

We Sing of Home (Finlandia)
SATB a cappella

arr. Timothy C. Takach

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We Sing of Home (Finlandia)

for SATB a cappella choir

Commissioned by the 2014-2015 Hopkins High School Concert Choir
Philip Brown, conductor



Timothy C Takach.com

Text:

You've seen the plains at dawn, and felt the day's rain
Opened the earth, and planted your life there.
Heard in the wind, the tall grass whisper your name.
Somewhere the air makes peace with mystery,
Somewhere the hills now bloom, and rivers flow free.
Each song of home, is sung by trav'ling birds.

You've seen the stars at dusk, watched wishes burn bright.
Given your heart, in hope, despite the dark.
Over the miles the road that leads you homeward,
Is the path the moon takes, the sun keeps.
We hear the song the stars sing, and we join in.
We sing of home, we sing of love, of peace.

- Julia Klatt Singer

Notes:

When Philip Brown asked me to arrange "Finlandia" for his choir, I was doubtful. There are many arrangements out there in the choral market, and I had sung the piece for at least three years during my time with Cantus. What more could I say musically about the piece? Then our thoughts turned to creating a new text, and not only offering something new to choirs, but also tailoring the piece to his specific thematic program. I asked my friend and long-time collaborator Julia Klatt Singer to write a new poem that scans perfectly with the meter and stress of the existing music (not an easy task). She thankfully agreed, and wrote this text. The moments when her stresses didn't agree with how I knew the piece (both in Finnish and English) I took as opportunities to deviate from the commonly sung tune.

- Timothy C. Takach, 2014

I started writing by listening to the Finnish version of Finlandia. It had me remembering visiting the farms of my Finnish Grandmother and her sister, my Aunt Auni, in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. My aunts and uncles and cousins all spoke Finnish (my grandmother was one of 13 siblings), and I remember as a girl hearing the sounds of their words and not having a clue what they were talking about. So language became rhythm and sound, punctuated by laughter, quiet, screen doors slammed shut by the wind.

Writing, I thought about landscape, about home. I thought about sounds; of words, of the wind, of birds, of place. And even though those rocky fields, barns, fences and saunas weren't my home, it is a part of where I come from. It is a part of me. Having as an adult visited Finland, I was comforted and surprised to see how much the U.P. looks like Finland. The rocks, the grasses, the summer wildflowers, the vast blue skies.

There is mystery to place and to the past. Mystery we live with, and that lives in us.

- Julia Klatt Singer



Reviewed as "gorgeous" (Washington Post) and "stunning" (Lawrence Journal-World), the music of Timothy C. Takach is rapidly gaining momentum in the concert world. Applauded for his melodic lines and rich, intriguing harmonies, Takach is a full-time composer and has received a number of commissions from various organizations including VocalEssence, the St. Olaf Band, Cantus, Pavia Winds, cellist Kirsten Whitson, The Singers – Minnesota Choral Artists, and the University of Notre Dame DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. His compositions have been performed on A Prairie Home Companion, The Boston Pops holiday tour, multiple All-State and festival programs and at venues such as the Library of Congress, Kennedy Center and Royal Opera House Muscat.

Takach has been awarded grants from the American Composers Forum, Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, the Minnesota State Arts Board and Meet the Composer, and yearly ASCAP awards since 2004. He received a BA in Music Theory and Composition at St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN, where he graduated with honors. Takach lives in Minneapolis with his wife and two sons.

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We Sing of Home (Finlandia)

for SATB a cappella choir

Julia Klatt Singer

Jean Sibelius
arr. Timothy C. Takach

$\text{♩} = 96-100$

mp

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Mm...

Mm...

Mm...

Mm...

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Okay, you can look at it.

5

S

A

T

B

p

p

p

p

Ah...

You've seen the plains at dawn, and felt the day's rain

You've seen the plains at dawn, and felt the day's rain

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Okay, you can look at it.



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For more information and to purchase scores please email tim@timothyctakach.com

We Sing of Home / Sibelius (Takach)

10

S Ah... Heard in the wind, the

A O-pened the earth, and plant-ed your life there. Heard in the wind, the

T O-pened the earth, and plant-ed your life there. Heard in the wind, the

B Heard in the wind, the

p

Okay, you can look at it.

16

S tall grass whis - pers your name. Some-where the air makes

A tall grass whis - pers your name. Some-where the air makes

T tall grass whis - pers your name. Some-where the air makes

B tall grass whis - pers your name. Some-where the air makes

mf *mp*

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20

S peace with mys - ter - y, Some-where the hills now bloom, and riv - ers

A peace with mys - ter - y, Some-where the hills now bloom, and riv - ers

T peace with mys - ter - y, Some-where the hills now bloom, and riv - ers

B peace with mys - ter - y, Some-where the hills now bloom, and riv - ers

f

We Sing of Home / Sibelius (Takach)

rit.

25

mf

S flow free. Each song of home, is sung by trav' - ling

mf

A flow free. Each song of home, is sung by trav' - ling

mf

T flow free. Each song of home, is sung by trav' - ling

mf

B flow free. Each song of home, is sung by trav' - ling

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Okay, you can look at it.

29

a tempo

p

S birds. Ah... Ah... Ah...

p *mf*

A birds. Ah... Ah... Ah...

p

T birds.

p

B birds.

