

Vow  
GP-T016.4  
SATB a cappella

Jocelyn Hagen and Timothy C. Takach

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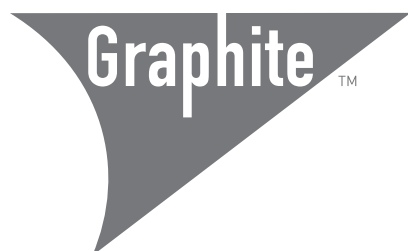
# Jocelyn Hagen & Timothy C. Takach

## Vow

from *This is How You Love*

for a cappella SATB choir

Commissioned and composed for The Esoterics and Eric Banks, Founding Director,  
for the first program of The Esoterics' 25th concert season, DĒLECTŌ, with partial support from a grant by the National Endowment for the Arts.



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Text:

I'll love you until stars fall. Can this be  
So sure, so lasting as my heart demands  
Of one, whose slightest touch upon my hands  
Is like the wind inside an aspen tree?

I am in doubt of this frail thing I hold  
So sworn to constancy, and this is why:  
Too often I have watched a burnt-blue sky  
Where slipping stars spilled scarlet and grew cold.

*- Florence Hynes Wilette, used with permission*

## Vow

for SATB a cappella

Jocelyn Hagen &amp; Timothy C. Takach

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12 *mf*

S Ah... Ah...

A Ah...

T Ah... Ah...

B Ah...

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18 *p* Tender & Patient ♩ = 54

S I'll love you un - til stars fall. Can this be So sure, So

A I'll love you un - til stars fall. Can this be So sure, So

T I'll love you un - til stars fall. Can this be So sure, So

B I'll love you un - til stars fall. Can this be So sure, So

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24

S sure, so last - ing as my heart de - mands my

A sure, so last - ing as my heart de - mands my

T sure, so last - ing heart de - mands my

B sure, so last - ing heart de - mands my

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28

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*poco a poco cresc.*

S heart de - mands Of one, whose slight - est touch \_\_\_\_\_ up - on my hands \_\_\_\_\_

A heart de - mands Of one, whose slight - est touch \_\_\_\_\_ up - on my hands \_\_\_\_\_ Is

T heart de - mands Of one, whose slight - est touch \_\_\_\_\_ up - on my hands \_\_\_\_\_ Is

B heart de - mands Of one, whose slight - est touch \_\_\_\_\_ up - on my hands \_\_\_\_\_ Is

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34 *mp* *p* = 60

S \_\_\_\_\_ the wind \_\_\_\_\_ in - side an as - pen tree?

A like the wind \_\_\_\_\_ in - side an as - pen tree?

T like the wind \_\_\_\_\_ in - side an as - pen tree?

B like the wind \_\_\_\_\_ I, \_\_\_\_\_

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40 *pp* *p*

S I am in doubt of this frail thing I hold So sworn to

A I am in doubt of this frail thing I hold So sworn to

T I am in doubt of this frail thing I hold So sworn to

B I am in doubt of this frail thing I hold So sworn to

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45 *mp* *f* *mp*

S con - stan - cy, and this is why: Too of - ten I have watched a burnt - blue sky Where

A con - stan - cy, and this is why: Too of - ten I have watched a burnt - blue sky Where

T con - stan - cy, of - ten I have watched a burnt - blue sky Where

B con - stan - cy, of - ten I have watched a burnt - blue sky Where

49 *mf* *p* *rit.*

S slip - ping stars spilled scar - let and grew cold. I will love you un - til

A slip - ping stars spilled scar - let and grew cold. I will love you un - til

T slip - ping stars spilled scar - let and grew cold. I will love you un - til

B slip - ping stars spilled scar - let and grew cold. I will love you un - til

53 *mp* *p* *p* *p*

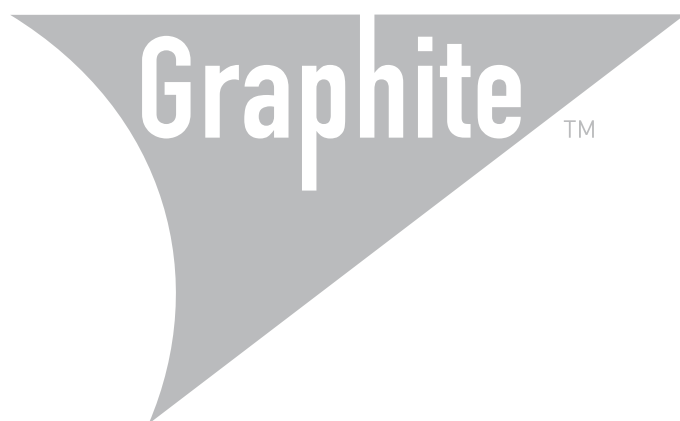
S stars fall. I will love you. I will.

