REPERTOIRE TIPS

Selected works for mixed choir

LINDA ALEXANDERSSON

Three Songs from the Dominican Breviary (2009) Dur: 7'40"

SATB and 4 soloists from the choir Text: from the Dominican Breviary (Lat)

A tribute to Arvo Pärt in serene harmonies, innovatively structured to invoke an austere cathedral atmosphere.



Love's Philosophy (2023) Dur: 5'30" 16-part mixed choir Text by P. B. Shelley (Eng)

A bright and visionary composition with a large range and dynamic rhythmical fluctuations, where the singers are invited to be inspired by Nature - in the spirit of Shelley.



Agua nocturna (2004) Dur: 6'30" SSAATTBB, solo cello Text: Octavio Paz (Spa

A prize-winning setting of a dramatic poem by Octavio Paz. With hints of Renaissance polyphony, the work has some neo-spiritualist qualities, with the cello part adding to the mysterious ambience.

ALEX FREEMAN

Calle sin nombre (2019) Dur: 7'10" Text: Alex Freeman (Spa)

The texts are drawn from desperate quotations by asylum seekers who are the victims of family-separation policies. The beautiful, sonorous music subtly follows the moods of the words

Cathedral of Spring (2019) Dur: 17'30" mixed choir (div.)

Text: e.e. cummings, Robert Frost (Eng)

This four-part choral cycle opens with the frenetic and joyous poetry of e.e. cummings and continues with musical visions of spring and the dainty flutter of butterflies. The final movement is a kind of hymn ending in harmonies that are manna to the ears

NANA FORTE The Bells (2023) Dur: 5' SMzATRarR

Text: Edgar Allan Poe (Eng)

A fast-paced and expressive setting of Poe's jingling, tinkling, clanging, clashing, roaring, shrieking, rhyming and chiming Bells.

ŽIBUOKLĖ MARTINAITYTĖ Aletheia (2022) Dur: 15'

16-part mixed choir Text: phonetical

A work sparked off by the attack on Ukraine, reaching out to direct wordless expression of the horrors of the war. It has been hailed as music that goes beyond words: heartfelt, powerful and poignant. There are also aspects of folk music and ritual.

Ululations (2023) Dur: 14'30"

16-part mixed choir Text: phonetical

A ritualistic, magic-invoking piece expressing mourning: the sorrow of those whose loved-ones are at war, fighting and dying. The intensity of the music builds up to a beautiful, sustained sequence of radiance. "Masterly in its simultaneous strangeness and immediacy," according to one review.









PER GUNNAR PETERSSON 40

Text: Piae cantiones (Lat)

Spring has now unwrapped the flowers (2023) Dur: 13' double choir SATB (or CtCtTB) + SATB div.

A broadly flowing, dynamically changing praise of spring. Commissioned by the King's Singers and Mogens Dahl Chamber Choir

EINOJUHANI RAUTAVAARA

Orpheus singt (2016) Dur: 7' Text: Rainer Maria Rilke (Ger)

This three-movement choral work is one of the last to be composed by Rautayaara. but is based on the song cycle 5 Sonette an Orpheus of 1955. The powerful charge, carefully-conceived form and meticulously-modernistic harmonies represent Rautavaara at his most masterly.



ALBERT SCHNELZER

Angels (2024) Dur: 16' SATB div. and cello ad lib. Text: W. Blake, L. Hunt, P. L. Dunbar, E. Dickinson, A. B. Paterson (Eng)

A choral suite where the five poem's different moods inspire colorful orchestration, playfulness, moments of austere beauty and rhythmic drive.



BENJAMIN STAERN

In Paradisum — Song to the People of Ukraine (2022) Dur: 6' SMzATBarB Text: Antiphon from Requiem (Lat)

In this beautiful, lyrical work Staern has refined his vocal writing by using a wellknown cantus firmus based on the ancient In Paradisum as a foundation for the voices.

While composing this work the war in Ukraine broke out.



ANN-SOFI SÖDEROVIST

Crossroads (2022) Dur: 12' SMzATBarB Text: Malin Hülphers (Eng)

The text is based on the first article from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

and depicts the complexity in what is written and making them a reality. Söderqvist creates a rich and rhythmic tapestry that culminates in a tender, unison "We are humankind."



MATTHEW WHITTALL

Songs of Travel (2021) Dur: 30' mixed choir (div.)

Text. R.L. Stevenson (Eng)

An ambitious five-part choral cycle. The middle three songs are brighter in tone. "In the highlands" features folk-like motives: bagpipe-like strains and herding calls. "The infinite shining heavens" is a rapt, glowing meditation. In "Evensong" the voices build

up to a beautiful, melancholy finale of glowing soundscapes.



This is a work about the process of love, from falling in love to the companionship of building a life, having children and letting go. The three songs employ the same soft harmonic palette; "somewhere i have never travelled" is a rhapsodic part song, "love is a place" is suspended in a blissful, near-timeless haze, and "i carry your heart" is a freewheeling polyphonic ballad.

