

PCDA CHORAL SERIES

Karl Amando San Jose

Hope is the Thing with Feathers

SSAA
Piano

MUZIKSEA

Composer's notes

I decided to make my own music from Emily Dickinson's lovely poem because of its timely message about hope. I thought it would be a perfect subject for a children's or a young women's choir to tackle. The poem is set to short melodic phrases and includes a short refrain of a paraphrased 1st verse. The musical style is generally one that imitates French styles and traces of specific composers like Faure, Debussy, and Boulanger, may be distinctly heard, especially in the piano writing. This is deliberate, as I wanted the music to have a dream-like and wistful quality to it.

About the series

The Philippine Choral Directors Association (PCDA) – a national organization established by choral artists for choral artists – conducts masterclasses, workshops, conventions, fora, clinics, and festivals nationwide as it aspires to develop a thriving and vibrant Filipino choral culture.

In line with our mission, the PCDA Choral Series aims to promote works drawn from an excellent pool of Philippine contemporary choral works from the Composition Competition of the Philippine Choral Directors Association. The series features the award-winning works of the competition expertly evaluated by an international pool of esteemed judges.

The 2022 competition jury panel consisted of: Josu Elberdin Badiola (Spain), Dan Forrest (USA), Lorenzo Donati (Italy), Zechariah Goh (Singapore), and Eudenice Palaruan (Philippines/Singapore).

Hope is the Thing with Feathers

for SSAA with Piano accompaniment

Poetry by Emily Dickinson (1830-1886)

Music by Karl Amando A. San Jose

A musical score for SSAA (Soprano 1, Soprano 2, Alto 1, Alto 2) and Piano. The score consists of five staves. The top four staves represent the vocal parts, each with a treble clef, a key signature of four sharps, and a common time signature. The bottom staff represents the piano, with a bass clef, a key signature of four sharps, and a common time signature. The tempo is marked as $\text{♩} = 78$. The vocal parts are mostly silent, while the piano part provides harmonic support with various chords and rhythmic patterns.



Unauthorised duplication
of this score is illegal

A

5 *legato* **f**

S1 "Hope" _____ is the thing _____ with feath - ers that

A2 *legato* **mf**

"Hope" _____ is the thing _____ with feath - ers that

Pno **A** *mp*

8

S1 per - ches in the soul _____ (oooh) _____

S2 *legato f* and sings the

A1 *legato f* and sings the

A2 per - ches in the soul _____ (oooh) _____

Pno

10 *mp*

S1

S2 tune with - out the words and ne - ver stops at

A1 tune with - out the words and ne - ver stops at

A2 *mp*

Pno

13

S1

S2 all

A1 all

A2

Pno *mf*

B

15

S1 *mp*
 Hope____ has fea - thers and it per - ches the

S2 *p*
 Hope____ has fea - thers and it per - ches the

A1 *p*
 Hope has fea - thers and it per - ches the

A2 *p*
 Hope has fea - thers and it per - ches the

Pno **B**
mp

18

S1 soul and it____ sings the tune with - out the

S2 soul and it____ sings the tune with - out the

A1 soul and it sings the it sings the tune with - out the

A2 soul and it____ sings the it sings the tune with - out the

Pno

21

S1 words and ne - - ver stops at **[6] 8**

S2 words and ne - - ver stops at **[6] 8**

A1 words and ne - - ver stops at **[6] 8**

A2 words and ne - - ver stops at **[6] 8**

Pno

24

S1 all **[6] 8**

S2 all **[6] 8**

A1 all **[6] 8**

A2 all **[6] 8**

Pno

C

26

S1 - - - - - *f* and sweet - est in the *mp*

S2 - - - - - aah.

A1 - - - - - *mp* aah.

A2 - - - - - *mp* aah.

Pno **C** *p*

29

29

S1
gale is heard; and sore must be the storm_____ that

S2

A1

A2

Pno

32

S1 could a-bash the lit - tle bird_ that kept so ma - ny warm.

S2 it

A1 it

A2 it

Pno

36

S1

S2 could a-bash the lit - tle bird that kept so ma - ny warm. *mf*

A1 could a-bash the lit - tle bird that kept so ma - ny warm.

A2 could a-bash the lit - tle bird that kept so ma - ny warm.

Pno

40

D

S1 And sweet - - - est in the

S2 sweet - est in the gale is heard, and sweet - est in the

A1 And sweet - - - est in the

A2 And sweet - est in the

Pno *cresc.*

43

S1 gale, in the gale it is heard.

S2 gale, it is heard.

A1 gale, in the gale it is heard.

A2 gale, in the gale it is heard.

Pno

46

mp

S1

S2

A1

A2

Pno

I've

I've

I've

I've

I've

J = 68

49

E

molto rit.

S1

S2

A1

A2

heard it in the chill - est land, and on the strang - est Sea; yet

heard it in the chill - est land, and on the strang - est Sea; yet

heard it in the chill - est land, and on the strang - est Sea; yet

heard it in the chill - est land, and on the strang - est Sea; yet

E

molto rit.

Pno

J = 68

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61

S1 sings the tune with-out the words and ne - ver

S2 sings the tune with-out the words and ne - ver

A1 sings it sings the tune with-out the words and ne - ver

A2 sings it sings the tune with-out the words and ne - ver

Pno

65

S1 stops at all. It ne - ver

S2 stops at all. It ne - ver

A1 stops at all. It ne - ver

A2 stops at all. It ne - ver

Pno

69

S1 stops at all,

S2 stops at all,

A1 stops at all,

A2 stops at all,

Pno

72

S1 ne - ver stops at all. *pp*

S2 ne - ver stops at all. *pp*

A1 ne - ver stops at all. *pp*

A2 ne - ver stops at all. *pp*

Pno

75 rit.

S1

S2

A1

A2

Pno