



JABBERWOCKY

for SATB chorus and piano

[2024]

Premiered by

Modern Sound Collective - Kai Leung, artistic director

text by

LEWIS CARROLL

music by

NICHOLAS WANSTALL



Modern
Sound
Collective

ORIGINAL TEXT

Lewis Carroll (b. 1832-1898)

Jabberwocky

*'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe:
All mimsy were the borogoves,
And the mome raths outgrabe.*

*"Beware the Jabberwock, my son!
The jaws that bite, the claws that catch!
Beware the Jubjub bird, and shun
The frumious Bandersnatch!"*

*He took his vorpal sword in hand:
Long time the manxome foe he sought —
So rested he by the Tumtum tree,
And stood awhile in thought.*

*And, as in uffish thought he stood,
The Jabberwock, with eyes of flame,
Came whiffling through the tulgey wood,
And burbled as it came!*

*One, two! One, two! And through and through
The vorpal blade went snicker-snack!
He left it dead, and with its head
He went galumphing back.*

*"And, has thou slain the Jabberwock?
Come to my arms, my beanish boy!
O frabjous day! Callooh! Callay!"
He chortled in his joy.*

*'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe;
All mimsy were the borogoves,
And the mome raths outgrabe.*

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.

ABOUT THE PIECE

Jabberwocky, from Lewis Carroll's *Alice Through the Looking Glass*, employs a variety of made up words to tell the story of a fearsome monster and a brave boy's journey to defeat it in battle. This highly dramatic musical setting leans into the dark and mysterious mood of this text, while preserving some of its playful character. A gradual build leads us towards a triumphant climax in which the Jabberwocky is slain, but the energy quickly dissipates and returns to the ominous atmosphere from the beginning of the piece, leaving the listener to speculate what may have happened next.

ABOUT THE COMPOSER

Nicholas Wanstall is an award winning pianist, organist, composer, and vocalist based in Toronto, Ontario. He holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Organ Performance with a minor in Composition from the University of Toronto, as well as an A.R.C.T diploma in Piano Performance from the Royal Conservatory of Music. Nicholas works primarily as a choral accompanist for several choirs throughout Toronto, combining his passion and expertise as a keyboard player and a lifelong chorister.

His compositions have been performed by many soloists and choirs throughout Canada and beyond, with commissions from organizations such as the Orpheus Choir of Toronto, the Exultate Chamber Singers, the Modern Sound Collective, Young Voices Toronto, and more. When he isn't composing or playing for choirs, Nicholas enjoys writing songs, recording and producing his own music, and playing guitar.



nicholaswanstall.com

PRINTING

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Brooding ♩ = 66

The musical score is presented in four systems. The first system is labeled 'PIANO' and features a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand, both in 4/4 time. The tempo is marked 'Brooding ♩ = 66' and the dynamics are 'mp'. The second system is labeled 'Pno.' and continues the piano accompaniment. The third system is also labeled 'Pno.' and includes a 'mf' dynamic marking. The fourth system includes a bass line labeled 'B.' with lyrics: "'Twas bril - lig and the'. This system also features a 'mp' dynamic marking and a measure marked with a box containing the number '15'. The piano accompaniment continues below the bass line, with dynamics ranging from 'mp' to 'p'.

16

B. *mf* sli - thy toves did gyre and gim - ble in the wabe; all mim-sy were the bo - ro -

Pno.

20

B. *mf* - goves, and the mome raths out - grabe. *mp*

Pno.

24 *poco rit.* lunga *mf* **25** *Poco più mosso*

B. Be - ware the Jabber-work my son, the

Pno.

27 *f*

B. jaws that bite, the claws that catch! *f* Be - ware the Jub-jub bird, and

Pno.

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30

B. shun the fru-mi-ous Ban-der-snach!"

Pno. *mp*

33

A. *mp* He took his vor-pal sword in hand,

T. *mp* He took his vor-pal sword in hand,

Pno. *mp*

37

A. long time the man-xome foe he sought; so

T. long time the man-xome foe he sought; so

Pno.

40

A. *p*
res-ted he by the Tum-tum tree, and stood a-while in thought.

T. *p*
res-ted he by the Tum-tum tree, and stood a-while in thought.

Pno.

