

Across the empty square  
GP - V002.2  
SATB, piano, vln. solo, string orchestra

Ellen Gilson Voth

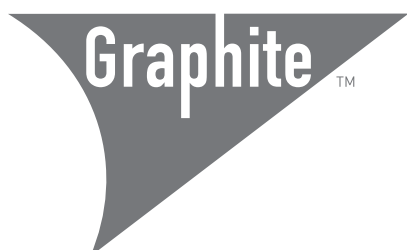
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**FULL SCORE**

# Ellen Gilson Voth

## **Across the empty square**

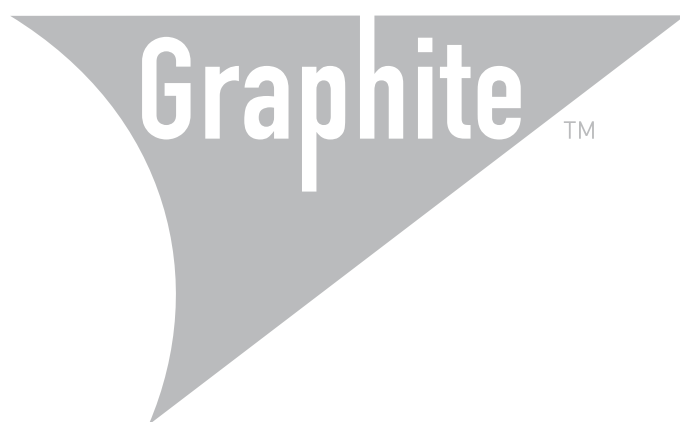
for SATB choir, piano, violin solo and string orchestra



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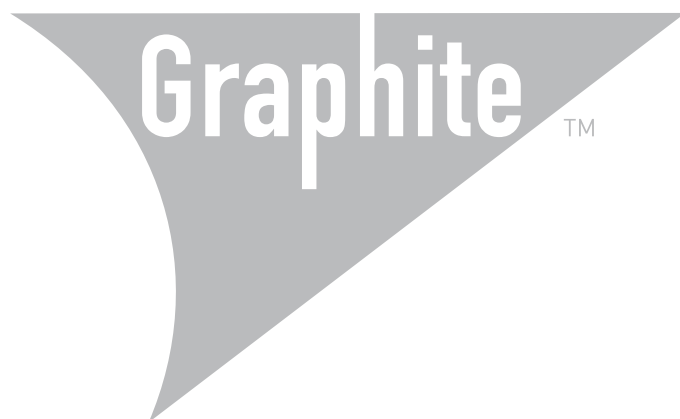
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Finalist in the ACDA 2020 Raymond W. Brock Competition for Professional Composers  
Winner of the 2022 American Prize in Composition - Shorter Choral Works

# Across the empty square

for SATB choir, piano, violin solo and string orchestra

Fr. Richard Hendrick, OFM.

Ellen Gilson Voth

*Freely*

$\text{♩} = 69$

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Piano

Solo Violin

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Bass

5

T *mp* They say that in the streets of As - si - si peo - ple are sing - ing,

B *mp* They say that in the streets of As - si - si peo - ple are sing - ing,

5

Solo Vln. *mf* "My life flows

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B. *p*

7

T  
sing - ing to each other a - cross the emp - ty squares,

B  
sing - ing to each oth - er a - cross the emp - ty squares,

*p*

7

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7 on in endless song"

Solo Vln.  
Vln. I  
Vln. II  
Vla.  
Vc.  
D.B.

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TM

\* - from the national anthem of Italy - music by Michele Novaro (1818-1885). Public domain.

10

T  
keep - ing their win - dows o - pen, so that those who are a - lone, are not a - lone.

B  
keep - ing their win - dows o - pen, so that those who are a - lone, are not a - lone.

*mp* *p*

10

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10

Solo Vln.  
Vln. I  
Vln. II  
Vla.  
Vc.  
D.B.

tutti

*mp* *p*

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TM

13

S *mf* They say that in Wu - han, af - ter so <sup>3</sup> ma - ny

A *mf* They say that in Wu - han, af - ter so <sup>3</sup> ma - ny years of noise,

T *mp* Sing, *p* Sing, *mp*

B *mp* Sing, *p* Sing, *mp*

13

*mf*

13

Solo Vln. *mf* "above earth's lamentation"

Vln. I *mf* *mf*

Vln. II *mf* *mf*

Vla. *mf* *mf*

Vc. *mf* *mf*

D.B. *mf* *mf*

16

S *mp* years you can hear the birds a - gain, The sky is no long - er thick, —

A *mp* you can hear the birds a - gain, The sky is no long - er thick, —

T *p* Sing, *mp* Sing, *p*

B *p* Sing, *mp* Sing, *p*

16

*mp*

16

Solo Vln. *mp* \*

Vln. I *mp* \*

Vln. II *p*

Vla. *p*

Vc. *mp*

D.B. *mp*

\* "Purple Bamboo Flute," from Chinese Folk Song Collection (Yeh Yang-Ching, editor).

