

031.60

SHARA NOVA

Come Round the Evergreen

From "Winter Hymns"

for SSA choir with divisi, piano, and viola (2024)

Blue Sword Publishing

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Music and Lyrics by
Shara Nova, 2024.

Instrumental arrangements and
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Come Round the Evergreen

from “Winter Hymns”

for SSA choir with divisi, piano, and viola

Shara Nova, 2024 — Instrumentals arr. J. Clay Gonzalez — Duration ca. 3’00”

Divisi

The choir has is divided into three main sections; Soprano 1, Soprano 2, and Alto. Soprano 2 is occasionally split further, with S2a an S2b designations.

Commissioning Information

Commissioned by iSing Silicon Valley, conducted by Jennah Delp. Premiered December 2, 2023 at St. Mark’s Episcopal Church featuring harpist Jieyin Wu and violist Lesley Roberston.

Instrumentation

For this piece, the choir is accompanied by a viola and a piano.

Program Note

As midwinter approaches, many people slow down a bit to reflect, and to listen to the world around them. The internality of the season invites us to take stock of what we have, and grieve what we’ve lost. For many, it’s a time to pay attention to the relationships that give our lives meaning.

“Winter Hymns” brings us into the emotional world that characterizes these end-of-year reflections, often using nature as a lens.

Winter is a time of profound changes in the natural world, where the colors of fall give way to the austerity of December. These changes affect us deeply, shaping our moods and outlook. Within winter’s gloom, though, are hints of abundance. The vibrancy of an evergreen in snow. A glimpse of a silent barred owl. Stars emerging from a brilliant winter sunset. A flash of red as a cardinal flies by.

In “Winter Hymns,” these images lead us into a space of celebration and reflection, where we consider what connects us to loves ones, to nature, and to home.

Editions

The original version of “Winter Hymns” is written for SSA choir, harp, and viola.

The following edition contains all four movements:

[031.00] Winter Hymns, for SSA choir, harp, and viola

Additionally, each movement is available as stand-alone works.

[031.10] “Come ‘Round the Evergreen,” from Winter Hymns, for SSA choir, harp, and viola

[031.20] “Owl Song” from Winter Hymns, for SSA choir, harp, and viola

[031.30] “The Last Light” from Winter Hymns, for SSA choir, harp, and viola

[031.40] “When Cardinals Appear, Spirits Are Near”, for SSA choir, harp, and viola

An edition that includes all four movements and substitutes the harp for a piano is available, rewriting various passages to be more idomatic for the piano.

[031.50] Winter Hymns, for SSA choir, piano, and viola

This edition features the first movement as a stand-alone work, with the harp substituted for piano.

[031.60] “Come ‘Round the Evergreen,” from Winter Hymns, for SSA choir, piano, and viola

The other three movement, as arrangements for SSA, piano, and viola, are also available stand-alone.

[031.70] “Owl Song” from Winter Hymns, for SSA choir, piano, and viola

(continued on next page)

Editions, continued.

[031.80] “The Last Light” from Winter Hymns, for SSA choir, piano, and viola

[031.90] “When Cardinals Appear, Spirits Are Near”, for SSA choir, piano, and viola

Finally, versions of all these editions for SSA and piano only are also available.

[031.A0] Winter Hymns, for SSA choir and piano

[031.B0] “Come ‘Round the Evergreen,” from Winter Hymns, for SSA choir and piano

[031.C0] “Owl Song” from Winter Hymns, for SSA choir and piano

[031.D0] “The Last Light” from Winter Hymns, for SSA choir and piano

[031.E0] “When Cardinals Appear, Spirits Are Near”, for SSA choir and piano

Lyrics

Come ‘round the evergreen,

Come ‘round and sing;

“Oh, joy to see you,

Oh joy, joy!:

All the birds gather at the evergreen

In its boughs, we fold our winds,

And in the rush of gathering, (Ah, ah,)

And in the rush of reuniting at the evergreen, (Ah, ah,)

Come round and sing;

“Oh, joy to see you,

Oh joy, joy!

VOCAL RANGES

The image displays four musical staves, each representing a different vocal range. Each staff begins with a treble clef and contains a single melodic line consisting of three notes: a quarter note on the second line, a quarter note on the third line, and a quarter note on the fourth line. A diagonal line connects the first and second notes. The final note on the fourth line is marked with a flat symbol (b). The staves are labeled on the left as follows:

- Soprano 1
- Soprano 2a
- Soprano 2b
- Alto

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SHARA NOVA

SHARA NOVA (2024)
arr. J. Clay Gonzalez

Swaying, $\text{♩} = 76$

mf

S1
Come round the ev-er- green,

S2
mf
Come round the ev-er-green,

A
mf
Come round the

Viola
sul c, with vib.
fp *f* *f*

For performances in a wet space, the pedal markings shown here may be amended at the performer's discretion.

Piano
f *mf*
Ped.

5

S1
Come round the ev-er-green,

S2
Come round the ev-er-green,

A
ev-er-green, Come round the

Vla.
f

Pno.

9

S1
Come round and sing, "Oh,

S2a
Come round and sing,

S2b and A
mf
ev-er-green, Come round and sing,

Vla.
p
gently

Pno.
mf

A

13

S1
S2a

joy _____ to see you," _____ Come round _____ and sing, _____

S2b
A

"Oh, joy _____ to see you," _____ Come round _____ and _____

Vla.

sul C, with vib.

mp

Pno.



18

S1
S2a

_____ "Oh, joy _____ to see you, _____ Oh, joy, _____

S2b
A

sing, _____ "Oh, joy _____ to see you, _____ Oh, joy, _____

Vla.

B

Pno.

f *mp*

mp

24

S1
S2a

joy, Oh, joy,

S2b
A

joy, Oh, joy,

Vla.

warm vibrato

mp *mp*³

Pno.

29

S1

joy!" All the birds gath-er at the ev-er-green,

S2

joy!" All the birds gath-er at the ev-er-green,

A

joy!" All the birds gath-er at the ev-er-green,

Vla.

pp *mf*

Pno.

ff *mf*

C

33

S1
S2a

In its boughs, we fold our wings,

S2b
A

In its boughs, we fold our wings,

Vla.

pizz.

Pno.



37

S1
S2a

And in the rush of the gather - ing,

S2b
A

And in the rush of the gather - ing,

Vla.

arco

3

Pno.

41 **D**

S1
S2a

p Ah, ah, ah,

S2b
A

p *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

Ah, ah,

Vla.

p 3

Pno.



45

S1
S2a

mf And in the rush of re - u - nit - ing,

no vib. *p*

S2b
A

p *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

And in the rush of re - u - nit - ing,

no vib. *p*

Vla.

f *pp*

Pno.

p *f* l.v.

50 *pp* *p* no vib. **E**

S1
S2a
re - u - nit - ing at the ev - er - green, at the ev - er - green,

S2b
A
re - u - nit - ing at the ev - er - green, at the

Vla.
sul pont.
p

Pno.



55 *mp* *mf*

S1
S2a
at the ev - er - green,

S2b
A
ev - er - green, at the ev - er - green,

Vla.
sul pont.
p

Pno.
mf

F

59

S1
S2a

S2b
A

Vla.

Pno.

mf *f* *mp* *mf*

ev-er- green, ah, ah,

ff *mp* *8va*



64

S1
S2a

S2b
A

Vla.

Pno.

ah, ah,

ah, ah,

f *mp* *p* *molto vib.*

a gentle, uneven, sparkling tremolo