FILE OF MUSIC The Voice of Choral Music

KYRIE

SA Voices with Piano

Ruth Elaine Schram



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Language: Latin Use: General/Festival Time: Approx. 2:18 *Difficulty: Moderate

Note from the Composer

Kyrie is the first section of the sung Ordinary of the Mass. Although the Mass was originally in Latin, the *Kyrie* section retained its Greek text. Because of the simplicity, this text has been set to music literally thousands of times, not only as part of the mass, but as individual works. Many composers of the Renaissance (1430-1600) and Baroque (1600-1750) periods set the *Kyrie* to music many times. In some cases, *Kyrie* was based on a familiar tune or chant and thus became known by the name of that tune or chant.

This setting of *Kyrie* is chant-like. Follow the natural rise and fall of the melodic line. *Crescendo* as the line rises and *descrescendo* as the line falls. As you *descrescendo*, be sure to maintain good support so that the musical line does not sag.

At m. 13, feel free to speed up and apply more energy to the line "Christe eleison." There is a *molto rit*. at m. 21 in preparation for the return of the original thematic material at m. 27.

The last phrase is long, and it is suggested that there is no breath which will require staggered breathing. Three easy rules for staggered breathing: 1) Breathe at different times. 2) Breathe anywhere but at a bar line. 3) Enter softer than when you went out.

You will have a great musical experience with this work.

—R.E.S.

Pronunciation

There are only three vowels used in the *Kyrie* text: EE, EH and AW Maintain OO shaped lips when singing EE and EH for a warmer tone.

KEE-ree-eh eh –LEH – ee –Sawn KREE-steh eh –LEH – ee –Sawn

KEE-ree-eh eh -LEH - ee -Sawn

About the Composer

Ruth Elaine Schram wrote her first song at the age of twelve, her first octavo was published in 1988, and she became a full-time composer and arranger for choral music for church and school in 1992. Since 1990, over seventeen million copies of her songs have been purchased and she has been a recipient of the ASCAP Special Award. Her songs appear on thirty albums (four of which have been Dove Award Finalists) and numerous children's videos. Her songs have also appeared on such diverse television shows as "The 700 Club" and HBO's acclaimed series The Sopranos.

Ruthie began piano and theory lessons at the age of five. She studied music at Lancaster Bible College and Millersville State College and taught Elementary Music in Pennsylvania for several years. She currently lives in Birmingham, Alabama. Her current website is choralmusic.com.

Kyrie for SA Voices with Piano*

RUTH ELAINE SCHRAM



^{*} Also available for TB Voices (BL419).







BriLee Music

the Voice of Choral Music

BriLee Music, founded by the late Brian Busch in 1997, is the leader in publishing choral music written specifically for the developing middle school and junior high singer.

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Accessible accompaniments

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- Professional accompaniments can be used for rehearsal or performance.





