

Kira!
3-part treble, percussion

Tracy Wong

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3-part treble choir, percussion

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*Tracy
Wong*

S E R I E S

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Text (Translation and International Phonetic Alphabet)

Satu, dua, tiga, empat, lima, enam, tujuh, lapan
[satu duwa tiga əmpat limə ənəm tudʒoh lapan]
One, two three, four, five, six, seven, eight

Sediakan payung sebelum hujan
[sədiʒakan pəjʊŋ səbəlʊm hudʒan]
prepare your umbrella before it rains

Bersusah-susah dahulu, bersenang-senang kemudian
[bərsusah susah dahulu bərsənəŋ sənəŋ kəmuɖiʒan]
Hardship now, ease later (your struggles now will pay off in the future)

Yang bulat tak datang menggojlek, pipih tak datang melayang
[yanʒ bulat ta' datan məŋgɔlək, piʒiʒ ta' datan mələjanʒ]
Work hard for what you want.
Round things don't roll by themselves, flat and thin things don't fly by themselves.

For the performance of this piece, words with * indicate that singers should sustain on the “n” or “ng” consonant instead of a long vowel (eg. lapan, * payung*). Please refer to the composer's sung recording of this piece.

Audio pronunciation guide is available upon purchase of this piece. Rehearsal tracks for this piece can be purchased separately.

Duration: ca. 3' 25"

From the Composer

Kira = count

This playful composition for 3-part treble choir and percussion is a nod to Malay folk songs that merge counting/play (common in some childhood games) and sage advice. It also celebrates elders in my larger Malaysian community who impart life teachings to young people in a fun and accessible way. I am drawn to this tradition for its beauty in having music as a form of intergenerational community building.

The work features word and vocal play merged with folkloric elements - quartal harmonies, dance-like rhythms, and shifting tonality - that are spun through a musically-contemporary lens. Besides counting-singing from one to eight in Malay, the text is based on a few well-known Malay proverbs.

I am grateful to the Colorado Children's Chorale and Emily Crile (Artistic Director) for commissioning me to create this work for their Spring 2023 concert – Time to Shine. It is an honour to be a part of this meaningful collaboration.

- Tracy Wong, 2023



Dr. Tracy Wong hails from Malaysia and is a choral conductor, music educator, composer, vocalist, and pianist. She advocates for repertoire-based music education and her choral works support the development of vocal technique, musicianship skills, and artistry. Tracy's music shows the merge of different lived experiences, languages and musical elements that continue to influence her composition writing.

Currently residing in Ontario, Canada, Dr. Wong is the Assistant Professor of Choral Studies at Western University, where she conducts Chorale and Les Choristes ensembles and teaches choral conducting. Tracy holds a Doctor in Musical Arts (Choral Conducting) degree from the University of Toronto under the tutelage of Dr. Hilary Apfelstadt. She is a two-time recipient of the Elmer Iseler National Graduate Fellowship in Choral Conducting and was the 2019 Canadian Composer Feature for the Canadian Kodály Journal, *Alla Breve*.

Tracy collaborates regularly with choral organizations on conducting events, commissioned choral projects, and residencies, and her pieces are featured at numerous reading sessions. Tracy's choral works are available on her website, Cypress Choral Music (Canada), Graphite Publishing (US), Oxford University Press (UK) and Young Choral Academy (Malaysia) and have been performed by choirs at international competitions and festivals.

For more information, please visit www.tracywongmusic.com

Performance Notes

Movement is optional for this piece. If interested, do reach out to the composer about movement suggestions!

Percussion - any hand drum available to the choir.

FOR PERUSAL ONLY

Kira!

Commissioned by the Colorado Children's Chorale, Emily Crite, Artistic Director.

3-part treble and percussion

Music by Tracy Wong
Based on Malay proverbs

FOR PERUSAL ONLY

Strong & energetic! (♩ = 130)

(one speaker only)

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of five staves:

- Unison:** A single melodic line with lyrics: "One two three four five six se-ven eight!".
- Part 1:** A treble clef staff with lyrics: "Sa - tu em - pat".
- Part 2:** A treble clef staff with lyrics: "du - a".
- Part 3:** A treble clef staff with lyrics: "ti - ga".
- Piano:** A grand staff (treble and bass clefs) with the instruction *for rehearsal only*.

Dynamic markings include *f* (forte) for the vocal parts. The score includes a large watermark reading "FOR PERUSAL ONLY".

FOR PERUSAL ONLY

FOR PERUSAL ONLY

FOR PERUSAL ONLY

any hand drum available to the choir

Perc.

P1 tu-juh Sa-tu du-a ti-ga em-pat li-ma e-nam tu-juh la-pan

P2 li-ma la-pan Sa-tu du-a ti-ga em-pat li-ma e-nam tu-juh la-pan

P3 e-nam Sa-tu du-a ti-ga em-pat li-ma e-nam tu-juh la-pan

11

Perc.

P1 Sa-tu du-a ti-ga em-pat li-ma e-nam tu-juh la-pan tu-juh

P2 Sa-tu du-a ti-ga em-pat li-ma e-nam tu-juh la-pan tu-juh

P3 Sa-tu du-a ti-ga em-pat li-ma e-nam tu-juh la-pan tu-juh

FOR PERUSAL ONLY

Perc.

