

NOTES FOR PREPARATION
Tennessee All State Women's Choir

April 17, 2010

Judy Bowers, conductor

1. Et in Terra Pax
Joan Szymko

Important elements for performing this piece include dynamic contrast, careful articulation of staccato and tenuto markings, and consistent eighth note pulse.

2. Will There Really Be A Morning?
Craig Hella Johnson

All singers should learn the solo/small group sections, ms. 30-45.

3. Laudate Dominum
B. Wayne Bisbee

Be sure there are pure vowels for this Latin text. Also, pay attention to tempo changes.

4. O Sapo (The Toad)
Brazilian Folk Song
arr. Stephen Hatfield

Take care with the diction for this Portuguese text. The tempo is marked at 72 for quarter notes, but I will definitely take this faster, closer to 92-96. This is actually easier for the bottom parts to sing, but requires really crisp, confident diction from the soprano melody singers at this tempo.

5. She Weeps Over Ragoon
Eric Whitacre

Take great care to sing all the closed N consonants throughout the piece. Also, the English Horn part doubles the voices at times (i.e. measure 7, 8), and this is a GREAT help at getting correct pitches for dissonant sections. If the horn part could be added to the learning CD, that might really help the singers succeed.

6. I Am Not Yours
David Childs

Word stress will help create beautifully expressive phrases. Also, work for dynamic contrast.

7. My God Is So High
Spiritual, arr. Nancy Grundahl

We will have solo or small group auditions on site for measure 22. Sing slurs and create great dynamic contrast throughout.