44

S. *rit.* *pp* **46** *mp* tempo, growing in intensity
And as in uf-fish thought he stood, the

T. *pp* *p* *mp*
And as in uf-fish thought he stood, the

Pno. *pp* *mp* **46** a tempo, growing in intensity

48 *mf*

S. Jab - ber - wock, with eyes of flame, came whif - fling through the tul - gey

A. Jab - ber - wock, with eyes of flame, came whif - fling through the tul - gey

T. Jab - ber - wock, with eyes of flame, came whif - fling through the tul - gey

Pno. *mf* *mp*

51 *p*

S. wood, and bur-bled as it came!

A. wood and bur-bled as it came!

T. wood, and bur-bled as it

B. *mp*
and

Pno. *p*

55 *mp*
S. Bur-bled as it came! Bur-bled as it came,
A. Bur-bled as it came! Bur-bled as it
T. came! Bur-bled as it came!
B. bur-bled as it came, as it came! Bur-bled as it
Pno. *mp*

59 *mf* *f*
S. as it came! The
A. came as it came, as it came
T. Bur-bled as it came as it came! The Jab-ber-wock
B. came, as it came! Bur-bled as it
Pno. *mf*

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molto rit.

63

S. Jab-ber-wock with eyes of flame bur-bled as it came! One,

A. The Jab-ber-wock with eyes of flame bur-bled as it came! One,

T. with eyes of flame bur-bled as it came! One,

B. came! The Jab-ber-wock with eyes of flame bur-bled as it came! One,

Pno.

67 **Frantic** $\text{♩} = 82$
mp sub.

S. two! One, two! And through and through the vor - pal blade went

A. two! One, two! And through and through the vor - pal blade went

T. two! One, two! And through and through the vor - pal blade went

B. two! One, two! And through and through the vor - pal blade went

Pno.

70

S. snic-ker- snack! He left it dead, and with its head he

A. snic-ker- snack! He left it dead, and with its head he

T. snic-ker- snack! He left it dead, and with its head he

B. snic-ker- snack! He left it dead and with its head he

Pno.

73

S. went ga-lum - phing back. One, two! One, two! And through and

A. went ga lum - phing back. One, two! One, two! And through and

T. went ga - lum phing back. One, two! One, two! And through and

B. went ga-lum - phing back. One, two! One, two! And through and

Pno.

molto rit.

77

S. through the vor - pal blade went snic-ker-snack! He left it dead, and with its

A. through the vor - pal blade went snic-ker-snack! He left it dead, and with its

T. through the vor - pal blade went snic-ker-snack! He left it dead, and with its

B. through the vor - pal blade went snic-ker-snack! He left it dead, and with its

Pno.

85 Triumphant ♩ = 60

81

S. head he went ga-lum - phing back. "And hast thou slain the

A. head he went ga - lum-phing back. "And hast thou slain the

T. head he went ga - lum-phing back. "And has thou slain the

B. head he went ga-lum - phing back. "And has thou slain the

Pno.

86

S. *ff*
Jab-ber-wock? Come to my arms, my beam-ish boy! O

A. *ff*
Jab-ber-wock? Come to my arms, my beam-ish boy! O

T. *ff*
Jab-ber-wock? Come to my arms, my beam-ish boy! O

B. *ff*
Jab-ber-wock? Come to my arms, my beam-ish boy! O

Pno.

89

S. *mf*
frab-jous day! Cal-looh! Cal-lay! He

A. *mf*
frab-jous day! Cal-looh! Cal-lay!"

T. *mf*
frab-jous day! Cal-looh! Cal-lay!"

B. *mf*
frab-jous day! Cal-looh! Cal-lay!"

Pno. *ff*
accel. rit.

93 *a tempo* *molto rit.* *Tempo primo*

S. chor-tled in his joy. *mf* *p*

A. He chor-tled in his joy *mf* *p*

T. He chor-tled in his joy. *mp* *p*

B. He chor-tled in his joy. *mp* *p*

Pno. *mf* *p*

a tempo *molto rit.* *Tempo primo*

98

B.

Pno.

102 *mp* *pp* *mp*

B. 'Twas bril - lig and the *mp*

Pno. *pp* *mp*

105 105

106

B. *sli - thy toves did gyre and gim - ble in the wabe; all*

Pno.

109 *rit. Slowly*

B. *mim - sy — were the bo - to - goves, and the mome raths out grabe.*

Pno. *rit. Slowly*

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