

Song for St. Cecilia

Ken Johnston

For double SATB choir and organ

Text adapted from *Song for St. Cecilia's Day, 1687* by John Dryden

Commissioned by The Hadley Court Singers with subsidy from the Scottish Arts Council

Composed 1997/8

First performance by The Hadley Court Singers, directed by Jenny Sumerling,
in St. Mary's church, Haddington, Scotland, April 1998

Duration of piece: 6'

The organ part is available separately (with no voice parts shown)
This avoids difficult page turns

An orchestrated version of this piece is available (replacing the organ part)
The orchestration is 2 fl, 2 ob, 2 cl (in A), 2 bsn, 4 hn, 2 tpt (in Bb), 2 trb, tp, perc (1 player), str

Song for St. Cecilia

For double SATB choir and organ

Text adapted from
Song for St. Cecilia's Day, 1687
by John Dryden (1631 - 1700)

Ken Johnston

Slow but flexible tempo ♩ = c.52

S.1
A.1
T.1
B.1
S.2
A.2
T.2
B.2
Organ
pedal

From Har - mo - ny, from hea - ven - ly Har - mo - ny This

u - ni - ver - sal frame be - gan: When Na - ture un - der - neath a heap of

u - ni - ver - sal frame be - gan: When Na - ture un - der - neath a heap of

Duration: 6'

9

S.1
A.1

T.1
B.1

S.2
A.2

T.2
B.2

Org.

jar-ring a-toms lay And could not heave her head, The tune-ful voice was

mp (voice was)

mp

15

S.1
A.1

T.1
B.1

S.2
A.2

T.2
B.2

Org.

heard from high, A - rise, A - rise, A - rise, ye more than

A

f

ff

A - rise, A - rise, A - rise, A - rise,

ff

A

20

S.1
A.1

dead! From har - mo - ny, from hea - ven - ly

T.1
B.1

S.2
A.2

ye more than dead! From har - mo - ny, from hea - ven - ly

T.2
B.2

Org.

p **B** *p* *mp*

(pedal)

26

S.1
A.1

har - mo - ny This u - ni - ver - sal frame be - gan:

T.1
B.1

S.2
A.2

har - mo - ny This u - ni - ver - sal frame be - gan:

T.2
B.2

Org.

f **C** A little faster ♩ = c.60

f *f* *f* *mp*

30

S.1
A.1

sopranos and altos *mp*

What pas - sion can - not Mu - sic raise and

S.2
A.2

sopranos and altos *mp*

Org.

33

S.1
A.1

quell? When Ju - bal struck the chor - ded shell His list - ening bre - thren stood a - round, And,

S.2
A.2

Org.

36

S.1
A.1

wond - ering, on their fa - ces fell to wor - ship that ce - le - stial sound.

S.2
A.2

div.

Org.

39 **D** *p*

S.1
A.1 Ah

T.1
B.1 *mp* tenors and basses
Less than a god they thought there could not dwell With-

S.2
A.2 *p* Ah

T.2
B.2 *mp* tenors and basses
Less than a god they thought there could not dwell With-

Org.

42

S.1
A.1 Ah Mu - sic raise and

T.1
B.1 in the hol - low of that shell That spoke so sweet - ly and so well. What pas - sion can - not Mu - sic raise and

S.2
A.2 Ah Mu - sic raise and

T.2
B.2 in the hol - low of that shell That spoke so sweet - ly and so well. What pas - sion can - not Mu - sic raise and

Org.

45

E

S.1
A.1
quell? But oh! what art can teach,

T.1
B.1
quell? *mp*

S.2
A.2
quell? But oh! What

T.2
B.2
quell? *mp* *p* *mp*

Org.
(pedal)

48

S.1
A.1
Ah Notes in - spir - ing ho - ly love,

T.1
B.1
p *mp cresc.*

S.2
A.2
hu - man voice can reach The sa - cred or - gan's praise? Ah

T.2
B.2
p cresc.

Org.
cresc.

51

S.1
A.1

T.1
B.1

S.2
A.2

T.2
B.2

Org.

Notes that wing their hea - ven - ly ways — To mend the choirs a - bove. —

To mend the choirs a - bove. —

54

S.1
A.1

T.1
B.1

S.2
A.2

T.2
B.2

Org.

f **F**

But bright Ce - cil - ia raised the won - der

f **F**

But bright Ce - cil - ia

57

S.1
A.1

high'r: When to her or - gan vo - cal breath was giv'n An an - gel heard, an

T.1
B.1

S.2
A.2

raised the won - der high'r: When to her or - gan vo - cal breath was giv'n An an - gel

T.2
B.2

Org.

60

S.1
A.1

an - gel heard, and straight ap - pear'd Mis - ta - king Earth for

T.1
B.1

mp

S.2
A.2

heard, an an - gel heard, and straight ap - pear'd Mis - ta - king Earth for

T.2
B.2

mp

Org.

rit.

10

G
A tempo *p* rit. Tempo primo *p*

S.1
A.1
Heav'n. So_

T.1
B.1
p *p*

S.2
A.2
Heav'n. So_

T.2
B.2
p *p*

Org.
A tempo *p* rit. Tempo primo *p*

68

S.1
A.1
when_ the last and dread- ful_ hour_ This crum- bling pag- eant shall de - vour, The_

T.1
B.1

S.2
A.2
when_ the last and dread- ful_ hour_ This_ crum - bling pag - eant shall de - vour, The_

T.2
B.2

72

cresc. *mf* *p*

S.1
A.1

trum - pet shall be heard on high, The dead shall live, the liv - ing

T.1
B.1

cresc. *mf* *p*

S.2
A.2

trum - pet shall be heard on high, The dead shall live, the liv - ing

T.2
B.2

cresc. *mf* *p*

75

rit.

S.1
A.1

die, And Mu - sic shall un - tune, un - tune the sky.

T.1
B.1

rit.

S.2
A.2

die, And Mu - sic shall un - tune, un - tune the sky.

T.2
B.2