



# IN THE LEMON GROVES

for SATB chorus divisi and piano

[ 2024 ]

*For Brenda Jarvis, in loving memory of our friend, Gord Jarvis  
Official Selection of the 2024 MSC Call for Scores*

text by

**JAMES CLARKE**

music by

**KENTO STRATFORD**

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## ABOUT THE PIECE

*In the Lemon Groves* is a work originally written for TTBB choir and piano, and composed as a tribute to Gord Jarvis (a much-beloved and long-standing member of the Queensmen Male Chorus, as well as a personal friend to the composer). The occasion of the composition was in anticipation for *Ontario Sings 2024*, an annual massed chorus concert organized by the Associated Male Choruses of Ontario. The work is a setting of a poem by James Clarke entitled *Going Home*. A performance of *In the Lemon Groves* spans approximately 6 minutes and 45 seconds.

## ORIGINAL TEXT

**James Clarke (b. 1933)**

*Going Home*

*Be patient.*

*We are going home.*

*It is not far. We are rocking  
in the great belly of the ship.*

*No light cracks the dark sea, but the ship is strong, (the voyage will not be long.)\**

*We will arrive early.*

*It will be morning. We will  
rub our unshelled eyes, see  
the shore rise.*

*We will untangle our bones & play in the lemon groves, (dwell  
in a white house near blue water. There will be time.) Be patient. We are going home.*

\*bracketed portions have been omitted.

[Text used by permission from the author.]

## ABOUT THE COMPOSER

Born in Izumisano City, Japan, composer, keyboardist, conductor, and educator, **Kento Stratford** (b. 1997) leads a diverse artistic practice throughout Canada and beyond. Drawing from his own Japanese Canadian heritage, Kento's music inhabits a sonic world balanced between two contrasting traditions: one forward-moving, consumptive, and grandiose, the other understated, reductive, and temporally unbound. His works are inspired by a wide range of personal interests spanning everything from science fiction to ancient medicine.



IG: [@kentostatford](https://www.instagram.com/kentostatford)

Kento's works have been performed and commissioned by a diverse group of artists and ensembles, including most recently: Da Capo Chamber Choir, the Odin String Quartet, HAVEN Trio, Hibiki Project, Guys Who Sing, and Concreamus Chamber Choir.

Kento is also active as a performer, appearing regularly in recitals and concerts as a pianist, organist, and conductor. In addition to work as a concert performer, Kento thoroughly enjoys working with sacred music and has held numerous appointments as a church musician. Kento holds a BMus degree in piano performance and composition from the Dan School of Drama and Music at Queen's University, as well as an MMus degree in composition from the University of Toronto.

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# IN THE LEMON GROVES

text by  
**JAMES CLARKE**

for SATB chorus divisi and piano

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Slowly, freely ♩ = 40

SOPRANO

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

PIANO

*mp ad lib. anxiously*

6

7

*p*

Be, —

4

S.

A.

T.

B.

Pno.

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

be pa - tient, be pa - -

*mf*

*p*

3

3

8

10

S. - tient, Be, be

A. - tient, Be, be

T. - tient, Be, be

B. - tient, Be, be

Pno. *mp* *mf* *mp* *p*

11

S. pa - tient, be pa - - - - - tient, *mp*

A. pa - tient, be pa - - - - - tient, *mf* *mp*

T. pa - tient, be pa - - - - - tient, *mf* *mp*

B. pa - tient, be pa - - - - - tient, *mf* *mp*

Pno. *pp* *mp*

14

S. *p*  
it is not far, we are go - ing home,

A. *p*  
it is not far, we are go - ing home,

T. *p*  
it is not far, we are go - ing home,

B. *p*  
it is not far, we are go - ing home,

Pno. *mf*

17

S.

A.

T.

B.

