

Before We Get Dusty  
SSAA, piano

Timothy C. Takach

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# Timothy C. Takach

## Before We Get Dusty

from *Where Beauty Comes From*

for SSAA choir and piano

- I. Paper Cranes (TBB)
- II. Twenty Questions (2-part treble)
- III. Before We Get Dusty (SSAA)
- IV. Where Beauty Comes From (SATB)

Commissioned for Healing and Hope Through Song, a program of the American Composers Forum, with partial funding provided by Saint Paul Cultural STAR. Premiered by the Minnesota Boychoir, Mark Johnson, Artistic Director.



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## Text:

I wish I had some bubble wrap  
To pop with my feet  
Want to jump, poke holes in paper  
When it's you, visiting me.

Feeling shy and thank you  
Did you know my insides glow?  
I swim like a fish, I dance like the wind  
In the banana tree leaves.

I like pushing things  
I like fighting and watching tv  
I wish right now I was a bug  
Climbing up your knee.

We'll leave before we get dusty  
We'll run and climb every tree  
Maybe tomorrow we'll find some answers  
Maybe we'll all turn into bees.

I like to laugh and play with my grandpa,  
I like ants in my p.j.s.  
Do you wish you were a ball,  
could roll and bounce off the walls with me?

I wish I was a builder  
I'd build a house we'd decorate  
With books and tickets, with money and dogs  
With stickers and popsicle sticks.

On the ceiling we'll find thoughts  
Drifting and changing like the day,  
We'll lie on our backs and watch them  
gather and carry our fears away.

We'll leave before we get dusty  
We'll run and climb every tree  
Maybe tomorrow we'll find some answers  
Maybe tomorrow we'll leave.  
Maybe tomorrow.  
Maybe.

*- Julia Klatt Singer (2010)*

## From the composer:

In 2010, poet Julia Klatt Singer and I spent time talking with some of the patients at the Children's Hospital of Minneapolis and St. Paul. Our project was to listen to their words and stories, and create music from their experiences. One of the visits took Julia into the play room, where the patients had unstructured free time. The energy in the room was palpable. When you think about a child in a hospital, the first image you see is probably the hospital bed with it's tubes, machines, generic art on the walls. But we forget that in most ways these kids are just regular kids. The text of this movement contrasts the energy of the patients with their desire to leave the hospital and get back to their regular lives.

*- Timothy C. Takach, 2010*



Reviewed as “gorgeous” (Washington Post) and “stunning” (Lawrence Journal-World), the music of Timothy C. Takach has risen fast in the concert world. Applauded for his melodic lines and rich, intriguing harmonies, Takach has received commissions from the St. Olaf Band, Cantus, Pavia Winds, Lorelei Ensemble, VocalEssence, the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, The Rose Ensemble, and numerous other organizations. His compositions have been performed on A Prairie Home Companion, The Boston Pops holiday tour, multiple All-State and festival programs and at venues such as the Library of Congress, Kennedy Center and Royal Opera House Muscat. He is a co-creator of the theatrical production of All is Calm: the Christmas Truce of 1914, by Peter Rothstein.

Takach studied music composition at St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN, where he graduated with honors. He has frequent national work as a composer-in-residence, presenter, clinician and lecturer. He is a full-time composer and lives in Minneapolis with his wife and two sons.

