

Great Camelot was commissioned by Lynx Project for its 2017 Autism Advocacy Project, which sets the words of four individuals with autism to music in newly commissioned art songs. It received its premiere performance by tenor Steven Humes and pianist Florence Mak on October 27, 2017 at the Mason Middle School in Mason, Ohio, and October 28, 2017 at the Cincinnati Art Museum in Cincinnati, Ohio.

JULIANA HALL

GREAT CAMELOT

3 Songs for Tenor and Piano

on Texts by
Sameer Dahar

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Cover design by David Sims.

PROGRAM NOTES

Sameer Dahar is a young, autistic man who is primarily non-verbal, but communicates by pointing to letters on a board in a process called the Rapid Prompting Method. Using this method, Sameer created beautiful poems that inspired composer Juliana Hall to create a song cycle for tenor and piano based on Sameer's work. The texts of these songs possess mystery and deeply beautiful images, as imagined through Sameer's experience of living with autism.

GREAT CAMELOT

innocence

do not kings incline
upon pillows
do not waterfalls describe
homeland beauty
my autism enquires
can time erase innocence?
my soul cries out
no sorrow buys kindness
nothing of fear.
great Camelot home is bliss.

Traversing Great Solitude

Seas dark and greedy vanquish my sojourn
Traveler prince, his growing designs
It only breaks itself to mourn
Timid hands the sails decline

In circumference hastens belief
Earth's tides alone surmise
Portents rise licking the reef
Molecules boiling in the tide

Nestled bastions of time
Are aiming at the heart
Deeming storms ilk to find
A world over their charts

Your Music Emerges

Your music emerges sound and feeling. autism emerges senses with silence. marriage too beautiful to describe. make my poem opera manifest a hurricane of sound and madness.

—Sameer Dahar

Commissioned by Lynx Project for their 2017 Autism Advocacy Project
for Sameer Dahar

Great Camelot

Three Songs for Tenor and Piano

Sameer Dahar

Juliana Hall (ASCAP)

innocence

With assurance ♩. = 48

With assurance ♩. = 48

p

mp

do not kings in -

cline up - on pil - lows

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8

do not wa - ter - falls de - scribe

p

10

home - land beau - ty my

poco rit. *a tempo*
mp

12

au - tis - m en - quires can time e - rase

poco rit. *a tempo*
p

14 *mf*

in - no - cence? my

16 *f*

soul cries out

18 *mp*

no sor - row buys kind - ness

p

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Traversing Great Solitude

Sameer Dahar

Juliana Hall (ASCAP)

Wave-like ♩ = 72

Wave-like ♩ = 72

p

4

7

mp

Seas _____ dark and

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10

greed - y van - quish my so - journ__

13

mf

Trav - el - er prince,

mf

16

his grow - ing de -

19 *mp*

signs _____ It on - ly

22

breaks_ it - self to mourn

25 *p*

Tim - id hands _____ the sails _____ de -

pp

Your Music Emerges

Sameer Dahar

Juliana Hall (ASCAP)

With warmth ♩ = 66

With warmth ♩ = 66

p

4

7

mp

Your mu - sic e - merg - es

tr

tr

tr

tr

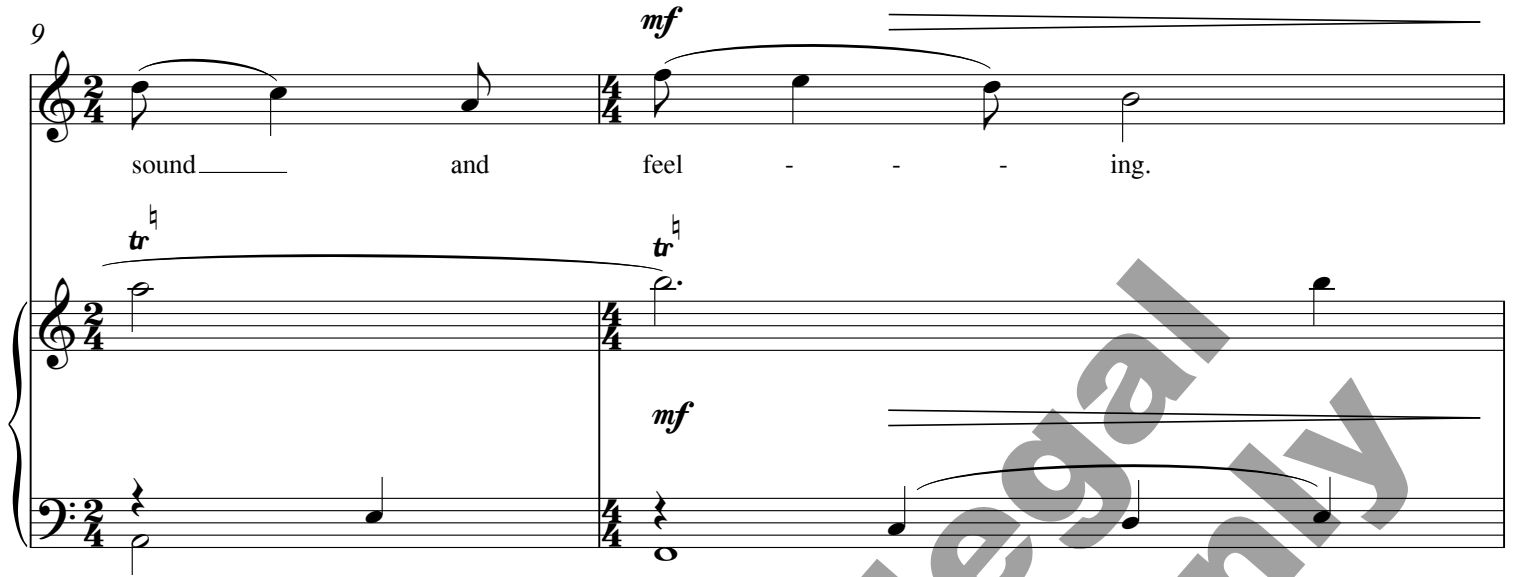
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9 *mf*

sound _____ and feel - - - ing.

tr *tr* *mf*



11

mp



13 *mp*

au - tis - m _____ e - merg - es sens - es with si - lence.

mp

