

Commissioned by The Singers—Minnesota Choral Artists

Gabriel's Message

For Matthew and Melissa Culloton, on their wedding day.

English Translation by
Sabine Baring Gould (1834-1924)

Basque Carol
Arr. Joshua Shank (b. 1980) *

Unfolding ♩ = c. 40

The musical score consists of eight staves, each representing a different vocal part: Soprano 1 (S1), Soprano 2 (S2), Alto 1 (A1), Alto 2 (A2), Tenor 1 (T1), Tenor 2 (T2), Bass 1 (B1), and Bass 2 (B2). Each staff begins with a treble clef (except for B1 and B2 which use bass clefs) and a 12/8 time signature. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The tempo is marked 'Unfolding' with a quarter note equal to approximately 40 beats per minute. Each staff starts with the dynamic marking *ppp* and the instruction *cresc. poco a poco*. The lyrics 'ooh' are written below the first half of each staff, and 'oh' is written below the second half. The music features a melodic line with a crescendo leading to a final note marked *mf* and *ff*. The bass parts (B1 and B2) provide a harmonic accompaniment with a similar melodic contour.

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* For performance notes, see pages 14 and 15
For Joshua Shank's bio, visit www.sbmp.com

6 $\text{♩} = c. 50$ Soli Quartet SA *mp* 8 **Mysteriously**

Bir - ji - na gaz - te - tto - bat ze - go - en

Soli Quartet TB *mp*

S *sub. mf* p

A *sub. mf* p

T *sub. mf* p

B *sub. mf* p

mm

11 *mf*

Kre - a - za - le Jao - na - ren o - thoi - tzen, Nou -

mf

14

iz et' ain - gu - ru - bat le - hi - a - tu - ki Bei - tzen ze - lu - tik

*Tenor bring out melody until m. 26.

18

jai - tchi Min - tza tze - ra ha - ren.

mp
The
mp
The
mp
The

21 $\text{♩} = c. 45$ *mp* 23 *mp*

S down from Heav - en came, ooh His

A an - gel Ga - bri-el down from Heav - en came, His wings as drift - edsnow, His

T an - gel Ga - bri-el down from Heav - en came, His wings as drift - edsnow, His

B an - gel Ga - bri-el down from Heav - en came, His wings as drift - edsnow, His

26 $\text{♩} = c. 48-55$ *mf*

eyes as flame; oh

eyes as flame; oh

eyes as flame; *f warmly* "All hail," said he, "Thou low - ly maid - en

eyes as flame; oh

Glo -

Mar - y." Most high - ly fa - voured la - dy,

Most high - ly fa - voured la - dy,

32 *mf* *mp*

Glo - ri - a! ooh

ri - a! ooh

Glo - ri - a! ooh

Glo - ri - a! *mf* ooh

"For known a bless-ed Moth-er

35

thou shalt be, _____ All gen - er - a - tions laud and

38 Tenderly $\text{♩} = c. 45$

mp *sweetly* 2

Thy Son shall be Em-man-u -

mp *sweetly* 2

Thy Son shall be Em-man-u -

mp *sweetly* 2

Thy Son shall be Em-man-u -

mp *sweetly*

hon - our thee, _____ Thy Son shall be Em-man-u -

41

A little more motion

el, by seers fore - told," Most high - ly fa - voured

el, by seers fore - told," Most high - ly fa - voured

el, by seers fore - told," Most high - ly fa - voured

el, by seers fore - told," Most high - ly fa - voured

la - dy, *mf* Glo - ri - a! *mp* Then

la - dy, *mf* Glo - ri - a! *p* close slowly to "m" (mm)

la - dy, *mf* Glo - ri - a! *p* close slowly to "m" (mm)

la - dy, *mf* Glo - ri - a! (mm)

46

♩. = c. 52

gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head, "To me be as it pleas - eth

Triumphantly

51

sub. f

God," she said, "My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy His

sub. f

"My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy His

sub. f

"My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy His

sub. f

"My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy His

54

mf

ho - ly name." (mm)

mf

ho - ly name." (mm) Most high - ly fa - voured

mf

ho - ly name." (mm) oh

mf

ho - ly name." (mm) oh

rit.

la - dy, Glo - ri - a!

rit.

Glo - ri - a!

rit. 2

Glo - ri - a!

rit.

Glo - ri - a!

58

With optimism $\text{♩} = \text{c. } 60$

mp

S1
Glo-ri-a! Glo-ri-a! Glo-ri-a! Glo-ri-a! Glo-ri-a! Glo-ri-a!

mp

S2
Glo-ri-a! Glo-ri-a! Glo-ri-a! Glo-ri-a! Glo-ri-a! Glo-ri-

A

mp sweetly

T
Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri -

mp sweetly

B
Glo - ri -

Glo-ri-a! Glo-ri-a! Glo-ri-a! Glo-ri-a! Glo-ri-a! Glo-ri-a!

a! Glo-ri-a! Glo-ri-a! Glo-ri-a! Glo-ri-a! Glo-ri-a! Glo-ri-

f sweetly

Of

a! Glo - ri - a!

a! Glo - ri - a!

