

PAUL JOHN RUDOI
COMET (FROM SPHERES OF INFLUENCE)

PJR - 015A
SATB CHOIR, A CAPPELLA



Comet
from **SPHERES OF INFLUENCE**

SATB Choir, a cappella

WHAT WE KNOW IS A DROP
AND WHAT WE DON'T KNOW IS AN OCEAN

– ISAAC NEWTON

The Texts

Comet, by Jim Togeas

The comet dances with the sun. It's orbit's curled
In conic sections in our heads. It beguiles
Ten billion eyes fanned across a peacock world
When it fans its tail across ten million miles,
Then, perihelion past, bends to its out-bound pace
Beyond the Dame of Love, the Lord of War
And paradise to let towards open space—
The earth gone now and sun shrunk to star.

There titanic galaxies redden and recede
Like trans-cosmic steamers plunging into night,
And a comet's a raft on the Sea of Naught
Where "Let there be light!" seems to have gone unsaid,
And God's forgot his great decree
That Being is but Nothing cannot be.

Biological Galaxies, by Sara Dailey

Your every cell is a galaxy,
with its own ellipses and orbits, nuclei
like miniature suns lighting up your
insides. You carry oceans within,
comprised of water as you are,
your pulse the universe's rhythm,
that interaction of gases and matter and heat.

So it's no mistake when I tell you
your movements are tidal,
or that I want you close
because gravity is like that,
or that when I hold you
I am holding the world.

The Composer



The music of award-winning composer Paul John Rudoj (b. 1985) is fast becoming an important force in the worldwide music community. Frequently supported through grant programs from the American Composers Forum, the Minnesota State Arts Board, and the Jerome Foundation, Paul's works have been commissioned and performed by various ensembles including Cantus, VocalEssence, the Vancouver Chamber Singers, the British Trombone Society, the Young New Yorkers Chorus, the Milwaukee Choral Artists, and the National Lutheran Choir.

Paul holds a degree in vocal performance from the Hartt School. He has performed and recorded as a tenor vocalist in the male vocal ensemble Cantus.

For more information or to purchase scores, please visit pauljohnrudoj.com.

PERUSAL SCORE



To purchase, please visit:
pauljohnrudo.com/store

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Thank you for your interest!

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Comet

from SPHERES OF INFLUENCE

Commissioned through the Minnesota State Arts Board
for Philip Brunelle and VocalEssence

Text by
JIM TOGEAS

Music by
PAUL JOHN RUDOI

Driving, swirling ($\text{♩} = \sim 100$)

Soprano *mf*
The com - et danc-es with the

Alto *mf*
The com - et danc-es with the

Tenor *mf*
The com - et danc-es with the sun. The com - et danc-es with the sun. The

Bass *mf*
The com - et danc-es with the sun. The com - et danc-es with the sun. The

S
sun. The com - et danc-es with the sun.

A
sun. The com - et danc-es with the sun. The com - et danc-es with the

T
com - et danc-es with the sun. The

B
com - et danc-es with the sun. The com - et danc-es with the sun.

Comet

5

S The com - et danc-es with the sun. The com - et danc-es with the

A sun. The com - et

T com - et danc-es with the sun. The com - et danc-es with the sun. The

B The com - et danc-es with the sun.

7

S sun. The com - et danc-es with the sun.

A danc-es with the sun. The com - et danc-es with the sun. The com - et

T com - et danc-es with the sun. The

B The com - et danc-es with the sun. The com - et danc-es with the sun.

9

S The com - et danc-es with the sun. The com - et danc-es with the

A danc-es with the sun.

T sun. The com - et danc-es with the

B

Comet

11

S *f* sun. *mf* The com - et danc-es with the sun.

A *f* The sun. *mf* The com - et danc-es with the sun.

T *f* sun. *mf* The com - et danc-es with the sun.

B *f* The sun. *mf* The com - et danc-es with the sun.

14

S *f* *mp* It danc - es with the sun. *mf* It

A *f* Its or - bit's curled In con -

T *f* *mp* It danc - es with the sun.

B *f* Its or - bit's curled In con -

16

S *f* danc - es with the sun. Its or - bit's Its

A *f* ic sec - tions in our heads. Its or - bit's Its

T *mf* *f* It danc - es with the sun. Its or - bit's the sun.

B *f* ic sec - tions in our heads. Its or - bit's Its

Comet

molto rit.

18

S or - bit's curled In con - ic sec - tions in our heads.

A or - bit's curled In con - ic sec - tions in our heads.