*rit.*

19

S — but blue and grey and clear.

A — but blue and gray and clear.

*rit.*

19

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19

Solo Vln.

Vln. I *mp*

Vln. II *mp*

Vla. *mp*

Vc.

D.B.

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\* "Purple Bamboo Flute," from Chinese Folk Song Collection (Yeh Yang-Ching, editor).

$\text{♩} = 63$   
*Soulfully*

23

S Yes, *mp*

A Yes, *mp*

T Yes, *mp*

B Yes, *mp*

$\text{♩} = 63$   
*Soulfully*

23

Solo Vln.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

*mp*

notable. elevated.

27

S there is fear, but there need not be hate. In our i - so -

A there is fear, but there need not be hate. In our i - so -

T there is fear, but there need not be hate. In our i - so -

B there is fear, but there need not be hate. In our i - so -

*mf*

27

notable. elevated.

27

Solo Vln. *TM*

Vln. I

Vln. II *p*

Vla.

Vc. *mf*

D.B. *mf*

31

S la - tion, we need not pass on lone - li - ness. In our

A la - tion, we need not pass on lone - li - ness. In our

T la - tion, we need not pass on lone - li - ness. In our

B la - tion, we need not pass on lone - li - ness. In our

31

notable. elevated.

31

"I hear the real though far-off hymn"

Solo Vln. *mp*

Vln. I *mp*

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

34

*molto rit.*

S sick - ness, we can halt dis - ease of the

A sick - ness, we can halt dis - ease of the

T sick - ness, we can halt dis - ease of the

B sick - ness, we can halt dis - ease of the

34

*molto rit.*

Solo Vln.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

37

*Freely*

S soul.

A soul.

T soul.

B soul.

37

*Freely*

Solo Vln.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

43 *rit.* ♩ = 63 *mp*

S Lis - ten, —

A Lis - ten, —

T Lis - ten, —

B Lis - ten, —

43 *rit.* ♩ = 63

Solo Vln. *mp*

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B. *mp*

47 *dolce p*

S the birds are sing - ing a - gain,

A the birds are sing - ing a - gain,

T the birds are sing - ing a - gain,

B the birds are sing - ing a - gain,

47 *dolce p*

Solo Vln. *mp*

Vln. I *mp*

Vln. II *mp*

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

"that hails a new creation"

50 *mp* *mf* ♩ = 69

S The sky \_\_\_\_\_ is clear - ing, and we are al - ways en-com-passed

A The sky \_\_\_\_\_ is clear - ing, and we are al - ways en-com-passed

T The sky \_\_\_\_\_ is clear ing, and we are al ways en-com-passed

B The sky \_\_\_\_\_ is clear - ing, and we are al - ways en-com-passed

50 ♩ = 69

*mf*

50

Solo Vln.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

54 *poco rit.* *Warmly* ♩ = 72 *poco f*

S by Love. \_\_\_\_\_ O - pen the win - dows \_\_\_\_\_ of your

A by Love. \_\_\_\_\_ O - pen the win - dows \_\_\_\_\_ of your

T by Love. \_\_\_\_\_ O - pen the win - dows \_\_\_\_\_ of your

B by Love. \_\_\_\_\_ O - pen the win - dows \_\_\_\_\_ of your

54 *poco rit.* *Warmly* ♩ = 72 *f*

*f*

54 "My life flows on in endless song"

Solo Vln.

Vln. I *mf*

Vln. II *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *mp* *mf*

D.B. *mp* *mf*

58

Soul, O-pen the win - dows of your soul. And though you may not be  
 soul, O-pen the win - dows of your soul. And though you may not  
 soul, O-pen the win - dows of your soul. And though you may not be  
 soul, O-pen the win - dows of your soul. And though you may not

58

58

58

Solo Vln.  
 Vln. I  
 Vln. II  
 Vla.  
 Vc.  
 D.B.

