

Ode to My Earrings

This is for you who continually
tremble
whirl
shimmy
You are who green at heart
With a slender frame —

I've reserved a place for you
On my shoulders
Where you can live,
where, hey!
you can dance to every wind,
Move to every tune
Here on my shoulders
And sing a melody for the others.
Happiness is the color yellow —
it shines
it spins
Even if it is night —
Even if the wind is silent
And anxiety's lamp is ignited.

~ Elaha Sahel, translated by Farzana Marie
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Elaha Sahel was born in 1984 in Kabul, Afghanistan. She holds a bachelor's degree from Herat University in Persian Literature and her work has appeared in several anthologies. Sahel's first collection of poems was published in 2010 in Herat, where she used to live with her husband and two children.

"Some of the symbolism in Elaha's poems provided an interesting challenge in translation. In 'Ode to My Earrings,' for instance, the poet uses the phrase 'happiness is the color yellow,' which is also the title of her collection. In a conversation about this idea, Elaha pointed out that she was inverting the expected, since in Dari happiness might *not* be associated with the color yellow as it is in English (like sunshine, or perhaps in American culture, a Walmart smiley face). Although a subtlety, in Afghan and Persian culture the color yellow can be associated with separation and sickness."

~ Farzana Marie

Ode to My Earrings

SSA choir & harp

Text by Elaha Sahel
translated by Farzana Marie

Jocelyn Hagen

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Sparkling ♩ = 66

Harp *mf*

S *mf*
This is for you who con - tin - ual - ly trem - ble _____ whirl _____

S *mf*
This is for you who con - tin - ual - ly trem - ble _____ whirl _____

A *mf*
This is for you who con - tin - ual - ly trem - ble _____ whirl _____

Ode to My Earrings / Songs for Muska / Hagen

4 *p* *mf* *sub. p*

S shim - my _____ you who are green _____ at heart _____

S shim - my _____ you who are green _____ at heart _____

A shim - my _____ you who are green _____ at heart _____

4 *p*

6 *mp* *mp* *mp*

S _____ with a slen - der frame I've re-served a

S _____ with a slen - der frame I've re-served a

A _____ with a slen - der frame I've re-served a

6 *cresc.*

Ode to My Earrings / Songs for Muska / Hagen

8

S place for you on my should - ers where you can live, *mf*

S place for you on my should - ers where you can live, *mf*

A place for you on my should - ers where you can live, *mf*

8

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10

S where you can live, where, hey! you can

S where you can live, where, hey! you can

A where you can live, where, hey! you can

10

G \flat E \flat C A G

12

S dance to ev - 'ry wind, _____ move ___ to ev - 'ry tune _____

S dance to ev - 'ry wind, _____ move ___ to ev - 'ry tune _____

A dance to ev - 'ry wind, _____ move ___ to ev - 'ry tune _____

12

B#
F#

14

S here on my should-ers _____ and _____ sing sing

S here on my should-ers _____ and _____ sing sing

A here on my should-ers _____ and _____ sing sing

14

Ode to My Earrings / Songs for Muska / Hagen

rit.

17

S sing a mel - o - dy for the o - thers.

S sing a mel - o - dy for the o - thers.

A sing a mel - o - dy for the o - thers.

mf

mf

mf

17

mf

B \flat F \sharp B \flat E \flat

jocelyn chagen

$\text{♩} = 46 - 50$

Tempo I $\text{♩} = 66$

20

S Hap - pi - ness is the co - lor yell - ow it shines it spins it shines it

S Hap - pi - ness is the co - lor yell - ow it shines it spins it shines it

A Hap - pi - ness is the co - lor yell - ow it shines it spins it shines it

mp *p* *poco a poco cresc.*

mp *p* *poco a poco cresc.*

mp *p* *poco a poco cresc.*

20

mp *p poco a poco cresc.*

D \flat A \flat

C \sharp B \flat A \sharp G \sharp F \sharp E \flat 5

D \sharp

23

S spins it shines it spins it shines it spins it shines it

S spins it shines it spins it shines it

A spins it shines it spins

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23

A#

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25

S *f* spins *mf* it shines it spins it shines it

S *f* spins *mf* it shines it spins it shines it

A *f* — it shines it spins it shines it spins

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25

f *mf*

8va (both hands up the octave)

B \flat E \flat F \sharp C \sharp A \flat D \flat

6

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Ode to My Earrings / Songs for Muska / Hagen

27

S spins _____ e-ven if it is night e-ven if the

S spins _____ e-ven if it is night e-ven if the

A *mf* it shines it spins it shines _____ it spins _____ *mp* e-ven if it is night e-ven if the

(8va)

27 *mp* *p* *loco*

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30

S wind is si - lent _____ *p* and an - xi - e - ty's lamp is ig - ni - ted. _____ *mp* This is for

S wind is si - lent _____ *p* and an - xi - e - ty's lamp is ig - ni - ted. _____

A wind is si - lent _____ *p* and an - xi - e - ty's lamp is ig - ni - ted. _____

30

Ode to My Earrings / Songs for Muska / Hagen

33 *poco a poco cresc.*

S you _____

S *mp* *poco a poco cresc.*
This is for you _____ This is for you _____

A *mp* *poco a poco cresc.*
This is for you _____ This is for you _____

33 *p* *poco a poco cresc.*

joceelyn hagen

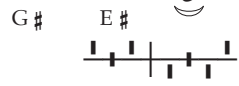
35 *f* *mf* *mp*

S you _____ trem-ble _____

S *f* *mf*

A *f* *mf* *mp*
you _____ whirl _____

35 *f* *mf* *dim.*



38

S it shines it spins trem - ble

mp

S shim - my it shines it spins it shines it

A shim - my trem - ble

38

rit. $\text{♩} = 46 - 50$

S shim - my Hap - pi - ness is the co - lor yell - ow

S spins Hap - pi - ness is the co - lor yell - ow

A whirl Hap - pi - ness is the co - lor yell - ow

40

p bisbigliando

pp

mp

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jocelyn hagen

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 <i>Ashes of Roses</i>	TTB div. a cappella, Bar. solo
April and the Sun	SATB a cappella choir
Benedictus, from <i>amass</i>	SSAATTBB a cappella choir, SATB soli
Divine Image	treble choir, women’s choir, SSATB choir, oboe and piano
Endless	SATB choir, 2 violins and piano
Forgotten	SSA choir, oboe and piano
I Saw Two Clouds at Morning	SSAATTBB a cappella choir
Ladies in Green	SSA choir and piano
Moon Goddess	SSA choir, 4-hand piano, percussion
Numeri Atque Voces	TTBB and SATB choirs
On My Dreams	SATB div. choir, piano, opt. trap set
Ophelia	SATB a cappella choir
Prayer	SA div. choir, violin and piano
Salve, Regina	SSA a cappella choir
Sanctus, from <i>amass</i>	SSATBB a cappella choir, SA soli
Someone Will Remember Us	SSAA choir, violin, viola, cello and harp
Trees Need Not Walk the Earth	SATB choir, piano, marimba & rain stick
Veni, Sancte Spiritus	SATB a cappella choir

Extended works for chorus

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