

# JOAN SZYMKO

## I Am

I am the woman dancing the world  
alive:  
birds on my wrists  
sun-feathers in my hair  
I leap through hoops of atoms;  
under my steps  
plants burst into bloom  
birches tremble in their silver.  
Can you not see the roundness of me:  
curve of the earth  
maternal arms of the sea  
encircling you wetly as you swim?  
I am the birthing woman  
kneeling by the river  
heaving, pushing forth a sacred body  
not mud, not stone: flesh and blood.  
Round, round the wind  
spinning itself wild  
drawing great circles of music  
across the sky.  
Round, the gourd full of seed  
round, the moon in its ripeness  
round, the door through which I come  
stooping into your house.  
I am a God of a thousand names:  
why cannot one of them be  
Woman Singing?

a setting of  
"The Womanly Song of God"  
by  
CATHERINE deVINCK

for women's chorus  
piano  
flute  
violin  
cello

# I AM

Catherine deVinck

Joan Szymko

$\text{♩} = 120$

Soprano (S)  
Alto (A)  
Flute  
Violin  
Violoncello  
Piano

$\text{♩} = 120$  *with vigor and drive*  
*mf*

**for perusal only**

**A** 3 equal parts

Soprano (S)

*mf* *f*

I am the wo-man dan-cing the world a - live: dan - cing

Piano (Pno.)

*mf* *f*

For program notes and composer bio  
visit [joanszymko.com](http://joanszymko.com)

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S — the world a - live

S *mf* I am the wo man dan-cing the world a -

A *mf* I am the wo man dan-cing the world a -

Vln. *mf*

Vc.

Pno. *mf*

**for perusal only**

S a - live

S live dan - cing the world a - live:

A live dan - cing the world a - live:

Fl.

Vln. *mf*

Vc. *mf*

Pno.

S *mp* sun—feath—ers in my hair

S *mp* birds on my wrists sun—feath—ers in my hair *mf* birds on my wrists ts ts ts

A *mp* sun—feath—ers in my hair *mf* birds on my wrists ts ts ts

Fl. *mp* *mf*

Vln. *mp* *mf*

Vc. *mp* *mf*

Pno. *mp* *mf*



S *f* sun - ea - thers in my hair 4-part

S *f* sun - fea - thers in my hair S2 only *f*

A *f* sun - fea - thers in my hair A1 only *mf*

Fl. *f*

Vln. *mf* *f*

Vc. *mf*

Pno.

31 **B**

*f* *mf*

S I leap through hoops of a - toms;

S leap through hoops of a - toms

A leap through hoops of a - toms; un - der my steps

A *A2 f* *mf*

hoop

Fl. *mf* *8va*

Vc. *f* *f* pizz.

**B**

Pno.

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score, page 5, starting at measure 31. It features vocal parts for Soprano (S), Alto (A), and Tenor (A), a Flute (Fl.), Violin (Vln.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Piano (Pno.). The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The vocal parts have lyrics: 'I leap through hoops of a - toms; un - der my steps'. The piano part has a section marked 'B' starting at measure 31. Performance markings include dynamics like *f* (forte) and *mf* (mezzo-forte), and articulation like *pizz.* (pizzicato). A large green watermark 'for perusal only' is overlaid on the Alto vocal line.

36

*mp*

S — plants burst in - to bloom

*mf*

S un-der my steps plants burst in - to bloom

A plants burst in-to bloom

A plants burst in-to bloom

Fl. **for perusal only**

Vln. arco

Vc.

Pno.

41

S

S

A

A

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

rit. . . . .

**for perusal only**

*p*

*p*

*p*

S1 only

45

Slower

*p*

rit. . . . .

**C** A tempo ♩=120

S

Tutti

A

Vc.

Pno.

birch-es trem-ble in their sil-ver...

birch-es trem-ble in their sil-ver...

pizz.

*mp*

arco

*mf*

Slower

rit. . . . .

**C** A tempo ♩=120

49

S1/S2 *p* *cresc.*

Can you not see the

A *p* *cresc.*

Can you not see the

A *p* *cresc.*

Can you not see the

Vc. *p* *mp*

Pno. *mp* *cresc.*

53

3 equal parts *mf* *mf*

round - ness of me: curve of the earth ma -

A *mf*

round - ness of me: curve of the earth ma -

Fl. *f* *mf* *mf*

Vln. *mf*

Vc. *f*

Pno. *mf*

2 equal parts

**for perusal only**

59 **molto rit.** *mp*

S ter - nal arms of the sea en - cir - cling you wet - ly as you

A ter - nal arms of the sea en - cir - cling you wet - ly as you

Fl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno. **molto rit.** *dim.*

for perusal only

64 **Slower** ♩ = 84 *p* *pp*

S swim?