T In sec - tions It be - guiles Ten bil - lion

B or - bit's curled In con - ic sec - tions It be - guiles Ten bil - lion

mp *mp* *mf*

*Broad, but accel. poco a poco***Tempo I**

21

S eyes fanned a-cross a pea-cock world When it fans its tail a-cross ten mil - lion miles,

S (eh...) mil - lion miles,

A eyes fanned a-cross a pea-cock world When it fans its tail a-cross ten mil - lion miles,

T eyes a - cross ten mil - lion miles,

B eyes ten mil - lion miles,

mf *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff*

* Continuing from "heads" to eh without the ending consonant, oscillate between pitches at independent, individual speeds.

Comet

5

26 *mf*

S Then, — per - i - he - lion past, bends to its out - bound pace — Be - yond the Dame of

A Then, — per - i - he - lion past, bends to its out - bound pace — Be - yond the Dame of

T Then, — per - i - he - lion past, bends to its out - bound pace — Be - yond the Dame of

B Then, — per - i - he - lion past, bends to its out - bound pace — Be - yond the Dame of

28 *mp*

S Love, per - i - he - lion past, per - i - he - lion past, the Lord of

A Love, per - i - he - lion past, per - i - he - lion past, the Lord of

T Love, per - i - he - lion past, per - i - he - lion past,

B Love, per - i - he - lion past, per - i - he - lion past, the Lord of

30 *mf* *mp*

S War per - i - he - lion past,

A War per - i - he - lion past, per - i - he - lion past, per - i - he - lion

T War per - i - he - lion past, per - i - he - lion past, per - i - he - lion past, And

B War And

32

S per - i - he - lion past, per - i - he - lion past, par - a - dise

A past, per - i - he - lion past, par - a - dise

T par - a - dise per - i - he - lion past, And par - a - dise

B par - a - dise And par - a - dise

mf dolce

34

S par - a - dise par - a - dise par - a - dise par - a - dise to

A par - a - dise par - a - dise par - a - dise par - a - dise

T par - a - dise par - a - dise And par - a - dise par - a - dise to

B And par - a - dise And par - a - dise par - a - dise

mf

molto rit.

37

S let towards o - pen o - pen space

A to let towards o - pen space

T let towards o - pen o - pen space

B o - pen space

ff

* Hold, no breath or movement. Then breath on quarter pickup to next measure.

$\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 56$

S
Light... *ff* *mf* *n.*

S
Light... *mf* *mp* (light...)

A
Light... *ff* *mf* *n.*

T
8 The earth gone now *f* *ff*

B
The earth gone now *f* *ff*

S
44 Light... *f* *mp* *n.* Light...

S
44 Night... *p*

A
Light... *f* *mp* *n.* Light...

T
and sun shrunk to star. *f* *mp*

B
and sun shrunk to star. *f* *mp*

* Sing "light" (or "night" later) quickly on one or more of the given pitches at independent, individual speeds. Seemlessly change to new pitch set when given. Some examples:

light light light light light light

Comet

49 *p* *n.* *p*
 S Night...
 S
 A Night... Night...
 T *mf* *n.*
 to star.
 B *mf* *n.*
 to star.

55 *n.*
 S
 A
 T *mp* *mf*
 There ti - tan - ic gal - a - xies red - den and re -
 B *mp* *mf*
 There ti - tan - ic gal - a - xies red - den and re -

59 *mp* *mf* *rit.* *mp*
 S Like trans - cos - mic steam - ers
 A
 T *mp* *mf*
 cede_ Like trans - cos - mic steam - ers plung - ing in - to
 B *mp* *mf*
 cede_ Like trans - cos - mic steam - ers plung - ing in - to

Comet

♩ = ca. 44
mp

wandering, with little vibrato

p

63

S And a com - et's a raft on the Sea of Naught a

A And a com - et's a raft on the Sea of

T night, And a com - et's a

B night,

68

S com - et's a raft on the Sea of Naught Where

A Naught a com - et's a raft on the Sea of Naught Where

T raft on the Sea of Naught Where

B Where

73

S "Let there be light!" un - said,

A "Let there be light!" seems to have gone un - said,

T "Let there be light!" seems to have gone un - said,

B "Let there be light!" seems to have gone un - said,

Comet

Slow

vague, lost

77

mp

S And God's for - got His great de - cree

A And God's for - got His great de - cree

T

B *ppp*
mm...

81

p

S That Be - ing is but

A That Be - ing is but

T *p* "Let there be light!" *pp* "Let there be

B *p* "Let there be light!" *pp* "Let there be

84

n.

S Noth - ing can - not be...

A Noth - ing can - not be... *n.*

T "Let be..."

B "Let be..."

*attacca**

* If performing the entire Spheres of Influence set.