

SSA choir and piano

jocel nagen

TEXT:

"Dum Spiro Spero" (While I breathe, I hope.)

Follow one breath.

Go where it goes
down to the dark,
past bone,
past heart,
past hurt,
to light,
to rest only a moment
in the strength of your soul's cupped hands.

Hope is born here, hope is cradled, breathing itself, ready to rise with your breath and return through your heart through your voice through your song.

~ Brian Newhouse

NOTES:

The latin phrase "Dum Spiro Spero" translates to "While I breathe, I hope." The phrase is of indeterminate origin, but featured as the motto for several places and organizations, including the U.S. state of South Carolina. This seemed a fitting addition to Brian Newhouse's beautiful poem written during the pandemic. For me, nothing is quite as hopeful as song and the act of singing. This music should feel wonderful to sing, full of hope and joy, full-throated and flourishing.

~ Jocelyn Hagen

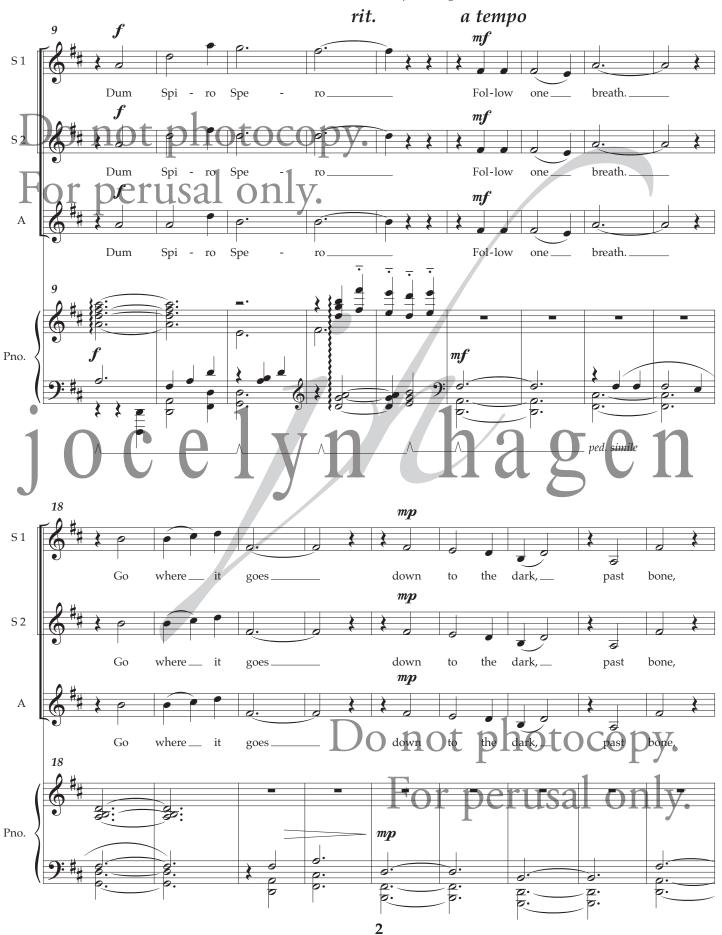
While I Breathe, I Hope

SSA choir and piano



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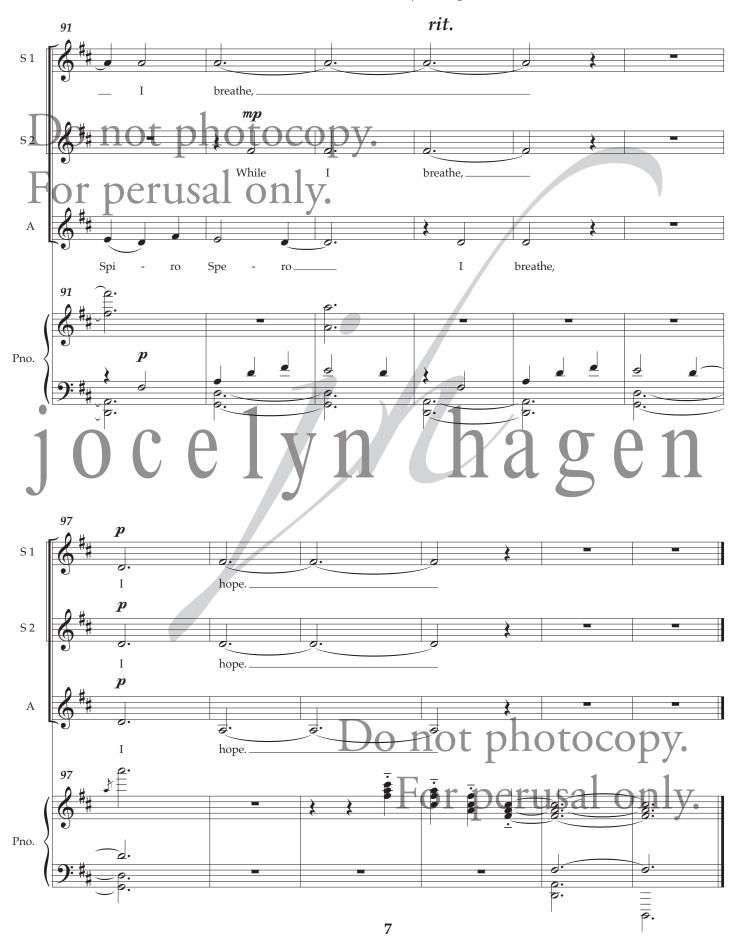












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Jocelyn Hagen



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. The majority of her compositions are for the voice: solo, chamber and choral. Her melodic music is rhythmically driven and texturally complex, rich in color and deeply heartfelt.

In 2019 and 2020, choirs and orchestras across the country are premiering her multimedia symphony *The Notebooks of Leonardo da Vinci* that includes video projections created by a team of visual artists, highlighting da Vinci's spectacular drawings, inventions, and texts. 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. Her dance opera collaboration with choreographer Penelope Freeh, *Test Pilot*, received the 2017 American Prize in the musical theater/opera division as well as a Sage Award for "Outstanding Design." The panel declared the work "a tour de force of originality."