64

Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a!

a! Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri -

her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born In

Glo - ri - a!

Glo - ri - a!

Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a!

a! Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri -

Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn, And

Glo - ri - a!

Glo - ri - a!

70 *mf*
 Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a!
mf
 a! Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri -
mf
 Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say: Most
mf
 Glo - ri - a!
mf
 Glo - ri - a!

mf
 Most high - ly fa - voured la - dy,
mf
 a! Most high - ly fa - voured la - dy,
 high - ly fa - voured la - dy,
mf
 Most high - ly fa - voured la - dy,
mf
 Most high - ly fa - voured la - dy,

Triumphantly $\text{♩} = \text{c. } 60$

75

Glo - ri - a! , Glo - ri -

Glo - ri - a! , Glo - ri -

ff extremely accented on each note

Glo - ri - a! _____ Glo - ri - a!

ff extremely accented on each note

Glo - ri - a! _____ Glo - ri - a!

ff extremely accented on each note

Glo - ri - a! _____ Glo - ri - a!

ff extremely accented on each note

Glo - ri - a! _____ Glo - ri - a!

ff extremely accented on each note

Glo - ri - a! _____ Glo - ri - a!

ff extremely accented on each note

Glo - ri - a! _____ Glo - ri -

ff extremely accented on each note

Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a!

ff extremely accented on each note

Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a!

80

a! Glo - ri - a!

a! Glo - ri - a!

Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri -

Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri

Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri -

Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri

Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri -

a! Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri

Glo - ri-a! Glo - ri-a! Glo - ri-a! Glo - ri-a! Glo - ri -

Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri

Soli Quartet

Brightly

Most high - ly fa - voured la - dy,
 Most high - ly fa - voured la - dy,
 Most high - ly fa - voured la - dy,
 Most high - ly fa - voured la - dy,

S
a!
 A
a!
 T
a!
 B
a!

**Birjina gaztettobat zegoen
 Krezale Jaonaren othoitzen,
 Nouiz et' aingurabat lehiatuki
 Beitzen zelutik Jaitchi Mintzatzeraren.*

The angel Gabriel down from heaven came,
 His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame.
 "All hail," said he, "Thou lovely maiden Mary,
 Most highly favoured lady." *Gloria!*

"For known a blessed Mother thou shalt be,
 All generations laud and honour thee,
 Thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold.
 Most highly favoured lady." *Gloria!*

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,
 "To me be as it pleaseth God," she said,
 "My soul shall laud and magnify His Holy name."
 Most highly favoured lady. *Gloria!*

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ was born
 In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,
 And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say:
 Most highly favoured lady." *Gloria!*

***Translation of the Basque**

A young maiden was worshipping the Lord of Creation
 when an angel came down from the heavens to speak
 with her.

Recording

by The Singers – Minnesota Choral Artists
 conducted by Matthew Culloton

Listen to it at www.sbmp.com

CD to be released in June, 2006: SBMP CD 15

84 *f* extremely accented on each note

Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! Glo -

f extremely accented on each note

Glo - ri-a! Glo - ri-a! Glo - ri-a! Glo - ri-a! Glo - ri-a! Glo - ri-a!

f extremely accented on each note

Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! Glo -

f extremely accented on each note

Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a!

Note from the composer

I see this carol as a scene: Mary sits in the dark when light gently breaks in the room as the angel Gabriel reveals himself and slowly unfolds his wings. (The opening phrase is meant to convey this.) The rest of the piece is essentially a quiet waltz of profound, inner joy between the angel and the maiden.

I used the Basque in the first verse for two reasons: first, it adds to the mysterious quality of the music; second, this was the original language of the carol. The Basque has certain qualities in the combinations of consonants and vowels that the English translation doesn't offer.

Gabriel's Message was commissioned by The Singers—Minnesota Choral Artists and received its premiere on December 5, 2005.

Thanks to Argitxu Camus of the Center for Basque Studies at the University of Nevada, Reno.

Pronunciation

vowels: pure as in Italian except for "ei" of Beitzen

| | |
|-------------|--------------------|
| Birjina | beer-jee-nah |
| gaztettobat | gath-teh-tyoh-baht |
| zegoen | teh-goh-ehn |
| Kreazale | kray-ah-thah-leh |
| Jaonaren | jahoh-nah-rehn |
| othoitzen | oh-toee-tzen |
| Nouiz et' | noo-ees eht |
| aingurubat | aheen-goo-roo-baht |
| lehiatuki | leh-hee-ah-too-kee |
| Beitzen | bahee-tzen |
| zelutik | teh-loo-teek |
| Jaitchi | yahee-chee |
| Minttzatza | meen-tzah-tzeh-rah |
| haren | hah-rehn |



ri - a!

Glo - ri-a! Glo - ri-a!

ri - a!

Glo - ri - a!

no vibrato

senza ritard **93** *f poss.* **8^{va}**

Glo - ri - a!

senza ritard *f poss.* **8^{va}**

Glo - ri - a!

senza ritard *f poss.* **8^{va}**

Glo - ri - a!

senza ritard *f poss.* **8^{va}**

Glo - ri - a!

Burnsville, October 2005