

Introduction

It is such a pleasure to see these pieces together in one collection. The oldest selection, 'Songbird', was written in my early 20s for the choir of close friends in which I sang. 'I remember' and 'In time of silver rain' were commissioned by a tightknit group of women in a rural community near my hometown. 'All the way home' and 'As you sing' were two of my first pieces written for choirs in England. The texts of these songs were inspired by messages I received from the commissioning choirs describing the joy of singing in their choral communities. 'The Birds' Lullaby' holds a special place in my heart, as it was a commissioned gift from a husband to his treasured wife and her choir. The Peninsula Girls Chorus of California premiered 'Voice on the Wind' in 2014, and, in 2016, 'Sing, my Child' was premiered by a group of nearly 500 singers at the International Choral Kathaumixw in British Columbia.

'Refuge' is a new release that was written in 2020 for the Atlanta Women's Chorus. It received an online premiere in 2021 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. 'All shall be well' was written in 2020 for the National Children's Chorus of the United States of America, with a text that was inspired by words shared with me by the choristers after the first wave of COVID-19 lockdowns. These young singers spoke of their choir and choral singing as places for self-care, self-expression, and healing.

As I look at the titles included in this collection and remember the musicians who have inspired them, I am reminded that choral music-making holds a tremendous power to connect and unite us. I am thankful to every person who inspired these pieces and grateful to Robyn Elton and Laura Jones for bringing this collection to life.

Sarah Quartel
March 2021

Songbird

Words and music by
SARAH QUARTEL
(b. 1982)

Light and playful ♩ = 92

SOPRANO
ALTO

unis. mf

I am a Song-bird; I will sing a - ny-thing. Give me a tune, I will

4

spin you gold. Clo - ser you come to the Song - bird weav - ing,

7

strong - er the thread of the mu - sic's hold. Feel in the breeze a

10

breath, a soar - ing song to you, and_ hear me say: 'I_____ am a Song-bird;

14

S. 1

S. 2

A.

I will sing a - ny-thing. Fol - low the breeze and_ come my way, come my way!'

I will sing a - ny-thing. Fol - low the breeze and_ come my way, come my way!'

Duration: 2.5 mins

Commissioned by Sharon Little and the Treble Makers Women's Choir
in celebration of their fifth anniversary, and dedicated to women who love to sing

I remember

Words and music by
SARAH QUARTEL

Gently flowing ♩ = 104

SOPRANO

ALTO

PIANO

Gently flowing ♩ = 104

mp legato

con Ped.

5 **SOPRANOS & ALTOS** *unis. mp*

S./A. I re-mem - ber,

10 I re-mem - ber days of sun - shine, days of

Duration: 4 mins

Also available in versions for unison voices and piano (978-0-19-355084-1), SABar and piano (978-0-19-353481-0), and solo voice and piano (high voice 978-0-19-354952-4/low voice 978-0-19-354953-1).

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Dedicated, with love, to Andrew Potter,
who commissioned this piece for Jan Spooner Swabey and JuSSt Voices

The Birds' Lullaby

E. Pauline Johnson (1861–1913)

SARAH QUARTEL

Playful and light, yet tender ♩ = 112

SOPRANO 1

SOPRANO 2 *mp*

unis. mp
ALTO 1
ALTO 2

mp

Sing _____ to us, ce - dars; the twi - light is creep - ing

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo

With sha-dow-y gar - ments, the wil-der-ness through; _____

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo through; _____

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo

Duration: 3 mins

Also available in a version for SATB unaccompanied (978-0-19-354369-0).

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Commissioned by Alex Patterson and the Radcliffe Ladies' Choir
in celebration of the choir's 25th anniversary

All the way home

Text written and inspired by
members of the Radcliffe Ladies' Choir as they
reflected on their motto, "friendship through singing"

SARAH QUARTEL

Contentedly rocking ♩ = 132

SOPRANO 1
SOPRANO 2
ALTO
PIANO

Contentedly rocking ♩ = 132

mp
con Ped.

poco rit.

a tempo

S. 1
S. 2

unis. mp

Sing to me com - fort, sing to me home, ___

mp

15

mp

sing to me friend - ships ___ I have known. ___ Sing me a place where

mp

Duration: 3.5 mins

Also available in versions for SATB and piano (978-0-19-354379-9) and solo voice and piano (high voice 978-0-19-354742-1/low voice 978-0-19-354743-8).