P1 la - la - pan tu - juh la - pan* *one speaker: "Prepare your umbrella before it rains!"*

P2 la - la - pan tu - juh la - pan* *p* Se -

P3 la - la - pan tu - juh la - pan* **to be sung on the consonant "n"* *p* Se -

A

Perc. *p* *Second time mf*

P1 Se - di - a se - di - a se - di - a - kan pa - yung* *p* *Second time mf*

P2 di - a se - di - a se - di - a se - di - a se - di - a - kan pa - yung* se - be - lum hu - *Second time mf*

P3 di - a se - di - a se - di - a se - di - a se - di - a - kan pa - yung* se - be - lum hu - *Second time mf*

**to be sung on the consonant "ng"*

25

FOR PERUSAL ONLY

Perc. *Play on first pass* **f**

P1 hu - jan hu - jan jan *mf* *f*

P2 jan hu - jan hu - jan hu - jan Se - jan *mf* *f*

P3 jan hu - jan hu - jan hu - jan Se - jan *mf* *f*

B

Perc. **f**

Unis. **f**
Sa - tu du - a ti - ga em - pat li - ma e - nam tu - juh la - pan

FOR PERUSAL ONLY

34

FOR PERUSAL ONLY

Perc.

P1 *f* Sa - tu du - a ti - ga em - pat li - ma e - nam tu - juh la - pan tu - juh —

P2 *f* Sa - tu du - a ti - ga em - pat li - ma e - nam tu - juh la - pan tu - juh —

P3 *f* Sa - tu du - a ti - ga em - pat li - ma e - nam tu - juh la - pan tu - juh —

39

Perc.

one speaker: "Your struggles now will pay off in the future!"

P1 *mf* la — la - pan tu - juh la - pan* Ber -

P2 la — la - pan tu - juh la pan*

P3 la — la - pan tu - juh la - pan*

FOR PERUSAL ONLY

*to be sung on the consonant "n"

C

FOR PERUSAL ONLY

Perc. *mp*

P1 *mp*
su - sah su - sah da - hu-lu da - hu-lu

P2 *mp*
Oo da - hu-lu

P3 *mp*
Oo da - hu-lu

48

Perc. *f*

P1

P2 *f*
da - hu-lu ber - se - nang ke -

P3 *f*
da - hu-lu Ber - se - nang ke - mu - di-an ber - se - nang ke

FOR PERUSAL ONLY

52

FOR PERUSAL ONLY

Perc. *mf* *f*

P1 *mf* *f*
ber - se - nang ke - mu - di - an ber - se - nang ke - mu - di - an

P2 *mf* *f*
mu - di - an ber - se - nang ke - mu - di - an ber - se - nang ke - mu - di - an

P3 *f* *f*
mu - di - an ber - se - nang ke - mu - di - an ber - se - nang ke - mu - di - an

D

Perc. *f*

Unis. *f*
Sa - tu du - a ti - ga em - pat li - ma e - nam tu - juh la - pan

FOR PERUSAL ONLY

FOR PERUSAL ONLY

61

FOR PERUSAL ONLY

Perc.

P1
Sa - tu du - a ti - ga em - pat li - ma e - nam tu - juh la - pan

P2
Sa - tu du - a ti - ga em - pat li - ma e - nam tu - juh la - pan

P3
Sa - tu du - a ti - ga em - pat li - ma e - nam tu - juh la - pan

65

Perc.

one speaker: "Work hard for what you want!"

P1
tu - juh la la - pan tu - juh la - pan*

P2
tu - juh la la - pan tu - juh la - pan*

P3
tu - juh la la - pan tu - juh la - pan*

FOR PERUSAL ONLY

*to be sung on the consonant "n"

70 **FOR PERUSAL ONLY**

Perc. *mf*

P1 *f*
Yang bu - lat tak da - tang — meng - go - lek —

P2 *f*
Yang bu - lat tak da - tang — go - lek —

P3 *f*
go -

74 **FOR PERUSAL ONLY**

Perc.

P1 *mf*
Yang pi - pih tak da - tang — me - la - yang

P2 *mf*
Yang pi - pih tak da - tang — la - yang

P3 *mf*
lek — la -

78 **FOR PERUSAL ONLY**

Perc. *mp* *p*

P1 *mp* *p*
me - la - yang me - la - yang

P2 *mp* *p*
la - yang la - yang

P3 *mp* *p*
yang la - yang la - yang

F

Perc. *f*

P1 *f*
Sa - tu em - pat tu - juh

P2 *f*
du - a li - ma la - pan

P3 *f*
ti - ga e - nam

FOR PERUSAL ONLY

87

Perc.

P1 *f* Sa - tu du - a ti - ga em - pat li - ma e - nam tu - juh la - pan

P2 *f* Sa - tu du - a ti - ga em - pat li - ma e - nam tu - juh la - pan

P3 *f* Sa - tu du - a ti - ga em - pat li - ma e - nam tu - juh la - pan

f

f

91

Perc.

P1 Oh oh — oh oh — oh oh — oh oh — oh oh — oh oh — oh oh — la - pan

P2 Sa - tu du - a ti - ga em - pat li - ma e - nam tu - juh la - pan

P3 Sa - tu du - a ti - ga em - pat li - ma e - nam tu - juh la - pan

f

f

95

Perc. **FOR PERUSAL ONLY**

P1
tu - juh la la - pan tu - juh la - pan

P2
tu - juh la la - pan tu - juh la - pan

P3
tu - juh la la - pan tu - juh la - pan

98

Perc. **FOR PERUSAL ONLY**

P1
tu - juh la - pan* ah!

P2
tu - juh la - pan* ah!

P3
tu - juh la - pan* ah!

ff

ff

ff

FOR PERUSAL ONLY

