bling, roll - ing hill, the

- bove the ramb-ling roll - ing hill, the

steep, a - bove the ramb ling roll - ing hill, the

steep, a - bove the ram - bling hill a - bove the roll - ing hill, the

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5

ev - er - greens stand tall and still. Their *pp*

ev - er - greens stand tall and still. Their *pp*

8 ev - er - greens stand tall, the e - ver - greens stand still. Their *pp*

ev - er - greens stand tall, the e - ver - greens stand *pp*

*pp*

7

whis-'pring boughs do vi - gil keep, *mp*

whis-'pring boughs do vi - gil keep, *mp*

8 whis-'pring boughs do vi - gil keep, *mp*

still, their whis-'pring boughs do vi - gil *mp*

*mp*

9 *mp*

guard-ing sec - rets bu - ried deep be - neath the soft grass

*mp*

guard-ing se - crets bu - ried deep be - neath the soft grass

*mp*

guard-ing se - crets bur - ied deep be - neath the soft

keep, guard-ing se - crets bur - ied

12 *pp*

on the hill. At dusk their sha-dows gen - tly spill on

*pp*

on the hill. At dusk their sha-dows gent - ly spill on

*pp*

grass\_ on the hill, at dusk their sha-dows gent - ly spill on

deep, at dusk, on

14

*poco rit.* *a tempo*

those who lie and those who weep.

*poco rit.* *a tempo*

those who lie and weep.

*poco rit.* *a tempo mp*

those who lie and those who weep, — Walking o'er this hill — I've

*poco rit.* *a tempo mp*

those who weep. Walking o'er this hill I've

*poco rit.* *a tempo mp*

17

*mp*

Walk - ing o'er this hill — I've felt — the

*mp*

Walk - ing o'er this hill — I've — felt — the

*mp*

felt — the com - fort of that cool — green —

*mp*

felt — the com - fort of that cool green

19

com-fort of that cool green shade, daf-fo-dils and

com-fort of that cool green shade, gent-ly in the grass I knelt,

shade, as gent-ly in the grass I knelt,

shade, as gent-ly in the grass I knelt,

21

dai-sies laid up-on the souls who once I held, a -

daf-fo-dils and dai-sies laid up-on the souls who once I held, a -

daf-fo-dils and dai-sies laid up-on the souls who once I

daf-fo-dils and dais-ies laid up-on the souls who once I

24

- sleep be - neath the ev - er - shade. *rit.* *pp*

- sleep be - neath the ev - er shade, the ev - er - shade. *rit.* *pp*

held, a - sleep be - neath the ev - er - shade. *rit.* *pp*

held, be - neath the ev - er - shade. *rit.* *pp*

*rit.* *pp*



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