

Music and Text by
Cheryl B. Engelhardt

Commissioned by:
Voices of Concinnity Chamber Ensemble

The Breadth Of Blossoms

SSATB + Improv Soloist
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Text

When blossoms move slowly, I see.

When time is upon us, I see.

When blossoms move slowly, I see.

When time is upon us, I see.

Spring is not lost (It is lost for me)

Where is spring?

Spring is not lost (I am lost)

Lost.

Spring appeared while we were running ragged.

To see its stillness, we evolved.

We evolved.

Restore, reset after pushing through the frozen ground.

Haven't we evolved enough?

Enough!

I see.

I fear.

I grieve.

I rest

I weep

I see.

We're humbled by the breadth of blossoms,

blooming through stormy winds.

The breadth of blossoms is wide.

We're humbled by the breadth of blossoms,

blooming through the breeze.

The breadth of blossoms, the breadth of...

I see you this time.

You, you,

the light that gives life to love.



Notes about “The Breadth of Blossoms”

This piece was commissioned by Voices of Concinnity Chamber Ensemble. Wanting to create a true collaborative process for the singers during a time when singing together was no longer the “norm”,

Cheryl held a zoom meeting to discuss the impact of COVID19 on the choir.

A large variety of emotions, circumstances, and responses surrounding COVID-19 was revealed. And, however different the singers' experiences, there was common ground in the belief that there was more space to notice spring than ever before.

The piece was written specifically for a virtual experience. Rather than have all the singers sing alone, to a midi or guide track, Liz (soprano 1) sang her part then sent her recording to Cheryl, who sent it to the next singer, who sent his part back to Cheryl. Those two parts were combined and sent to the third singer, and so on. Each singer was able to sing "with" their choirmates.

In the collaborative process, Cheryl was able to poll the choir to see what words were important to them, what ranges they most wanted to sing, and, if anyone wanted to perform an improvisation. The text “Restore, reset after pushing through the frozen ground” was developed from a comment made by bass Jermaine Woodard, Jr. on that initial zoom call, who, on the original recording (found at www.cbemusic.co/breadth) sang the improvised solo.

~Cheryl B. Engelhardt



About the Composer

Cheryl B. Engelhardt studied orchestration at Juilliard School of Music after graduating from Cornell University. It was at Cornell where she discovered a cappella and became the musical director of the school's oldest all-female a cappella group. Cheryl has also performed in the White House and Lincoln Center, and became a founding member of and composer for the internationally acclaimed non-profit social justice choir Voices21C.

Cheryl is an accomplished singer-songwriter who has recorded four piano-pop albums, toured the United States and Europe with her band, and garnered over 40 TV show placements of her songs. Her fifth album *Luminary* hit #1 on the iTunes and Amazon New Age charts.

Along her journey, Cheryl became truly committed to helping other musicians find their ideal careers. She launched *In The Key Of Success*, a website of resources for musicians. She founded the musician's lifestyle blog *Living On Giggling* and hosts the music business podcast *Key Conversations*.

Cheryl lives in the Hudson Valley with her mountain guide husband. Her website is www.cbemusic.com.

The Breadth of Blossoms

Cheryl B. Engelhardt

As a free, yet stressed, breeze ♩ = 90

Solo

p Ooh - - - - -

Sop

p Ooh - - - - -

Alto

- - - - -

A Staggered breathing when unmarked.

S

p Ooh - - - - -

A

p Ru• ru ru etc. - - - - -

T

p Ru• ru ru etc. - - - - -

B

p Ru• ru ru etc. - - - - -

B

S

- - - - -

A

When blos-soms move slow-ly, I see. When time is u-pon us, I

T

When blos-soms move slow-ly, I see. When time is u-pon us, I

B

*Breath

• "R" is flipped, closer to a soft "d" sound.

* Breath marked with x = audible IN breath
Breath with o = audible OUT breath

22

S1

22

S2

22

A

22

T

22

B

mp When time is u-pon us I see.

mp When blos-soms move slow-ly, I see.

see. When blos-soms move slow-ly, I see. When time is u-pon us, I see. *mf* Spring is not

mf When time is u-pon us, I see. *mf* Spring is not

**Breath*

*Breath

C

27

S

27

A

27

T

27

B

It is lost for me, I am lost. Lost.

lost. Spring is not lost. *pp* Lost.

lost. Spring is not lost. *pp* Lost.

mp Where is spring? *pp* Lost.

D

35

S

35

A

35

T

35

B

mp Spring a-ppeared while we were run-ning rag-ged.

mp Ooh - - - rag-ged.

mf Spring spring a-ppeared while we were run-ning rag-ged.

mf Spring a-ppeared a-ppeared while we were run-ning run-ning run-ning run-ning run-ning rag-ged.

E

F

Solo

To see its still-ness, we e - volved.

T or B solo improv: "Restore, reset after

S

Ooh

We e - volved.

Do do do

A

Ooh

e - volved.

Do do do

T

Ooh

e - volved.

Do do do

B

Ooh

e - volved.

Do do do

Solo

pushing through the frozen ground. Solo end*.

accel.

S

do do do

Have' nt we e - volved e - nough? **ff** E - nough!

A

do do do

mf Have' nt we e - volved e - nough? **ff** E - nough!

T

do do do

mf Have' nt we e - volved e - nough? **ff** E - nough!

B

do do do

mf Have' nt we e - volved e - nough? **ff** E - nough!

a tempo

56 *mf* I see. I see.

56 **Breath* *mf* I rest. **Breath* *pp* I see

56 *p* I fear *mf* I weep *pp* I see. We're

56 *mp* I grieve. *pp* I see.

56 *p* I rest. *pp* I see.

62 **Breath* **Breath* *mp* We're

62 hum - bled by the breadth of blos - soms, bloom - ing through storm y

62 **Breath* **Breath* *mp* Bloom - ing,

65

S1 *mp* We're hum - bled by the breadth of blos - soms, bloom - ing through the breeze

S2 hum - bled by the breadth of blos - soms, bloom - ing through the breeze

A winds. The breadth of blos - soms is wide. The

T *mf* The breadth of blos - soms is wide. Bloom - ing.

B bloom - ing. The breadth of blos - soms bloom ing in the...

69

S The breadth of blos - soms, the breadth of *Breath *Breath

A breadth of blos - soms, the breadth of *f* breadth of *Breath *Breath

T *f* breadth of *f* breadth of *Breath *Breath

B The breadth of blos - soms, *f* breadth of *Breath *Breath

J

S *p* me. _____

A 73 *pp* I see you this time.

T 73 8 *pp* I see you this time.

B 73 *pp* I see you this time.

pp I see you this time.

Solo 77 *rit.* *p* he that that gives life to love

S 77 *f* You, *pp* you, *pp* Ooh _____

A 77 *f* You, *pp* you, *pp* love.

T 77 8 *f* You, *pp* you, *pp* Ooh love.

B 77 *f* time. *pp* you, *pp* Ooh _____