

Michal Dawson Connor



I HEAR MUSIC IN THE AIR

FOR SATB CHOIR AND SOPRANO SOLO

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for SATB choir and soprano solo

An indomitable sense of hope, and unvarnished sorrow, permeate each line and melody of these unforgettable songs- forged in the anvil of abject misery and despair, aching for freedom's light.

Humiliated beyond all human reckoning, and given no respite from the daily drudgery of endless toil- these fiercely resilient souls somehow persevered, despite the harshest obstacles- leaving behind a true golden legacy of words and music to cherish. In his famous autobiography, Frederick Douglass wrote:

"Slaves sing most when they are most unhappy. The songs of the slave represent the sorrows of his heart; and he is relieved by them, only as an aching heart is relieved by its tears."

I am deeply honored to present these musical footprints of my proud ancestors- and hope that by singing them, we pause to remember the undaunted courage and grit of the men and women who originally composed them.

— MICHAL DAWSON CONNOR

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I Hear Music in the Air

for SATB choir, *a cappella* and soprano solo

Spiritual

Arr. Michal Dawson Connor

Con Desiderio (♩=55)

Solo

His track I see and I'll pur-sue to have a home in glo-ry. The

Solo

nar-row way to him I'll flow to have a home!

Solo

Ah! I hear you call-ing...

S

O-ver my head, I hear mu-sic in the air. O-ver my

A

O-ver my head, I hear mu-sic in the air, in the air. O-ver my

T

O-ver my head, I hear mu-sic in the air, in the air. O-ver my

B

O-ver my head, I hear mu-sic in the air, in the air. O-ver my

Pno.

(for rehearsal only)

14

S *p sub.* *f*
 head, I hear mu-sic in the air. O-ver my head. I hear

A *p sub.* *f*
 head, I hear mu-sic in the, I hear mu - sic ho - ly, o - ver my head. I hear

T *p sub.* *f*
 head, I hear mu-sic in the, I hear mu - sic ho - ly, o - ver my head. I hear

B *p sub.* *f*
 head, I hear mu-sic in the, I hear mu-sic ho - ly, o - ver my head. I hear

Pno.

19

S *mp*
 mu-sic in the air, in the air. There must be a God some - where.

A *mp*
 mu-sic in the air, in the air. Must be a God some - where.

T *mp*
 mu-sic in the air, in the, in the air. Must be a God some - where.

B *mp*
 mu-sic in the air, in the air. A God some - where.

Pno.

25

S *mf* Un-der my feet, I can feel the sto-ny ground, sto - ny ground. *mp* Un-der my

A *mf* Un-der my feet, I can feel the sto - ny ground, sto - ny ground. *mp* Un-der my

T *mf* Un-der my feet, I can feel the sto - ny ground, sto - ny ground. *mp* Un-der my

B *mf* Un-der my feet, I can feel the sto - ny ground, sto - ny ground. *mp* Un-der my

Pno.

30

S *mf* feet I can feel the sto-ny ground, the sto-ny ground. *p* Hea-vy this heart,

A *mf* feet I can feel the sto - ny ground, the sto-ny ground. *p* Hea-vy this heart,

T *mf* feet I can feel the sto - ny ground, the sto-ny ground. *p* Hea-vy this heart,

B *mf* feet I can feel the sto - ny ground, the sto-ny ground. *p* Hea-vy this lone-ly heart,

Pno.

43

S I hear it call-ing me, all the day long, won-drous and fair, sounds like a voice

A I hear it call me, all the day, Je - sus. Won-drous and fair, sounds like a, Je - sus,

T I hear it call me all the day long, won-drous and fair, sounds like a, Je - sus,

B I hear it call me all the day long, won-drous and fair, sounds like a, Je - sus,

Pno.

47

S whis-per-ing in my ear. Lead-ing me on to camp - ground. O-ver my head, I hear mu-sic in the *f*

A whis-per-ing in my ear. Lead-ing me on to camp - ground. O-ver my head, I hear mu-sic in the *f*

T whis-per-ing in my ear. Lead-ing me on to camp-ground. O-ver my head, I hear mu-sic in the *f*

B whis-per-ing in my ear. Lead-ing me on to camp - ground. O-ver my head, I hear mu-sic in the *f*

Pno.

52

S
air. O-ver my head, I hear mu-sic in the air.

A
air, in the air. O-ver my head, I hear mu-sic in the, I hear mu - sic

T
air, in the air. O-ver my head, I hear mu-sic in the, I hear mu - sic

B
air, in the air. O-ver my head, I hear mu-sic, mu-sic in the, I hear mu - sic

Pno.

57

S
— O-ver my head. I hear mu-sic in the air, in the air. There *mf*

A
ho - ly, o - ver my head. I hear mu-sic in the air, in the air.

T
ho - ly, o - ver my head. I hear mu-sic in the air, in the, in the air. *mf*

B
ho - ly, o - ver my head. I hear mu-sic in the air, in the air.

Pno.

62

S *p subito*
must be a God some - where, some - where, there must be, there must be, there must be, there

A *mf* *p subito*
Must be a God some - where, some - where, there must be, there must be, there must be, there

T *p subito*
Must be a God some - where, some-where, there must be, there must be, there must be, there

B *mf* *p subito*
A God some - where, some - where, there must be, there must be, there must be, there

Pno.

68

S
must be, there must be, there must be a God, oh, — hea-vy my heart,

A
must be, must be, must be God, oh, — hea-vy my heart,

T
must be, must be, must be God, — oh, — hea-vy my, hea-vy my,

B
must be, must be, must be God, oh, — hea-vy my heart,

Pno.


73

Allargando

S 
 wea-ry my feet, there must be a God some - where.

A 
 wea-ry my feet, there must be a God some - where, some - where.

T 
 wea-ry my feet, there must be a God some - where, some - where.

B 
 wea-ry my feet, there must be a God some - where, some - where.

Allargando

Pno. 

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