A swim?

A *mp* *p*  
as you swim?

Vln. *p* *pp* *niente*

Vc. *p* *pp*

Pno. **Slower** ♩ = 84 *p*

71 **D** *molto legato e sostenuto*  
Tutti Unison  
*p*

S A I am the birth-ing wo-man kneel-ing by the

Vc. *pp* **D** *sostenuto*  
*p*

Pno. *p*

76 *mp* *mf*

S A ri - ver I am the birth-ing wo-man kneel-ing by the ri - ver

Vln. *pp* *pp*

Vc. *pp* *pp*

Pno. *mp*

81 N.B.

S A I am the birth-ing wo-man kneel-ing by the ri - ver heav-ing

Vln. *p* *mp*

Vc. *p* *mp*

Pno. *p* *mp*

85 *mf* *f* S only A only

push - ing forth a sa-cred bo- dy not mud, not stone

Vln. *mf* *f* *mf*

Vc. *mf* *f* *mf*

Pno.

**for perusal only**

91 S1 *f* S2 *mf* *f* *ff*

push-ing forth a sa-cred bo dy not mud, not stone

push-ing forth push-ing forth push-ing forth

Vln. *mf*

Vc. *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp*

Pno.

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**E** 108 **Tempo primo**

S *div. mf* *f* Round the wind

S *mf* Round, round the wind

A *mf* Round, round round the wind Round, round the wind

A *mf* Round, round the wind

Fl. *f*

Vln. *pizz.* *f* *port.*

Vc. *f*

**E** **Tempo primo**

Pno. *mf* *f*

The image shows a page of a musical score for the song "Round the Wind". It features vocal parts for Soprano (S) and Alto (A), and instrumental parts for Flute (Fl.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vc.), and Piano (Pno.). The score is marked with a rehearsal sign 'E' and the tempo 'Tempo primo'. The vocal parts have lyrics: "Round the wind", "Round, round the wind", and "Round, round the wind". The instrumental parts include dynamic markings like *mf*, *f*, *pizz.*, and *port.*. A large green watermark "for perusal only" is overlaid on the vocal staves.

114 tutti "fall off" to cue note *sempre f*

S "nd" spin-ning it-self wild, spin-ning it-self wild

S "nd" spin-ning it-self wild, spin-ning it-self wild

A "nd" spin-ning it-self wild, spin-ning it-self wild

A "nd" spin-ning it-self wild, spin-ning it-self wild

Fl. *cont. port. slurs.....]*

Vln. *arco legato*

Vc. *arco legato*

Pno.

**for perusal only**

120

S "fall off" as before

S "d"

A "d"

A "d"

Fl. *gliss.*

Vln. port. slurs as before

Vc.

Pno.

**for perusal only**

124

S draw - ing great cir - cles of mu - sic a - cross the sky.

A draw - ing great cir - cles of mu - sic a - cross the sky.

Vc.

Pno.

129 **F**

S  
A  
Vln.  
Vc.  
Pno.

**for perusal only**

134 **Tutti S** *mf*

Round, the gourd

S  
Fl.  
Vln.  
Vc.  
Pno.

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**G**  $\text{♩}=76$   
Tutti Unison  
150

S *mp* I am *mf* I am

Vc. *cantabile* *p* *mp*

Pno. *p* *mf*

**for perusal only**

155 *poco accel.* *mf*

S I am a God of a

A [am] I am a God of a

Fl. *cantabile* *mf*

Vln. *cantabile* *mp*

Pno. *poco accel.*

161 *f* **Più mosso** ♩=84 *Unison legato! mf*

S thou - sand names: why can-not one of them be

A thou - sand names: why can-not one of them be

Vln.

Vc.

Pno. *f* **Più mosso** ♩=84

165 *S1 f* **H**

S *for perusal only* Wo-man Sing-ing? why can-not one of them be Wo-man Sing - ing? why

S Wo-man Sing-ing? why can-not one of

A *A1 f* Wo-man Sing-ing? why can-not one of them be Wo-man Sing - ing?

Fl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno. *simile* **H**

170

S can - not one of them be Wo - man Sing - ing? *dim.* *rit.*

S them be Wo - man Sing - ing? *dim.* Wo - man Sing - ing?

A why can - not one of them be Wo - man Sing - ing? *f*

A why can - not one of them be Wo - man

Fl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno. *rit.*

**for perusal only**

173

**Slower**

S *mf* *p*

S *mf* *p*

A Sing - ing? *mf* *mp* *p*

Fl. *mf* *mp* *p*

Vln. *p*

Vc. *p*

Pno. **Slower**

*ped.*

\*