

SPRING AND FALL

for SATB chorus a cappella (with divisi) [2018]

Commissioned and premiered by Modern Sound Collective - Kai Leung, artistic director Toronto ON Canada

text by

GERARD MANLEY HOPKINS

music by

ELIZABETH LEGIERSKI



ABOUT THE PIECE

This text by Gerard Manley Hopkins resonated with me in its combination of child-like innocence and rational, almost cynical acceptance of mortality. I think the human mind never stops struggling with the surreal concept of mortality, whether as a child or as an adult. In this 1880 text, the word "man" represents humanity. As a unifying, hopeful idea of the plight we all share, the same harmony (Bb major chord) is used on this word throughout the piece.

MSC Presents

MSC Presents, launched in 2023 by Toronto's Modern Sound Collective (artistic director: Kai Leung), is a progressive new publication label serving as a professional distribution platform for the music of MSC-affiliated composers. Offering an extremely competitive royalty rate to its artists, this initiative aims to create accessible opportunities for growth and collaboration for the many talented young choral composers in the GTA and beyond.

PRINTING

Choral scores distributed by *MSC Presents* are optimized for 8.5x11 printing.

ABOUT THE COMPOSER

Elizabeth Legierski is a Czech-Canadian composer and soprano based in Prague. A University of Toronto graduate, she holds a degree in Voice Performance and a minor in Music Composition. Her first composition, an art song called Jako Sen, won the Victoria Conservatory Composition Competition. She has since composed a number of works for solo voice, choir, and small ensembles. Her debut score was for the short film "She Thought She Was Alone During Quarantine," which was officially selected in seven international film festivals. She has scored a number of short animated films and video games. 2023 saw the completion of her score for the independent video game "The Delusions of Maximillian Wurst" released by Deadpan Cancan Studio, as well as the score for the independent Czech short film "Poklad," which will be released in mid-2024.

ORIGINAL TEXT

Gerard Manley Hopkins (1844-1889)

to a young child

Margaret, are you grieving
Over Goldengrove unleaving?
Leaves, like the things of man, you
With your fresh thoughts care for, can you?
Ah! As the heart grows older
It will come to such sights colder
By and by, nor spare a sigh
Though worlds of wanwood leafmeal lie;
And yet you will weep and know why.
Now no matter, child, the name:
Sorrow's springs are the same.
Nor mouth had, no nor mind, expressed
What heart heard of, ghost guessed:
It is the blight man was born for,
It is Margaret you mourn for.



elizabethlegierski.com

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VOICINGS INDICATE MAXIMUM DIVISI SPLITS WITHIN EACH WORK

Mixed / SAB / SATB / SSAATTBB

The Affable Enigma	SSSAAATTTBB a cappella	Danial Sheibani	Rūmī	3 min	2021	MSC0009
Lying Awake, Waiting	SSAATTBB a cappella	Sami Anguaya	Tom Robinson & Sami Anguaya	4 min	2022	MSC0001
May This Place	SSAATB a cappella	Nicholas Wanstall	Nicholas Wanstall	3 min	2018	MSC0006
Remember	SSAATTBB a cappella	Madox Terrell	Christina Rossetti	2.5 min	2020	MSC0010
The Sirens' Song	SSATBB & piano	Carol Kayee Mak	William Browne	5 min	2019	MSC0008
Spring and Fall	SSAATTBB a cappella	Elizabeth Legierski	Gerard Manley Hopkins	3 min	2018	MSC0007
Too Still for Dreams	SSAATTBB & piano	E.K.R. Hammell	A.E. Wetherald	4.5 min	2022	MSC0003
<u>Twilight</u>	SSAATTBB & piano	Francesca Hauser	Sara Teasdale	3.5 min	2022	MSC0004
When David Heard	SSAATTBB a cappella	Kai Leung	2 Samuel 18:33	3 min	2022	MSC0005

Treble / SA / SSA / SSAA

Somewhere in Space	SSAA & percussion trio	Emily Green	Edith Södergran	3.5 min	2023	MSC0002
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