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33

p Ah... Ah...

p Ah... Ah... Ah...

mp (not heavy)

T You've seen the stars at dusk, watched wish - es

mf bring out melody (not heavy)

B You've seen the stars at dusk, watched wish - es

We Sing of Home / Sibelius (Takach)

37 Ah... Ah... Ah... Ah... Ah... Ah...

S burn bright. Giv - en your heart, in hope, de spite the

A burn bright. Giv - en your heart, in hope, de spite the

T burn bright. Giv - en your heart, in hope, de spite the

B burn bright. Giv - en your heart, in hope, de spite the

mf *mp*

f *mf*

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41 Ah... Ah... Ah... Ah... Ah... Ah...

S O - ver the *f* Warmly *tutti* the road that leads you

A O - ver the miles the road that leads you

T dark. O - ver the miles the road that leads you

B dark. O - ver the miles the road that leads you

f Warmly

f Warmly

f Warmly

f Warmly

Okay, you can look at it.

Timothy C Takach.com

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45 don't lose energy *mp* don't lose energy *mp* don't lose energy *mp* don't lose energy *mp*

S home - ward, Is the path the moon takes, the sun

A home - ward, Is the path the moon takes, the sun

T home - ward, Is the path the moon takes, the sun

B home - ward, Is the path the moon takes, the sun

4

We Sing of Home / Sibelius (Takach)

molto rit.

♩ = 92 **Broader**

49

S keeps. _____ *f* We hear the song the stars sing, and we join in.

A keeps. _____ *f* We hear the song the stars sing, and we join in.

T keeps. _____ *f* We hear the song the stars sing, and we join in.

B keeps. _____ *f* We hear the song the stars sing, and we join in.

Okay, you can look at it.

54

S *mf* We sing of home, we sing of love, of peace. *p*

A *mf* home, we sing of love, of peace. *p*

T *mf* We sing of home, we sing of love, of peace. *p*

B home, we sing of love, *mf* Mm... _____

For perusal purposes only

58

S *p* Mm... *pp*

A *p* Mm... *pp*

T *p* Mm... *pp*

B *< p* Mm... *pp*

Selected vocal works for choir by Timothy C. Takach:

Mixed Voices	A Depth We Cannot Sound		SATB, vibraphone, marimba, large tom
	A Worshipper and a Man		SATB a cappella
	All Sisters and Brothers		SATB, 2 trumpets, organ
	And I Saw		SATB div. a cappella
	As the Sunflower Turns on Her God		SSAATBB div, Sop. solo, SSATB soli, a cappella
	The Darkling Thrush	(earthsongs)	SATB, SAT soli, a cappella
	From the Regions of Air		SATB a cappella
	Epitaph		SATB, viola
	I Leave, She Stays		SATB a cappella
	Listen to the Apples		SATB div. a cappella
	Neither Angels, Nor Demons, Nor Powers	(Graphite Publishing)	SSATBB a cappella
	Nubes Oriebatur: the eruption of Vesuvius		SSATBB a cappella
	One Boy Told Me		SATB, piano
	Something There is Immortal		SSATBB a cappella
	Su Rahva Koda (The House of Your Kindred)		SSAATTBB a cappella
	This Alien Landscape		SATB, crotales, suspended cymbal, bass drum
	To Live Forever		SSATB a cappella
	'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime (Huron Carol)	(Graphite Publishing)	SATB a cappella
	We Are Lost, We Are Lucky		SATB, piano
	We Sing of Home (Finlandia)		SATB a cappella
What I Have Done (Amazing Grace/House of the Rising Sun)		SATB a cappella	
Where Beauty Comes From		SATB, piano	
Treble Voices	And I Saw		SSAA div. a cappella
	Before We Get Dusty		SSAA, piano
	Cassiopeia		SSA a cappella
	Home on the Range (American Folk Song)	(Graphite Publishing)	2-part treble voices, piano
	Queen of the Range	(Graphite Publishing)	SA choir, piano
	Serenade	(Graphite Publishing)	SSAA a cappella
	She Moved Through the Fair (Irish Ballad)		SSAA a cappella
	The Streets of Laredo (American Folk Song)	(Graphite Publishing)	Unison, TTB, piano
Twenty Questions		2- part treble, piano	
Men's Voices	All Natures, Even Mine		TTTBB a cappella
	And Her Smoke Rose Up Forever		TTTBB a cappella
	Auld Lang Syne (Scottish Folk Song)		TTTBB a cappella
	Empty		TB (opt. div), piano, opt. djembe
	Go		TB, hand drum, wood block or clapping
	Goodbye, Then		TBB choir, Bb clarinet, piano
	I Will Howl		TBB choir, piano or cello
	It Is Not the Fact That I Will Die That I Mind		TB, piano
	Luceat Eis		TTTBB a cappella
	O Tannenbaum (German Christmas Carol)		TBB a cappella
	Rough Beast		TTBB, percussion
	Salve Regina	(Graphite Publishing)	TBB semi-chorus, TTBB chorus a cappella
	She Moved Through the Fair (Irish Ballad)	(Neil A. Kjos Music Co.)	TBB a cappella
	Susani (German Christmas Carol)		TBB a cappella
	Things I Didn't Know I Loved	(Graphite Publishing)	TTBB a cappella
	'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime (Huron Carol)	(Graphite Publishing)	TTBB a cappella
	Veni Creator Spiritus	(Graphite Publishing)	TTBB a cappella
	We Made a Grave For Him		TTBB a cappella
What Child is This (Traditional)	(Neil A. Kjos Music Co.)	TTBB a cappella	
What I Have Done (Amazing Grace/House of the Rising Sun)		TTTTBBB a cappella	