62

a - ble to touch a - cross the emp - ty square,  
 touch a - cross the emp - ty square,  
 a - ble to touch a - cross the square, emp - ty square,  
 touch a - cross the emp - ty square,

62

62

62

Solo Vln.  
 Vln. I  
 Vln. II  
 Vla.  
 Vc.  
 D.B.

All singers continuously repeat these motives on the word "sing", gradually closing to [ŋ] at their own pace, tempo and inflection, creating a wash of sound.

♩ = 69

66

*mp*

Sing, \_\_\_\_\_ Sing, \_\_\_\_\_

*mp*

Sing, \_\_\_\_\_ Sing, \_\_\_\_\_

*mp*

Sing, \_\_\_\_\_ Sing, \_\_\_\_\_

*mp*

Sing, \_\_\_\_\_ Sing, \_\_\_\_\_

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♩ = 69

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66

TM *mp*

"No storm can shake..."

*mf*

*mf*

*p*

*p*

Solo Vln.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

70

S

A

T

B

70

TM

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70

"my in-most calm"

"while to that rock I'm clinging"

Solo Vln.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Sopranos and altos continue the same motives; tenors and basses change to one note on the word "sing".  
All continue repeating independently at their own pace.

74

S

A

T

B

Sing.

Sing.

74

Solo Vln.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

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77 Together:

S

A

T

B

Sing.

Sing.

Sing.

Sing.

77

Solo Vln.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

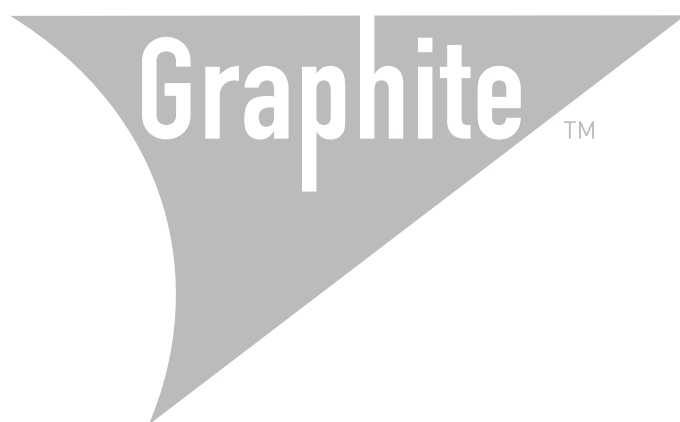
rit.

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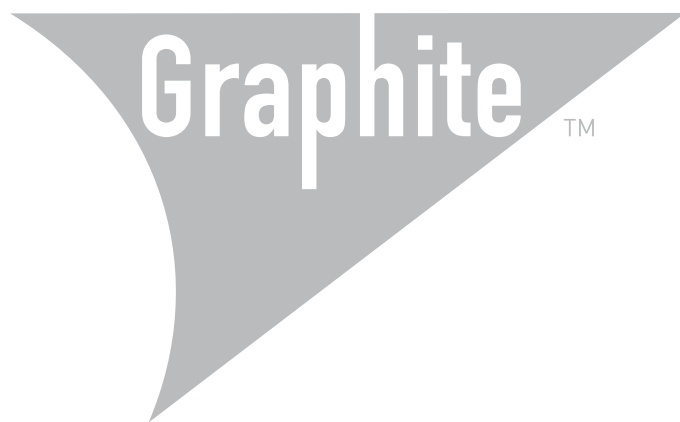
11

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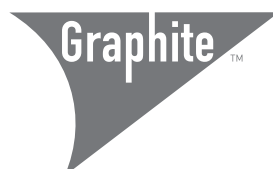
## Ellen Gilson Voth



Active as a conductor and composer, Ellen Gilson Voth composes works that reflect her passion for and commitment to high standards of artistry in writing for the human voice. Praised for music that is “superbly crafted for singer and accompanist,” Voth’s works have been commissioned and premiered by a wide range of professional, semi-professional and amateur choirs across the US, and featured at regional and national conferences of the American Choral Directors Association and College Music Society. Her art song and short opera works have garnered national attention as well. An experienced educator and clinician, she regularly presents workshops and coaches emerging composers on the art and craft of composition. Voth received her DMA degree from The Hartt School, University of Hartford, and currently lives with her husband and daughter in West Hartford, CT. To learn more about her work, visit [www.ellengilsonvoth.net](http://www.ellengilsonvoth.net).

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