

SATB choir, piano

jocel In Chagen

#### **BELONG**

Home is home no longer. (When) I'm grown and gone, Where will I belong?

Could I belong with you? Could I shelter and share bread with you? Could we belong?

The house is sold. The family scatters. Sisters, brothers far away.

> Could you belong with me? Would you shelter and share bread with me? Could we belong?

Our country boils with anger. Bullets fly, friendships shatter. Life is short. But life, it matters.

> Come, you belong with me. We'll shelter and share bread together. We belong.

> > ~ Marisha Chamberlain

#### **Program Note**

The text to "Belong" was created specifically for this work, and commissioned by the Youth Chorale of Central Minnesota. The message is timeless, and focuses on what "you" and "I" can do to create a sense of community, even if that very community is being challenged or facing hardship. Musically, the melody of the refrain is the same in its first and second statements, yet in two different keys. The first refrain is based on the lydian mode in F, while the second refrain is based on the lydian mode in C. For the final refrain, I combined both phrases in their original modes, repeating the exact same pitches from both of the earlier statements. The result is a surprising yet beautiful harmonic progression on "Come, you belong with me" in m. 63. I wanted to reflect on the fact that these two different melodies (or ways of thinking) could be stated together. They can come together and work together, and create a wonderful new sound. It is my belief that this is what needs to be happening in the world as well. Effective solutions are built on compromise and the ability to find creative ways of resolving the issue. The result of which can be the most surprising and gorgeous harmony.

~ Jocelyn Hagen (composer)

In a nation increasingly, wonderfully diverse, the need to belong takes on a new poignancy. Humans are social creatures. We need to belong. Alfred Adler, Freud's rebel disciple, tells us that the drive to belong is as essential to survival as any other drive, and may be the primary drive.

The lyrics for this anthem were written expressly for young voices. As kids grow up, the challenge of finding friends and love becomes especially fierce. Kids must go forth and make new homes. This requires reaching out to others, and risking rejection. So much risk, so much trial and error. The quest to find a place to belong also requires the young person to decide what they believe. What does it mean to have something in common? On what basis will I belong? Hate binds people into belonging. But, very fortunately, so does love.

~ Marisha Chamberlain (lyricist)

#### Belong

SATB choir and piano

Text by: Marisha Chamberlain

Jocelyn Hagen





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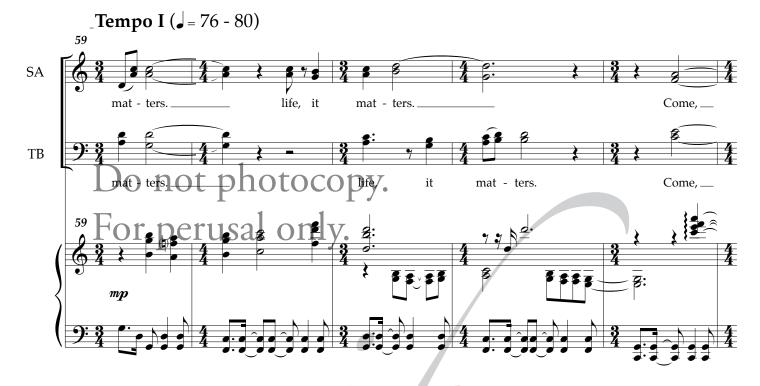
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#### Jocelyn Hagen



Jocelyn Hagen (b.1980), a native of Valley City, North Dakota, composes music that has been described as "dramatic and deeply moving" (Star Tribune, Minneapolis/St. Paul). Her first forays into composition were via songwriting, and this is very evident in her work. The majority of her compositional output is for voice: solo, chamber and choral. In 2012 she collaborated with choreographer Penelope Freeh to create "Slippery Fish," a quartet for 2 dancers, soprano and viola, and the piece was reviewed as "completely original in all respects." (Star Tribune, Minneapolis/St. Paul). Currently she is Artist-in-Residence at the North Dakota State University School of Music, where she teaches, writes curriculum and brings in collaborators to perform her work.

Jocelyn holds degrees in Theory, Composition, and Vocal Music Education from St. Olaf College, as well as a Masters degree in Composition from the University of Minnesota. Jocelyn has received grants and awards from ASCAP, the American Composers Forum, Minnesota Music Educators Association,

the McKnight Foundation, the Jerome Foundation, VocalEssence, the Yale Glee Club, the Lotte Lehman Foundation, the Sorel Medallion Competition, the Cincinnati Camerata, the University of Minnesota, and the San Francisco Song Festival. Her commissions include the American Choral Directors Association, Texas, Georgia and Connecticut Choral Directors Associations, the North Dakota Music Teacher's Association, The Singers — Minnesota Choral Artists, Trio Callisto, the Murasaki Duo, Cantus, the Houston Chamber Choir, the Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra, the St. Olaf Band, NDSU Gold Star Band, the ND Army Band, and the Copper Street Brass Quintet. Her music is independently published through her website as well as through Graphite Publishing, Santa Barbara Music Publishing and Boosey and Hawkes.

#### Independently published choral works by Jocelyn Hagen:

Agnus Dei, from amass Agnus Dei, from Ashes of Roses April and the Sun Benedictus, from amass Divine Image **Endless** Forgotten Gloria, from amass In the Lavender Stillness of Dawn I Saw Two Clouds at Morning Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee Ladies in Green Moon Goddess No Rain Numeri Atque Voces On My Dreams Ophelia Prayer Salve, Regina Sanctus, from amass Someone Will Remember Us Trees Need Not Walk the Earth Under the Stars, One Holy Night Veni, Sancte Spiritus Vespertilians

SATB choir, piano (four hands) TTB div. a cappella, Bar. solo SATB a cappella choir SSAATTBB a cappella choir, SATB soli treble choir, women's choir, SSATB choir, oboe and piano SATB choir, 2 violins and piano SSA choir, oboe and piano SATB a cappella double choir SSA choir, violin, cello and piano SSAATTBB a cappella choir SSAATTBB a cappella choir SSA choir and piano SSA choir, 4-hand piano, percussion SSAATTBB a cappella choir, SSA soli TTBB and SATB choirs SATB div. choir, piano, opt. trap set SATB a cappella choir SA div. choir, violin and piano SSA a cappella choir SSATBB a cappella choir, SA soli SSAA choir, violin, viola, cello and harp SATB choir, piano, marimba & rain stick treble choir, women's choir, 2 instruments in C and piano SATB a cappella choir SATB a cappella choir

Extended works for chorus
Ashes of Roses (48')
amass (65')
Swimming Into Winter (17')

requiem for SATB choir, orchestra, and soloists SATB choir, STB soli, cello solo, cello quartet, guitar and percussion trio SATB (divisi) choir, winds and percussion