A stars fall. stars fall. I will love you. I will.

T stars fall. un - til stars fall. I will love you. I will.

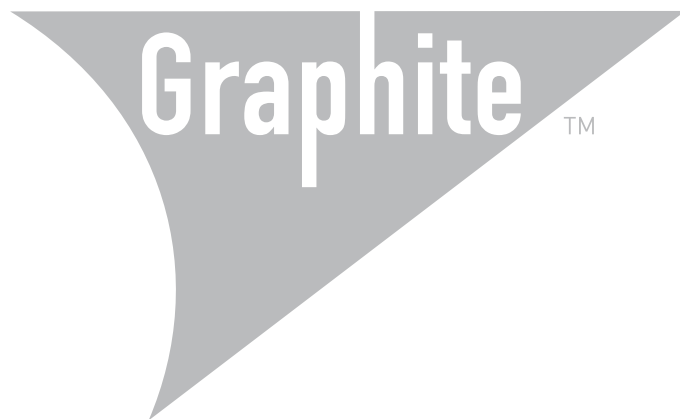
B stars fall. un - til stars fall. I will love you. I will.

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## Jocelyn Hagen



Jocelyn Hagen composes music that has been described as “simply magical” (Fanfare Magazine) and “dramatic and deeply moving” (Star Tribune, Minneapolis/St. Paul). She is a pioneer in the field of composition, pushing the expectations of musicians and audiences with large-scale multimedia works, electro-acoustic music, dance, opera, and publishing. Her first forays into composition were via songwriting, still very evident in her work. Her melodic music is rhythmically driven and texturally complex, rich in color and deeply heartfelt. In 2023 her opera *The Song Poet*, written with Hmong writer Kao Kalia Yang, premiered with Minnesota Opera, and sold out their run over six months prior to the premiere date. In 2019 she celebrated the premiere of her multimedia symphony *The Notebooks of Leonardo da Vinci*, which includes video projections created by a team of visual artists, highlighting da Vinci’s spectacular drawings, inventions, and texts. The work has already been performed over thirty times across the United States, including Sweden. Hagen describes her process of composing for choir, orchestra and film simultaneously in a Tedx Talk given at the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, now available on YouTube. Hagen’s commissions include *Conspirare*, the Minnesota Opera, the Minnesota Orchestra, Voces8, the International Federation of Choral Music, *Conspirare*, True Concord Voices and Orchestra, Cantus, the Boston Brass, the Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra and the St. Olaf Band, among many others. Her work is independently published through JH Music, as well as through Graphite Publishing, G. Schirmer, EC Schirmer, Fred Bock Music Publishing, Santa Barbara Music Publishing, and Boosey and Hawkes.

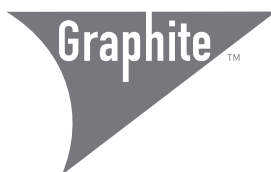
## Timothy C. Takach



Inspired by captivating narrative, speculative fiction and making better humans through art, the music of Timothy C. Takach is a mainstay in the concert world. Applauded for his melodic lines, thoughtful text choices and rich, intriguing harmonies, Takach has received commissions and performances from GRAMMY Award-winning ensembles Roomful of Teeth and the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, Santa Fe Desert Chorale, the St. Olaf Band, Cantus, U.S. Army Field Band and Soldiers’ Chorus, Lorelei Ensemble, the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, and numerous other organizations. His compositions have been performed on A Prairie Home Companion, The Boston Pops holiday tour, PBS, and at venues such as the Library of Congress, Kennedy Center and Royal Opera House Muscat. He is a co-creator of the theatrical production of *All is Calm: the Christmas Truce of 1914*, by Peter Rothstein. Takach’s a cappella choral symphony *Helios* is “larger than life, as if the piece were accompanied by an orchestra” and is “complemented with brilliant visuals created by CandyStations” (Tucson.com). In 2023 his ballet *Unfashioned Creature* was premiered in St. Paul, MN by the James Sewell Ballet. Takach was a co-founder, singer and Artistic Co-Director of the vocal ensemble Cantus and has frequent national work as a composer-in-residence, presenter, clinician and lecturer. He lives in Minneapolis with his wife and two sons.

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