

Alex Berko

We Listen

for SATB chorus *a capella*



ALEX BERKO MUSIC

First performance on July 23, 2017 at the Big Sky Choral Initiative in Big Sky, Montana
by The Crossing conducted by Donald Nally

*the farthest reach from the sun
still holds a trace of light.*

*she is the effervescent watchtower
who guides our wary flight.*

*there is no harmony in love's division,
but with empathy, we listen*

so that we may create

the poet's songs and artist's dreams

*to build the brilliant tapestry
of earth's interwoven energies.*

- Anastasia Sistevaris

Duration: ca. 6 minutes

- PROGRAM NOTE -

"Arts are representative of the era from which they come."

-Roy Berko, PhD

It is the responsibility of the artist to listen to the world with discerning ears and capture moments in history so that they may be translated into and communicated through art. Music is a way to understand people and emotions, events and reactions, dreams and experiences. Many musicians choose to become musicians because it is their way of making sense of the world. When a piece of music is performed, the ideas, emotions, experiences, and lessons behind those notes take on a new shape, and every time that the music is sung or played, those ideas are reborn. It is the artists' responsibility to create beautiful art out of the things that happen to or around him/her. It is the artists' job to do or say something in a way that hasn't been said or done before. And most importantly, it is the artists' duty to listen.

We Listen

(2017)

Anastasia Sistevaris
(b. 1994)

Alex Berko
(b. 1995)

$\text{♩} = 64$, floating, full of bottled energy

2 Sopranos *pp* *mf* *p sub.* *p* *p sub.*
oh oo oh oo

2 Sopranos *p* *p sub.* *p* *p sub.* *p*
oh oo oh oo oo

2 Altos *p* *p sub.* *p* *p sub.* *mf*
oh oo oh oo oh

2 Altos *p* *p sub.*
oh oo

5 *accel.* $\text{♩} = \text{ca.} 128$ Tempo I ($\text{♩} = 64$) *accel.* $\text{♩} = \text{ca.} 128$

2 S *mp* *p* *pp* *mp* *p*
oo oh oo oo oh oo

2 S (no cresc.)
oo oh oo

2 A *p sub.* *p* *p sub.* *pp distant*
oo oh oo far - thest,

2 A *mp* *pp distant* *pp* *p* *pp*
oh oo far - thest oo oh oo

S *pp* *mf* *pp* *mf*
(f) - far - thest, (f) - far - thest

A *mp* *mp*
far - thest, far - thest

Tempo II (♩ = 68)

accel. . . . a tempo

12 *mf* < *f* > *mp* *p* *mf* < *f* >

2 S sun (n) still holds a

2 S *mf* < *f* > *mp* *p* *mf* < *f* > *f* >
sun (n) far - thest still holds a

2 A *mf* < *f* > *mp* *p* *mf* < *f* > *f* >
sun far - thest oh oo still holds a

2 A *mf* < *f* > *mp* *mf* < *f* > *f* >
sun (n) still holds a

S *mf* < *f* > *mp* *mf* < *f* > *f* >
sun still holds a

A *mf* < *f* > *mp* *p* *mf* < *f* > *f* >
sun (n) still holds a

T *mf* < *f* > *mp* *mf* < *f* > *f* >
sun still holds a

B *mf* < *f* > *mp* *mf* < *f* > *f* >
sun holds a

poco rit. . . . a tempo

16 *mp* *p* *p*

2 S trace oh oo of light.

mp *p* *p*

2 S trace oh oo of light.

mp *p*

2 A trace of light.

mp *p*

2 A trace of light.

mp *p*

S trace of light.

mp *p*

A trace of light.

mp *p*

T trace of light.

mp *p*

B trace light.

