Standing Side by Side
SATB div., piano
JH-GRL01

Jocelyn Hagen

pdf - $1.95
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Standing Side by Side

Jocelyn Hagen

for SATB div. choir, piano

COMPOSE LIKE A GIRL

jh music

Illustration: KT Thompson

Text:

We are trees, deep-rooted,
Standing side by side,
We let both light and darkness

Fall at our feet. Feel our way
To each other. We are
grounded, replete.

Find in each other,
all the beauty of the earth;
Rising moon and speckled egg,
stone fruit and slanting light.

We give thanks
To moss and fern
To dragonfly and lichen.

We give thanks
To star and Luna moth
To cloud and coming thunder.

What storms have tried to take us
Down, with hammering rain
And striking lightning.

Watch us bend instead,
see how we sway--
Our strength, in what we weather.

- Julia Klatt Singer

From the Composer:

I composed "Standing Side by Side" during the pandemic, at a time when I truly missed the joy of making music together. I kept searching for the right text for this commission from the UNC Greensboro School of Music, to accurately describe the way I felt ~ and came up short. When this happens, I often reach out to my friend, the amazing poet Julia Klatt Singer. I told her that I wanted words that were poignant but joyful, and that I was inspired by trees, and how they are connected to each other with their roots inside the earth. And I wanted to express gratitude, as a way of healing and moving forward. She wrote the most amazing words. It was an honor to set them.

- 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). Her first forays into composition were via songwriting, and this is very evident in her work. The majority of her compositional output is for the voice: solo, chamber and choral. Her dance opera collaboration with choreographer Penelope Freeh, titled *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." Her melodic music is rhythmically driven, texturally complex, and has recently become more experimental in nature. In 2013 she released an EP entitled MASHUP, in which she performs Debussy's "Doctor Gradus Ad Parnassum" while singing Ed Sheeran's "The A Team." Jocelyn is also one half of the band Nation, an a cappella duo with composer/performer Timothy C. Takach, and together they perform and clinic choirs from all over the world.

Her commissions include Conspirare, The Minnesota Orchestra, the American Choral Directors Associations of Minnesota, Georgia, Connecticut and Texas, the North Dakota Music Teacher's Association, Cantus, the Boston Brass, the Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra, and The Houston Chamber Choir, among many others. She is currently an artist-in-residence at North Dakota State University and regularly composes for their ensembles. For ten years she was a composer-in-residence for the professional choir she also sang in: The Singers, under the direction of Matthew Culloton. Her music has been performed all over the world, including Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center in New York City. Her work is independently published through JH Music, as well as Graphite Publishing, G. Schirmer, Santa Barbara Music Publishing, Fred Bock Music Publishing, and Boosey and Hawkes.

Commissioned by the UNC Greensboro School of Music in celebration of their 100th Anniversary (1921-2021)

Standing Side by Side

SATB div. choir & piano

Julia Klatt Singer Jocelyn Hagen

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JH-GRL12

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To The American University Chorus, Casey Cook, conductor

Life Has a Loveliness

SATB divisi & piano

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Sara Teasdale

Grace Brigham

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COMPOSE LIKE A GIRL

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Become a subscriber and all donations will go to mentorship, engraving, editing, content creation, and advertising to support these amazing women composers. For many of the women featured in this series, these pieces are their first published works. Podcast coming soon!

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The Compose Like A Girl Choral Series seeks to empower composers who identify as women through mentorship, editorial direction, publication, and promotion. Compose Like A Girl titles are selected by Jocelyn Hagen, published through JH Music, and distributed by Graphite Publishing. Composers in the series receive a 50% royalty on the sale of each copy.