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Commissioned by Village Voices, Seer Green, Buckinghamshire; Jane Smith, conductor

As you sing

Words and music by
SARAH QUARTEL

Light and sparkling ♩ = 160

DRUM *

SOPRANO 1

SOPRANO 2 *mp* *la la la la*

ALTO *mp* *la la*

6

mf

mf *oo*

mm

mm

Duration: 3 mins

* Any hand drum with a warm sound.

Commissioned by the National Children's Chorus, United States of America

All shall be well

Julian of Norwich (1343–after 1416)

SARAH QUARTEL

Sarah Quartel, inspired by reflections from members
of the commissioning choir submitted in July 2020

From a place of warmth and openness ♩ = c.88

VIOLIN

PIANO

mp

mp

Ped.

poco rit.

mp

mf

mf

con Ped.

9 a tempo

mp

unis. *mp*

S. 1 *mp*

S. 2 *mp*

I give this song to you and the giv - ing fills me...

A. 1 *mp*

A. 2 *mp*

I give this song to you and the giv - ing fills...

a tempo

mp

Duration: 4.5 mins

Commissioned by the National Children's Chorus, United States of America

All shall be well

Julian of Norwich (1343–after 1416)
 Sarah Quartel, inspired by reflections from members
 of the commissioning choir submitted in July 2020

SARAH QUARTEL

From a place of warmth and openness ♩ = c.88

VIOLIN

mp

mp

poco rit. *a tempo*

mf *mp*

17 SOPRANO 1

Through ev - 'ry dark - ness, ev - 'ry ray of shin - ing light, I

21

mf *mf*

26 11 SOPRANO 1

poco rit.

Through ev - 'ry ray of shin - ing light, I know

Duration: 4.5 mins

Commissioned by The Richmond Singers, Richmond, British Columbia,
Natasha Neufeld, Artistic Director

Sing, my Child

Words and music by
SARAH QUARTEL

Light and dancing ♩ = 144

DRUM *

SOPRANO SOLO *mf*

SOPRANO DUET

SOPRANO

Sing for___ the pro-mise in each new___ morn-ing. Sing for___ the hope in a

4

new day___ dawn-ing. All a - round is beau - ty___ bright!_

7

Wake in___ the morn-ing and sing, my___ child,_ sing, my___ child._

10

TUTTI *f*

S. 1

S. 2

Sing for___ the pro-mise in each new___ morn-ing. Sing for___ the hope in a

unis. f

A. 1

A. 2

Sing for___ the pro-mise in each new___ morn-ing. Sing for___ the hope in a

Duration: 4.5 mins

* A cajón or large djembe is preferred, but any hand drum with a deep, rich sound will work well.

Also available in a version for SATB and hand drum (ISBN 978-0-19-351791-2).

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Refuge

Sara Teasdale (1884–1933)

SARAH QUARTEL

Resilient and strong ♩ = 69 **rall.** **a tempo**

SOPRANO ALTO

PIANO *p*
con Ped.

poco rall. **a tempo**

SOPRANOS & ALTOS unis. p

4 From my spi-rit's grey de - feat,

7 from my pul-se's flag-ging beat, from my hopes____ that

mp

mp

Duration: 3 mins

Commissioned by the Peninsula Girls Chorus of Burlingame, California,
and their Artistic Director Karyn Silva to celebrate 20 years of providing a place where girls find their voices

Voice on the Wind

Words and music by
SARAH QUARTEL

Freely, in your own time ♩ = 66

HAND DRUM *

SOLO or SMALL GROUP
mf

SOPRANO 1
SOPRANO 2

ALTO 1
ALTO 2

I heard a voice on the sum - mer wind,

5

hoo wah *hoo wah* *hoo* Who she

10

is I can't ex - plain. *hoo wah* *hoo wah*

Driving, with a sense of anticipation ♩ = 104

15

mp
TUTTI
mf

S. 1
hoo

S. 2
hoo

A. 1/2
hoo

Duration: 4 mins

* Alternatively a bodhrán may be used.

Also available in a version for SATB and hand drum (978-0-19-352587-0).

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