21 ♩ = 72, moving forward, with rubato

2 S *p* *mp* *p*
 she is the ef fer

2 S *p* *mp* *p*
 she is the ef fer

2 A *p* *p sub.*
 is the oh oo

2 A *p* *p sub.*
 is the oh oo

S *mp* *p*
 she is the ef fer

A *mp* *p*
 is the ef fer

T *mp* *mp* *p*
 she is, she is the ef fer, ef fer

B *mp* *p*
 ef fer

2 S
ves - cent, _____ ves - cent watch - tower _____ who

2 S
ves - cent, _____ ves - cent watch - tower _____ who

2 A
oh oo _____ ves - cent watch - tower _____ who

2 A
oh oo _____ ves - cent watch - tower _____ who

S
ves - cent, _____ ves - cent watch - tower _____ who

A
ves - cent, _____ ves - cent watch - tower _____ who

T
ves - cent, _____ ef - fer - ves - cent watch - tower _____ who

B
ves - cent, _____ ves - cent watch - tower _____ who

29 *mp* *mf* *mp*

2 S guides our war - y flight,

2 S *mp* *mf* guides our war - y flight,

2 A *mp* *mf* *mp* guides our war - y flight,

2 A *mp* *mf* *mp* guides our war - y flight,

S *mp* *mf* guides our war - y flight

A *mp* *mf* *mp* guides our war - y flight

T *mp* *mf* *mp* guides, guides our war - y, war - y flight,

B *mp* guides, guides our war - y

33

poco rit. - - a tempo

Musical score for voices and bass. The score consists of eight staves. The top seven staves are for voices: 2 S (Soprano), 2 S (Soprano), 2 A (Alto), 2 A (Alto), S (Soprano), A (Alto), and T (Tenor). The bottom staff is for Bass (B). The music is in 4/4 time and features a tempo change from 'poco rit.' to 'a tempo'. The lyrics are 'flight, flight, fly'. The score includes dynamic markings such as *mp* and *>*. The lyrics are: flight, flight, fly. flight, flight, fly. flight, flight, flight. flight, flight, flight. flight, flight, fly. flight, flight, flight. flight, flight, flight. flight, flight, flight.

rit.

39

♩ = 92; lush and lilting

accel.

37

p *pp*

2 S

2 S

2 A

2 A

S

A

T

B

no har - mo -

there is, there is, there is no har - mo -

there is, there is, there is

there is, there is, there is

♩ = 132 rit. . . . ♩ = 92

42

mp *mf* *p*

S
ny _____ in love's di -

A
ny _____ in love's, in love's, in love's di -

T
no har - mo - ny _____ in love's, in love's

B
no har - mo - ny _____ in love's, in love's

ny _____

46

S
vi - - - - - sion, _____

A
vi - - - - - sion, _____

T
in love's di - vi - sion, di - vi - sion, in love's di -

B
in love's di - vi - - - - sion _____

p

S
 — but with em - pa - thy, — we, — we lis - ten, —

A
 — but with em - pa - thy, — we, — we lis - ten, —

T
 vi - sion, but with em - pa - thy, — we, — we lis - ten, —

B
 vi - sion, but with em - pa - thy, — we, — we lis - ten, —
 but with em - pa - thy, — we, — we lis - ten, —

p

mp

2 S
 oh — oh — oo —

S
 — lis - ten, — lis - ten, — lis - ten, — lis -

A
 lis - ten, — lis - ten, — lis - ten, — lis - ten, — lis -

T
 lis - ten, — lis - ten, — lis - ten, — lis - ten, — lis -

B
 — — — — — lis - ten, — — — — — lis -

58 oh oo oh

2 S oo oh oo

S 1 *cresc. poco a poco*
 ten, lis - ten, oh oo

S 2 *cresc. poco a poco*
 ten, lis - ten, lis - ten, lis - ten, lis - ten

A 1 *cresc. poco a poco*
 oo oh oo

A 2 *cresc. poco a poco*
 ten, lis - ten, lis - ten, lis - ten, lis - ten, lis -

T 1 *cresc. poco a poco*
 ten, lis - ten, lis - ten, lis - ten, lis - ten, lis -

T 2 *cresc. poco a poco*
 ten, lis - ten, lis - ten, lis - ten, lis - ten, lis -

B 1 *cresc. poco a poco*
 ten, lis - ten, lis - ten, lis - ten, lis - ten, lis -

B 2 *cresc. poco a poco*
 ten, lis - ten, lis - ten, lis - ten, lis - ten, lis -

62 *f* ah

2 S oh ah ah

S 1 oh ah

S 2 oh ah

A 1 oh ah

A 2 ten, lis - ten ah

T 1 ten, lis - ten ah

T 2 ten, lis - ten, lis - ten, lis - ten,

B 1 ten, lis - ten, lis - ten, lis - ten,

B 2 *mf* *f* ten, lis - ten lis - ten, lis - ten,

66

2 S
lis - ten _____ ah _____

S 1
lis - ten _____ *mf*

S 2
oh _____ *mp* _____ *f* _____ lis - ten, _____

A 1
oh _____ *mp* _____ *f* _____ lis - ten _____

A 2
lis - ten, _____ *mp* _____ *f* _____ lis - ten, _____ list -

T 1
lis - ten, _____ *ff* _____ lis - ten, _____ lis - ten, _____

T 2
lis - ten, _____ *ff* _____ lis - ten, _____ lis - ten, _____ lis - ten, _____

