Alexis Renee Ford

Gorgeous Blue Eyes

"Something Blue" from Four Wedding Songs

for SSAATTBB Chorus, a cappella



About the Work

Gorgeous Blue Eyes comes from a larger set entitled the Four Wedding Songs which was dedicated as a wedding gift to Stephen and Stacey Squier on the eve of their wedding on July 29th, 2010. The four movements of the work were inspired by the tradition to give a bride "something old, something new, something borrowed, and something blue" with each movement in the piece representing these.

Finding the text for the final "something blue" movement was the most challenging seeing as the color blue is not typically associated with marriage or love. When I ran across this poem by South African poet, Tinka Boukes, I knew I had found the text for my final movement.

The piece opens with short, warm phrases as it layers the various harmonies and textures introduced before the first true climax. As the climax begins to relax, the music falls into the polyphonic textures of the second section. The musical ideas of this final movement attempt to capture everything from the nerves, to the excitement, to the rush and the emotion of those last few moments before the bride takes her first steps down the aisle. Just as the bride's mind may be consumed by a million different feelings and emotions, the music of the 'dancing' section unfolds; any distinguishable melody is passed from voice part to voice part and the ear never quite decides who at that moment is taking charge. The tension builds with each step until the bride finally sees the eyes of her future husband at the end of the aisle. With her gaze fixed, the music broadens and resolves into the piece's final cadence, finally reaching its end as the bride arrives at the altar and can think of nothing but those eyes.

Duration: Approx. 3' 45"

I crave to embrace you To feel you, your voice A gentle breeze in my ear A smile lights up my face As I look at you *Into those gorgeous blue eyes* Full of life Full of love No thoughts make me happier Than dancing in the sand with you As shades of purple sunset fades away Connected to all that is you Elegant and graceful Time forgotten The shadow of a smile remains The sun trying to take another peek Gazing through the windows of my soul As I take another look Deep into those gorgeous blue eyes

About the Composer



Alexis Renee Ford (b. 1988, USA) is a composer, conductor, singer, music educator, adjudicator, and accompanist. As a composer, Alexis has had performances and premieres of her pieces in Europe, Africa, and throughout the United States. She enjoys taking on new projects and commissions and often does composing workshops and clinics with groups performing her music.

With degrees in both composition and conducting, Alexis currently serves as Director of Music at Grace Lutheran Church in Hockessin, DE and was recently appointed as the Music Director of the professional chamber

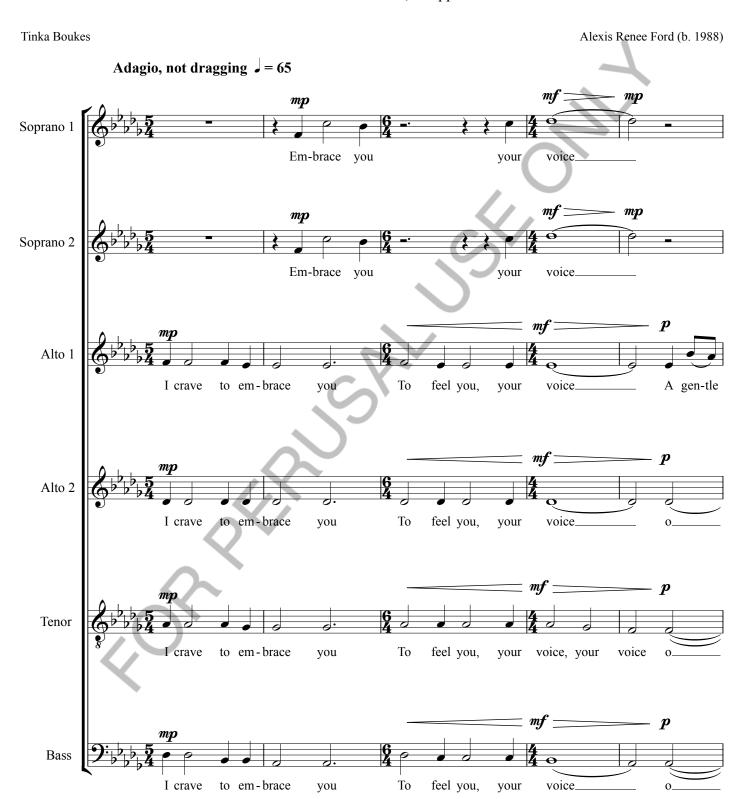
choir, Vox Populi, In addition, Alexis serves on the board of several non-profit arts organizations, performs regularly in the Greater Philadelphia Area, and maintains a private music studio.

To learn more about Alexis and her work, visit her website at www.alexisreneeford.com

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More choral works by Alexis Renee Ford

Tu Lumen SSATB, a cappella

A Boy and a Girl SSAATTBB, a cappella

Christus Factus Est SSATBB, a cappella/string orchestra/organ

A Late Walk SSAA, Soprano and Alto solo, a cappella

Misericordias Domini SSATB, a cappella

Rorate Caeli SATB, Soprano solo, a cappella

Hush-A-Bye SATB, Soprano trio, a cappella

Who Knows If The Moon'sSATB, Soprano and Tenor solo, a cappella

Three Strands SSAATB, Soprano solo

She Tells Her Love *SATB, a cappella*

A Thing of Beauty SATB, Soprano and Tenor solo, a cappella

Ubi Caritas Et Amor SSATB, Tenor solo, a cappella

All Lovely Tales SATB, a cappella

For more information, recordings, and sample scores of these and other compositions, visit www.alexisreneeford.com