Pno. *f* *sva* *ritenuto*



25

S. *mf*  
bel - - ly of the ship.

A. *mf*  
bel - - ly of the ship.

T. *mf*  
bel - - ly of the ship.

B. *mf*  
bel - - ly of the ship.

Pno. *mf cresc.*

27

S. *rall.* *f* No light cracks *a tempo*

A. *f* No light cracks

T. *f* No light cracks

B. *f* No light cracks

Pno. *rall.* *ff* *a tempo*

29 30 *p sub.*

S. the dark sea.

A. the dark sea.

T. the dark sea.

B. the dark sea.

Pno. *f du.*

32 *rall.* *mf*

S. We are

A. We are

T. We are

B. We are

Pno. *mf molto cresc.* *rall.*

35 **a tempo**  
*cresc. poco a poco*

S. rock - - - ing rock - - - ing,  
*cresc. poco a poco*

A. rock - - - ing rock - - - ing,  
*cresc. poco a poco*

T. rock - - - ing, rock - - - ing,  
*cresc. poco a poco*

B. rock - - - ing, rock - - - ing,  
*cresc. poco a poco*

Pno. **f** *cresc. poco a poco*

37 **accel.**

S. rock - - - ing on the dark  
**accel.**

A. rock - - - ing on the dark  
**accel.**

T. rock - - - ing on the dark  
**accel.**

B. rock - - - ing on the dark  
**accel.**

Pno. **accel.**

40

39

S. sea, but the ship, the ship is

A. sea, but the ship, the ship is

T. sea, but the ship, the ship is

B. sea, but the ship, the ship is

Pno.

41

S. strong, it is not far, not far at

A. strong, it is not far, not far at

T. strong, it is not far, not far at

B. strong, it is not far, not far at

Pno.

rall.

*fff no dim.*

43

S. all, we are go - - - ing home!

A. all, we are go - - - ing home!

T. all, we are go - - - ing home!

B. all we are go - - - ing home!

Pno. 5 3

46

S. - - -

A. - - -

T. - - -

B. - - -

Pno. *ff* *dim.* *rit.*

51 Slower again ♩ = 60

50

S. *mf* Be pa - tient, *mp* be pa - tient, *p* be pa -

A. *mf* Be pa - tient, *mp* be pa - tient, *p* be pa -

T. *mf* Be pa - tient, *mp* be pa - tient, *p* pa -

B. *mf* Be pa - tient, *mp* be pa - tient, *p* be pa

Pno. *mp*

51 Slower again ♩ = 60

54

S. - - - - - tient, we are go - ing home,

A. - - - - - tient, we are go - ing home,

T. - - - - - tient, we are go - ing home,

B. - - - - - tient, we are go - ing home,

Pno. *dim.*

58 *pp* **60** *pp*

S. it is not far it will be morn -

A. *pp* (solo or small group) *pp* (all) *pp*  
it is not far, we will ar-rive ear-ly it will be morn -

T. *pp* *pp*  
it is not far, it will be morn -

B. *pp* *pp*  
it is not far, it will be morn -

Pno. *pp* **60**

63 *Brighter, with lightness* **80** *mf*

S. ing, we will rub our un-shelled eyes and

A. *mf* ing, we will rub our un-shelled eyes and

T. *mf* ing, we will rub our un-shelled eyes and

B. *mf* ing, we will rub our un-shelled eyes and

Pno. *mf* *mp* *Brighter, with lightness*  $\text{♩} = 80$

68 *p* *mp* **71**

S. see the shore\_ rise. We will un - tan - gle our bones and

A. see the shore rise. We will un - tan - gle our bones and

T. see the shore rise. We will un - tan - gle our bones and

B. see the shore\_ rise. We will un - tan - gle our bones and

Pno. *p* *mp* *rit.*

73 *p* *pp* **76** Slowly, freely ♩ = 40

S. play, play in the le - mon groves.

A. play, play in the le - mon groves.

T. play, play in the le - mon groves.

B. play, play in the le - mon groves.

Pno. *p* *pp* *rit.* **76** Slowly, freely ♩ = 40

77

S. Be, be pa - tient, be

A. Be, be pa - tient, be

T. Be, be pa - tient, be

B. Be, be pa - tient, be

Pno. *pp* *pp*

82

S. pa - tient, we are go - ing home, it is not far.

A. pa - tient, we are go - ing home, it is not far.

T. pa - tient, we are go - ing home, it is not far.

B. pa - tient, we are go - ing home, it is not far.

Pno. *pp* *pp*

87

S.

A.

T.

B.

Pno.