B 1
lis - ten, _____ *ff* _____ lis - ten, _____ lis - ten, _____ lis - ten, _____

B 2
lis - ten, _____ *ff* _____ lis - ten, _____ lis - ten, _____ lis - ten, _____

70

2 S

ah

mp

ah

S 1

p

ah

S 2

li - sten

p

A 1

lis - sten

p

ah

A 2

ten

p

ah

T 1

T 2

B 1

B 2

74

2 S ah

mp energized

S 1 ah ah ah

mp energized

S 2 so that we may cre - ate,

mp

A 1 we may cre - ate,

mp energized

A 2 ah we may cre - ate,

mp energized

T 1 so that we may cre - ate

mp energized

T 2 so that we may

B 1

B 2

78 poco rit. 79 ♩ = 72, spinning, full of life

2 S

S 1 *p full*
cre - ate, cre - ate

S 2 *p full*
cre - ate cre -

A 1 *p full*
cre - - - - ate,

A 2 *p full*
cre - - - - ate, cre -

T 1 *p full*
cre - - - - ate, cre -

T 2 *p full*
cre - - - - ate, cre -

B 1 *p*
cre -

B 2

poco rit.

82

S 1
po - et's songs art - ist

S 2
ate po - et's songs art - ist

A 1
cre - ate the po - et's songs art - ist

A 2
ate po - et's songs art - ist

T 1
ate the po - et's songs and art - ist's

T 2
ate the po - et's songs and art - ist's

B 1
ate the po - et's songs and art - ist's

B 2
p
po - et's songs and art - ist's

86 a tempo

pp

S 1 dreams

pp

S 2 dreams, dreams

pp

A 1 dreams,

pp

A 2 dreams dreams

pp

T 1 dreams, dreams,

pp

T 2 dreams,

pp

B 1 dreams

pp

B 2 dreams

The musical score is for a SATB choir, rehearsal mark 86, in 3/4 time, a tempo, with piano (pp) dynamics. The lyrics are "dreams". The score is arranged in eight staves: Soprano 1 (S 1), Soprano 2 (S 2), Alto 1 (A 1), Alto 2 (A 2), Tenor 1 (T 1), Tenor 2 (T 2), Bass 1 (B 1), and Bass 2 (B 2). The lyrics are: S 1: "dreams"; S 2: "dreams, dreams"; A 1: "dreams,"; A 2: "dreams dreams"; T 1: "dreams, dreams,"; T 2: "dreams,"; B 1: "dreams"; B 2: "dreams".

S 1

S 2

A 1
dreams to

A 2
to

T 1
dreams to

T 2
dreams to

B 1

B 2

ppp

ppp

ppp

ppp

ppp

ppp

S *pp* < *p* > *pp* *pp* < *p* > *pp*
 build _____ bril - liant _____

A *pp* < *p* > *pp* *pp* < *p* > *pp*
 build _____ the bril - liant _____ bril - liant _____
 build _____ bril - liant _____ bril - liant the bril - liant

T *pp* < *p* > *pp* *pp* < *p* > *pp*
 build _____ the bril - liant _____ the bril - liant

B *pp* < *p* > *pp* *pp* < *p* > *pp*
 build _____ bril - liant _____



a tempo

100

S *p* > *pp* (no cresc.) in - ter -
 tap - es - try of _____ earth's in - ter -

A *p* > *pp* (no cresc.) in - ter -
 tap - es - try of, _____ earth, earth's in - ter -
 tap - es - try of _____ earth's in - ter -

T *p* *pp*
 tap - es - try _____ in - ter -

B *p*
 tap - es - try _____

105

S
wo - ven en - er - gies oh

A
wo ven en er gy

T
wo - ven en - er - gy

B
ven en er gies

mf

mf

mf

p *mf*

110

S
oo

A
oh lis - ten lis - ten lis - ten we lis - ten

T
lis - ten lis - ten lis - ten we lis - ten

B
lis - ten lis - ten lis - ten we lis - ten

pp

p *mp* *p* *pp* *ppp*

pp

mp *p* *pp* *ppp*