In 2013 Hagen released an EP entitled MASHUP, in which she performs Debussy's "Doctor Gradus ad Parnassum" while singing Ed Sheeran's "The A Team." She is also one half of the band Nation, an a cappella duo with composer/performer Timothy C. Takach, and together they perform and serve as clinicians for choirs from all over the world.

Hagen's commissions include Conspirare, the Minnesota Opera, the Minnesota Orchestra, the International Federation of Choral Music, the American Choral Directors Association of Minnesota, Georgia, Connecticut and Texas, the North Dakota Music Teachers Association, 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, ECS Publishing, Fred Bock Music Publishing, Santa Barbara Music Publishing, and Boosey and Hawkes.

Independently published choral works by Jocelyn Hagen:

Agnus Dei, from Ashes of Roses April and the Sun Benedictus, from amass Divine Image **Endless** Forgotten I Saw Two Clouds at Morning Ladies in Green Moon Goddess Numeri Atque Voces On My Dreams Ophelia Prayer Salve, Regina Sanctus, from amass Someone Will Remember Us Trees Need Not Walk the Earth Veni, Sancte Spiritus

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 SSAATTBB a cappella choir SSA choir and piano SSA choir, 4-hand piano, percussion 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 SATB a cappella choir

Extended works for chorus

Ashes of Roses (48') amass (65') The Notebooks of Leonardo da Vinci (35') Songs for Muska (70') Swimming Into Winter (17') requiem for SATB choir, orchestra, and soloists SATB choir, STB soli, cello solo, cello quartet, guitar and percussion trio SATB choir, orchestra or chamber orchestra, video projections SATB choir, soloists, violin, cello, mandolin, harp, 2 percussionists SATB (divisi) choir, winds and percussion