*p* *dim.* *pp*

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 VOICINGS INDICATE MAXIMUM DIVISI SPLITS WITHIN EACH WORK

TITLE	COMPOSER	VOICING/INSTRUMENTATION	TEXT	DUR.	YEAR	SKU
<a href="#"><u>The Affable Enigma</u></a>	<b>Danial Sheibani</b>	SSSAAATTTBB a cappella	Rūmī	3 min	2021	MSC0009
<a href="#"><u>Dawn, Where Are You Now?</u></a>	<b>Sami Anguaya</b>	SSAATTBB, piano, 2 woodblocks	Sami Anguaya	4 min	2024	MSC0013
<a href="#"><u>Generation 2.5</u></a>	<b>Kai Leung</b>	SSAATTBB a cappella	Kai Leung	7 min	2024	MSC0014
<a href="#"><u>Gratitude</u></a>	<b>H. Zack Ferns</b>	SATB a cappella	L.M. Montgomery	4 min	2024	MSC0017
<a href="#"><u>Hope is the Thing with Feathers</u></a>	<b>Rémi St-Jacques</b>	SATB a cappella	Emily Dickinson	3.5 min	2020	MSC0019
<a href="#"><u>I.</u></a>	<b>Michael Nunes</b>	SSAATTBB a cappella	Erica Kath	3 min	2019	MSC0018
<a href="#"><u>I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes</u></a>	<b>H. Zack Ferns</b>	SSAATTBB a cappella	Psalm 121 (KJV)	3 min	2024	MSC0022
<a href="#"><u>In the Lemon Groves</u></a>	<b>Kento Stratford</b>	SSAATTBB & piano	James Clarke	7 min	2024	MSC0023
<a href="#"><u>Jabberwocky</u></a>	<b>Nicholas Wanstall</b>	SATB & piano	Lewis Carroll	6 min	2024	MSC0024
<a href="#"><u>Lying Awake, Waiting</u></a>	<b>Sami Anguaya</b>	SSAATTBB a cappella	Tom Robinson & Sami Anguaya	4 min	2022	MSC0001
<a href="#"><u>May This Place</u></a>	<b>Nicholas Wanstall</b>	SSAATB a cappella	Nicholas Wanstall	3 min	2018	MSC0006
<a href="#"><u>Ah, Moon of My Delight!</u></a>	<b>Hirad Moradi</b>	SSAATTBB a cappella	Omar Khayyam	8 min	2022	MSC0015
<a href="#"><u>Le Pont Mirabeau</u></a>	<b>Nicholas Wanstall</b>	SATB, soloist, & piano	Guillaume Apollinaire	4 min	2024	MSC0016
<a href="#"><u>Remember</u></a>	<b>Madox Terrell</b>	SSAATTBB a cappella	Christina Rossetti	2.5 min	2020	MSC0010
<a href="#"><u>The Sirens' Song</u></a>	<b>Carol Kayee Mak</b>	SSATBB & piano	William Browne	5 min	2019	MSC0008
<a href="#"><u>Somewhere in Space</u></a>	<b>Emily Green</b>	SSAA & percussion trio	Edith Södergran	3.5 min	2023	MSC0002
<a href="#"><u>Spring and Fall</u></a>	<b>Elizabeth Legierski</b>	SSAATTBB a cappella	Gerard Manley Hopkins	3 min	2018	MSC0007
<a href="#"><u>That Shadow, My Likeness</u></a>	<b>Francesca Hauser</b>	SSAATTBB & piano	Walt Whitman & Christina Rossetti	4 min	2024	MSC0013
<a href="#"><u>This is Not Love</u></a>	<b>Tyrese Walters</b>	SSAATTBB a cappella	Elsa Gidlow	3 min	2024	MSC0020
<a href="#"><u>'Tis Moonlight</u></a>	<b>Pari Bahrami</b>	SSAATTBB & piano	Emily Jane Brontë	6 min	2024	MSC0021
<a href="#"><u>Too Still for Dreams</u></a>	<b>E.K.R. Hammell</b>	SSAATTBB & piano	A.E. Wetherald	4.5 min	2022	MSC0003
<a href="#"><u>Twilight</u></a>	<b>Francesca Hauser</b>	SSAATTBB & piano	Sara Teasdale	3.5 min	2022	MSC0004
<a href="#"><u>What the Silence Offers</u></a>	<b>Emily Green</b>	SSAATTBB, soloist, & amplified speaker	Erica Kath	9 min	2022	MSC0012
<a href="#"><u>When David Heard</u></a>	<b>Kai Leung</b>	SSAATTBB a cappella	2 Samuel 18:33	3 min	2022	MSC0005