

— THE CALL —

SATB divisi a cappella

Kenneth Tay (b. 1992)

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George Herbert (1593-1633)

Eoin 14:6 (with thanks to Gillebride MacMillan and Kathleen Reddy)

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Allegretto (c. ♩ = 72-76)

Soprano *mf*
Come, my way, my truth, my life: Such a way, as gives us breath;

Alto

Tenor *mp*
Sli - ghe, fi - rinn, a - gus bea - tha, sli - ghe, fi - rinn, a - gus bea - tha, sli - ghe, fi - rinn, a - gus bea - tha,

Bass *mp*
Sli - ghe, fi - rinn, a - gus bea - tha, sli - ghe, fi - rinn, a - gus bea - tha, sli - ghe, fi - rinn, a - gus bea - tha,
/sli - jə fi - rin a - gəs be - ə/

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S Such a truth, as ends all strife, Such a life, as kill - eth death. t'sli - ghe, fi - rinn,
A *mf*
Is mi - se an t'sli - ghe, fi - rinn,
/is mi - jə ən tli - jə fi - rin
T sli - ghe, fi - rinn, a - gus bea - tha, sli - ghe, fi - rinn, a - gus bea - tha,
B sli - ghe, fi - rinn, a - gus bea - tha, sli - ghe, fi - rinn, a - gus bea - tha,

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S *mp*
a - gus bea - tha, sli - ghe, fi - rinn, a - gus bea - tha, sli - ghe, fi - rinn, a - gus bea - tha, sli - ghe, fi - rinn,
A *mp*
a - gus bea - tha, sli - ghe, fi - rinn, a - gus bea - tha, sli - ghe, fi - rinn, a - gus bea - tha, sli - ghe, fi - rinn,
a - gəs be - ə/ /sli - jə fi - rin a - gəs be - ə/
T *mf*
Come, my light, my feast, my strength: such a light as shows a feast; such a feast as
B *mf*
Come, my light, my feast, my strength: such a light as shows a feast; such a feast as

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S a - gus bea - tha, sli - ghe, fi - rinn, a - gus bea - tha, sli - ghe, fi - rinn,___

A a - gus bea - tha, sli - ghe, fi - rinn, a - gus bea - tha, sli - ghe, fi - rinn,___

T mends_ in length; such a strength as makes his guest._____ a - gus bea - tha,

B mends_ in length; such a strength as makes his guest._____ a - gus bea - tha,

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f S Come, my joy, my love, my heart: such a joy as none_ can move; such_ a love as

f A Come, my joy, my love, my heart: such a joy as none_ can move; such a love as

mf T Sli - ghe, fi - rinn, a - gus bea - tha, sli - ghe, fi - rinn, a - gus bea - tha, sli - ghe, fi - rinn,

mf B Sli - ghe, fi - rinn, a - gus bea - tha, sli - ghe, fi - rinn, a - gus bea - tha, sli - ghe, fi - rinn,

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S none_ can part; such a heart as joys_ in love_____

A none_ can part; such a heart as joys_ in love_____

T a - gus bea - tha, sli - ghe, fi - rinn, a - gus bea - tha, sli - ghe, fi - rinn, a - gus bea - tha,___

B a - gus bea - tha, sli - ghe, fi - rinn, a - gus bea - tha, sli - ghe, fi - rinn, a - gus bea - tha,___

TEXT AND TRANSLATIONS

*Slighe, firinn, agus beatha,
Is mise an t'slighe, firinn, agus beatha.*

The way, the truth, and the life,
I am the way, the truth, and the life.

Come, my way, my truth, my life:
Such a way, as gives us breath;
Such a truth, as ends all strife,
Such a life, as killeth death.

Come, my light, my feast, my strength:
Such a light as shows a feast;
Such a feast, as mends in length;
Such a strength, as makes his guest.

Come, my joy, my love, my heart:
Such a joy, as none can move;
Such a love, as none can part;
Such a heart, as joys in love.

Text adapted from John 14:6 (in Scottish Gaelic),
and George Herbert (1593-1633)

PROGRAMME NOTES

This short, joyful piece weaves together text by George Herbert and a fragment of John 14:6 in Scottish Gaelic. The energetic Gaelic ostinato passes between the voices, while a Lydian-inflected melody carries the English lines, creating a bright interplay of colour and gesture.

Written with the University of Glasgow's motto (*Via, Veritas, Vita*) in mind, the work celebrates the meeting of languages in a compact, one-minute arc. My thanks to Gillebrìde MacMillan and Kathleen Reddy for their guidance in shaping the modern Gaelic text, Juliet MacKenzie for her support with Gaelic diction, and Edward Marshall for preparing the IPA transcription to support learning.

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