

“Away in a manger” op 2

For Soprano and piano

Alun Grafton



Composer's note

This setting of these famous words was completed in 1977 and first performed on 16th December 1992 by Eagle House School Choir in Wellington College Chapel, Berkshire. It is scored for Soprano or trebles voices and piano and lasts three minutes.

About the Composer

Born in 1961, Alun is a composer, pianist and experienced singer. Early lessons in singing and piano were followed by five years as a chorister at Rochester Cathedral. Further study at the King's School Rochester was followed by three years at Nottingham University studying Latin and Archaeology with private music lessons continuing with Brenda May. Just less than three years were then spent working at the Tate Gallery in London followed by a further year of teacher training back in Nottingham University. The next 30 years were spent teaching at Eagle House Wellington College before he took early retirement to concentrate on the composing.

Alun has sung in choirs ranging from symphonic choruses to chamber choirs throughout his life, first as a treble, then a countertenor followed by tenor. In addition he has been known to take up the conductor's baton when required to conduct the odd choir or orchestra and not only in his own works.

From the age of 14 onwards Alun has composed music of every genre except stage works. Whether it be for professionals, amateurs, children or friends he has written accessible but challenging works pushing the boundaries of modern tonalism as far as possible, not being afraid to use all the contemporary techniques available to today's composers. Over the years his composing style has subtly changed but the influence of composers such as Shostakovich, Prokofiev, Tippett and Hoddinott is easily identified.

For further details and full information about the composer please visit the website

www.alungrafton.org

Away in a manger op 2

words: anon

music: alun grafton

Moderato

p

Soprano

Piano

A - way in a

//

7

S

man - ger no_ crib for a bed, the lit - lte Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet

Pno

//

13

S

head. The stars in the bright sky look down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord

Pno

//

19

S

Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.

Pno

25 *pp*

Soprano

The cat - tle are low - ing the ba - by_ a - - wakes, the lit - tle Lord

Piano

//

31 *p* *mf*

S

Je - sus no cry - ing he makes, I love thee Lord. Je - sus look down from the

Pno

//

37 *p* *pp*

S

sky, and stay by my side un - til morn - ing is nigh.

Pno

//

43 *mf*

S

Be near me Lord Je - sus I_ ask thee to stay, close

Pno

49

Soprano

by me for ev - er and love me I pray, Bless all the dear

Piano

f

//

54

S

child - ren in thy tend - er care, and fit us for heav - en to

Pno

p

//

59

S

live with thee — there

Pno

mf

//

64

S

rall.....

Pno

f

Christmas choral compositions.

“Adam lay ybounden” op 1a

Parts: SATB
Duration: 3 minutes.

Sir Christemas op 86

Parts: SATB
Duration: 4 minutes.

“Adam lay ybounden” op 1b

Parts: Soprano and piano
Duration: 3 minutes.

Noel op 81

Parts: SATB and organ.
Duration: 3 minutes.

ad cantum leticie op 72

Parts: SATB
Duration: 4 minutes.

People look east op 38

Parts: SATB and organ.
Duration: 4 minutes.

Alleluia! A new work is come op 82

Parts: SSAATTBB
Duration: 4 minutes.

The Latin Carols op 67

Parts: SS and piano
Duration: 8 minutes

Coventry Carol op 3

Parts: SSATB
Duration: 4 minutes.

The Lord at First Did Adam Make op 43

Parts: SATB and organ.
Duration: 5 minutes.

I sing of a maiden op 64

Parts: SATB
Duration: 2 minutes.

There were three Kings op 50

Parts: Soprano and piano.
Duration: 4 minutes.

Masters in this Hall op 26

Parts: SS or SATB and organ.
Duration: 3 minutes.

What child is this? op 55

Parts: SATB and organ.
Duration: 6 minutes