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# Before We Get Dusty

for SSAA and piano

Julia Klatt Singer

Timothy C. Takach

With energy ♩. = 84

Piano

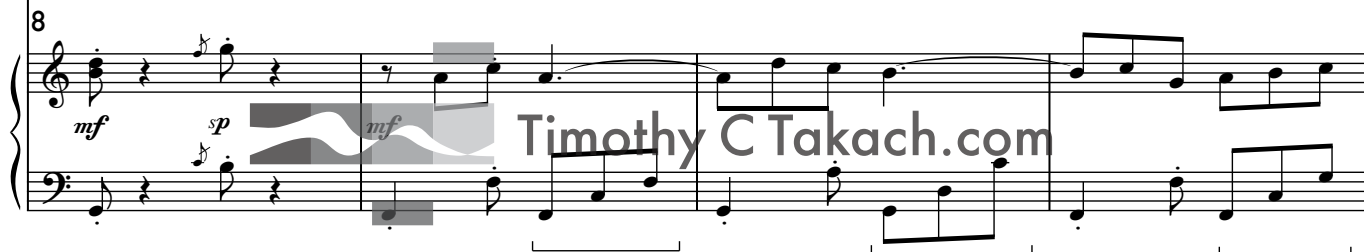


S 8 *mf* I wish I had some bub - ble wrap — To pop with my

A 8 *mf* I wish I had some bub - ble wrap — To pop with my



8 *mf* *sp* *mf*

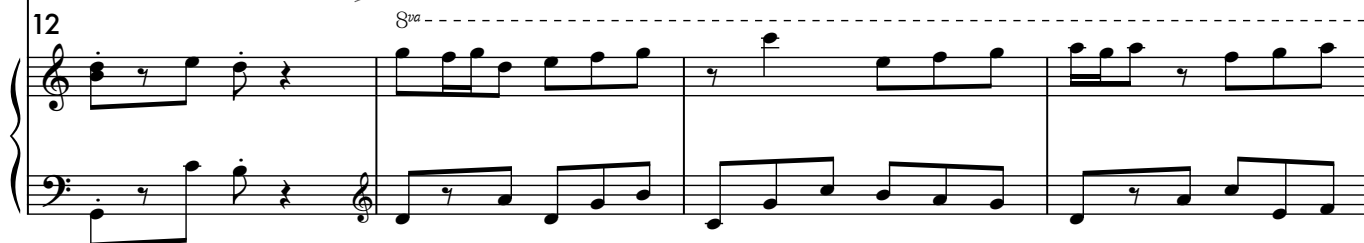


S 12 feet Want to jump, poke holes in pa - per — When it's you, vis - it - ing

A 12 feet Want to jump, poke holes in pa - per — When it's you, vis - it - ing



12 *Spa*



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*poco rit.*

16 *p*

S me. Feel - ing shy and thank you — Did you know my in - sides

A me. Feel - ing shy and thank you — Did you know my in - sides

16 (8va) *p*

*a tempo*

20 *mf*

S glow? I swim like a fish, I dance like the wind In the ba - na - na tree

A glow? I swim like a fish, I dance like the wind In the ba - na - na tree

20 *mf* *mp*

24 *f*

S leaves. I like push - ing things I like

A leaves. I like push - ing things I like

24 *sfz* *f* (balance the voices)

31 *p*

S fight - ing and watch - ing T. V. I wish right now I was a

A fight - ing and watch - ing T. V. I wish right now I was a

31 *pp*

35 *f* **Hopeful**  $\text{♩} = 124$  *mf*

S bug Climb - ing up your knee. We'll leave be - fore we get

A bug Climb - ing up your knee. We'll leave be - fore we get

35 *f* *mf*

40 *f*

S dust - y We'll run and climb eve - ry tree May -

A dust - y We'll run and climb eve - ry tree May - be to -

40 *f*

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47

S *p*  
be we'll find some an - swers \_\_\_\_\_ May - be we'll all

A *p*  
mor - row we'll find some an - swers \_\_\_\_\_ May - be we'll all

47



53

S *f* *mf*  
turn in - to bees. \_\_\_\_\_ I

A *f* *mf*  
turn in - to bees. \_\_\_\_\_ I

53



59

S *mp*  
like to laugh and play with my grand - pa, I like an - (nn)ts in my

A *mp*  
like to laugh and play with my grand - pa, I like an - (nn)ts in my

59



63

S p. j's. Do you wish you were a ball, \_\_\_\_\_ and bounce off the walls with

A p. j's. Do you wish you were a ball, could roll \_\_\_\_\_ off the walls with

63 *S<sup>va</sup>*

67

S me? I wish I was a build - er I'd build a house we'd

A me? I wish I was a build - er I'd build a

67 *(S<sup>va</sup>)*

*mf*

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71

S de - cor - ate With books and tick - ets, with mon - ey and dogs With stick - ers and pop - si - cle

A house With books and tick - ets, with mon - ey and dogs With stick - ers and pop - si - cle

71 *mp*

75

S sticks. On the ceiling *mf*

A sticks. On the ceiling *mf*

75

*sfz* *p* *f* *mf*

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81

S we'll find thoughts Drift-ing and chang-ing like the day, \_\_\_\_\_ We'll

A we'll find thoughts Drift-ing and chang-ing like the day, \_\_\_\_\_ We'll

81

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85 *f* *mf* *mp*

S lie on our backs and watch them \_\_\_\_\_ gath-er and

A lie on our backs \_\_\_\_\_ and watch them \_\_\_\_\_ gath-er and

85 *f* *mf* *mp*

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90 *f* *rit.* *mf*

S car - ry our fears a - way. We'll

A car - ry our fears a - way. We'll

90

**Determined** ♩ = 112

S leave be - fore we get dust - y We'll run and climb eve - ry

A leave be - fore we get dust - y We'll run and climb eve - ry

94

100 *f*

S tree May - be to - mor - row we'll find

A tree May - be to - mor - row we'll find

100

105 *ff* May - be to - mor - row we'll find some

S mor - row we'll find to - mor - row we'll find some

A we'll find to - mor - row find some

105 *ff* *mf*

$\text{♩} = 88$  *mf* an - swers

S an - swers May - be to - mor - row we'll leave

A an - swers May - be to - mor - row we'll leave

109 *mf*

114 *mp* *molto rit.* *p*

S May be to - mor - row... May - be...

A May - be to - mor - row... May - be...

114 *mp* *p*



## Selected vocal works by Timothy C. Takach:

### Mixed Voices

A Depth We Cannot Sound		SATB, vibraphone, marimba, large tom
A Worshipper and a Man		SATB a cappella
All the Beautiful Names		SATB a cappella
All Sisters and Brothers		SATB, 2 trumpets, organ
And I Saw		SATB div. a cappella
As the Sunflower Turns on Her God		SSAATBB div, Sop. solo, SSATB soli, a cappella
The Darkling Thrush	(earthsongs)	SATB, SAT soli, a cappella
Epitaph		SATB, viola
Listen to the Apples		SATB div. a cappella
Neither Angels, Nor Demons, Nor Powers	(Graphite Publishing)	SSATBB a cappella
Nubes Oriebatur: the eruption of Vesuvius		SSATBB a cappella
One Boy Told Me		SATB, piano
Something There is Immortal		SSATBB a cappella
Su Rahva Koda (The House of Your Kindred)		SSAATTBB a cappella
This Alien Landscape		SATB, crotales, suspended cymbal, bass drum
This Amazing Life		SA(T)B, piano
To Live Forever		SSATB a cappella
'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime (arr. Huron Carol)	(Graphite Publishing)	SATB a cappella
We Are Lost, We Are Lucky		SATB, piano

### Treble Voices

And I Saw		SSAA div. a cappella
Cassiopeia		SSA a cappella
Goodbye, Then		SSA choir, Bb clarinet, piano
Home on the Range (arr. American Folk Song)	(Graphite Publishing)	2-part treble, piano
Queen of the Range	(Graphite Publishing)	SA choir, piano
Serenade	(Graphite Publishing)	SSAA a cappella
There is No Rose	(Lorelei Ensemble)	SSAA, SS soli, a cappella
The Streets of Laredo (arr. American Folk Song)	(Graphite Publishing)	Unison, TTB, piano
Torn Map	(Graphite Publishing)	2-part treble, piano

### Men's Voices

All Natures, Even Mine		TTTBB a cappella
Empty		TB (opt. div), piano, opt. djembe
Go		TB, hand drum, wood block or clapping
Goodbye, Then		TBB choir, Bb clarinet, piano
I Will Howl		TBB choir, piano or cello
It Is Not the Fact That I Will Die That I Mind		TB, piano
Luceat Eis		TTTBB a cappella
Mad		TBB, piano
Rough Beast	(Jeremy D. Jones Male Choral Series)	TTBB, percussion
Salve Regina	(Graphite Publishing)	TBB semi-chorus, TTBB chorus a cappella
She Moved Through the Fair (arr. Irish Ballad)	(Neil A. Kjos Music Co.)	TBB a cappella
Things I Didn't Know I Loved	(Graphite Publishing)	TTBB a cappella
'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime (arr. Huron Carol)	(Graphite Publishing)	TTBB a cappella
Veni Creator Spiritus	(Graphite Publishing)	TTBB a cappella
What I Have Done (arr. Amazing Grace/House of the Rising Sun)		TTTTBBB a cappella

### Large Works

We Made a Grave For Him, And Her Smoke Rose Up Forever (ca. 10')		TTBB a cappella
The Longest Nights (ca. 21')		SATB, piano or string quartet
Where Beauty Comes From (ca. 16')		TBB, 2-part, SSAA, SATB; piano