

# “Songs for Womens' Voices”

By Gwyneth Walker

## Conductor's Notes

*Before Coming to Rehearsal:*

1. Please mark your scores with red and blue colored pencils:  
Circle or trace all crescendos, fortes, and accelerandos in **RED**.  
Circle or trace all decrescendos, pianos, ritards, and fermatas in **BLUE**.
2. Write into your scores all of the rehearsal letters, please.
3. Whenever you have a cut-off on a *voiced* consonant such as “d” or “n,” the pitch of your consonant needs to match the pitch of the note you had been singing.

*Thank you, and I'll see you soon!*

*Marjorie Drysdale*

(Director, Sounding Joy!)

## I. Women Should Be Pedestals

<u>Rehearsal Letters to Write In</u>	<u>Corresponding Measure Numbers</u>
A	6
B	12
C	20
D	31
E	39
F	51
G	60
H	65

### Opening measure:

Think of this measure as if it were in 4/2 instead of 3/2.

The fermata will last the length of the added fourth beat.

The triplet is a long triplet; it should fill up the full length of the third half-beat (rather than just a quarter-beat).

Measure 11:

Shorten half note (♩) to a quarter note followed by a quarter rest (♩<sup>^</sup> ).

Put the final “n” of the word, “men” on that quarter rest.

Measure 12-13:

hor-ses, not hors-es.

Measure 20, “Tempo Primo”:

Conducted in one.

Measure 24-25:

Sing “their – ears,” not “theirRears”. (Make slight separation).

Measure 48:

I will conduct three beats during the fermata.

The speed of the quarters that I beat in this measure will establish the speed of the quarters in the next measure.

Measure 49:

All quarter notes will be equal in value, but with these emphases:

**Un-til the re-stóred é-gos dis-móunt and the légs stride a-wáy.**


Measure 50:

The two measures of piano solo will be conducted in 4/4 instead of 2/2.

Measure 51:

Back to 2/2.

Measure 54:

Shorten the word “sweet” to an eighth note:   
Swee--T

Measure 57:

Remember to SMILE as per Gwyneth’s smiley-face picture!

**HIGHLIGHT this in yellow.**

Measure 59-60 (letter G):

Watch for my cut-off after the slide down in measure 59.

Wait before you sing “women”; I will establish the tempo for your triplets before I bring you in.

Measure 61:

Remember to cup your hand behind your ear as if listening, as per Gwyneth’s instructions. **HIGHLIGHT this in yellow.**

Cup your right ear with your RIGHT hand.

Watch for downbeat to measure 62.

Measure 64 to 65 (letter H):

No breath.

Measure 70:

“Pedestals”: Change the whole (♩) note to a dotted half note plus

quarter rest (♩ . ♪). Put the final “s” consonant on that rest.

Measure 73:

Put “s” on final eighth.

Observe fermata; watch for downbeat for measure 74.


## II. Mornings Innocent

<u>Rehearsal Letters to Write In</u>	<u>Corresponding Measure Numbers</u>
A	2
B	19
C	27
D	36*
E	12*


Letter A:

Soloist only.

Measure 20:

Put the “T” of “innocent” on the eighth rest (  ).

Measure 24:


“Lips” will be just a quarter note (  ).

Put the “s” of “lips” on the eighth note (  ) at the end of the tie.

Measure 27:

“Innocent:” No breath between “inno” and “cent.”



Measure 28:


“Innocent:” Put the “T” on the eighth note (  ) at the end of the tie.

Measure 29-35:

Soloists only.


Measure 56:

Change dotted half note (  ) to a half note plus quarter rest (  )

“Innocent:” Put the “T” on that rest :   
In-no- cen - T.

Measure 58:

“Salute:” At the end of the word, change the dotted half-note

(  ) to a half note plus half-rest (  ).

Put the “T” on that rest.

### III. His Name is Changeless

Rehearsal Letters to Write In	Corresponding Measure Numbers
A	2
B	2 <sup>nd</sup> half of measure 6, where the sopranos sing the word "They"
C	End of measure 8, on the word "God"

Measures 8 (end of m. 8) and 9:

"God": Change the last dotted quarter note (♩ . ) of m.8 to a quarter note (♩ ), so that the word "God" has just 3 beats.

To compensate, add an eighth rest to *the beginning* of measure 9, so that the downbeat is now a rest.

Put your "D" from the word "God" on this 8<sup>th</sup> rest.

Then come in on the phrase, "The Name is clue."  
The word, "The" should feel like an upbeat.

Change the quarter note on the word, "lost" to an eighth note plus eighth rest. (♩ ˘) Put the "st" of "lost" on the rest.

Ex, sopranos:

Go-----D The náme is clúe, The Thíng is lo -- st sóme - where;

Measure 10:

"Changeless": Change the half note (♩) of the syllable "less" to a quarter note and quarter rest (♩ ˘).  
Put the "ss" of "changeless" on the rest.

#### IV: Love is a Rain of Diamonds

<u>Rehearsal Letters to Write In</u>	<u>Corresponding Measure Numbers</u>
A	4
B	14
C	25
D	33
E	39
F	50
G	58
H	68
I	80

Measure 17: Put “T” on the last eighth.


Measure 24 to 29:

Cut-off’s as written.

*(The cut-offs were changed when we sang this at Carnegie Hall; I’d prefer that we sing them as written.)*


Also, do breathe before letter C *(rather than connecting the words “sun” to “Love, as we were asked to do at Carnegie Hall).*

Measure 34:

Put “nd” on final eighth note (  ).


Do this also in measure 69.

Measure 36:


Put “s” on final eighth note (  ).

Do this also in measures 37, 71, 72, 73, 75, 77 & 78.

Measure 40:

Put “s” as written, on the quarter rest (  ).

Measure 50:

Make “heart” a quarter note, with a quarter rest following it (  ).

Put the “T” on the quarter rest.

Measure 56:

I’m conducting each quarter beat during this ritard.

Measure 58:

Back into 2/2.

Last note: Wait for my cut-off.

## V. In Autumn


<u>Rehearsal Letters to Write In</u>	<u>Corresponding Measure Numbers</u>
A	2
B	12
C	25
D	33
E	40
F	50
G	58
H	67
I	76

Soloists only until measure 29.



Measure 29-30: No breath between measures, please.

Measure 32 to 33: Yes, breathe here.


Measure 59:

Put the “s” of “bones” on the first  note.

Measure 79:

“Down”: Change half note () to quarter note plus quarter rest ().

Put the “n” of “down” on the quarter rest.

Last measure: Put the “ng” on the first  note .

## VI: I Will Be Earth

<u>Rehearsal Letters to Write In</u>	<u>Corresponding Measure Numbers</u>
A	6
B	15
C	29
D	43
E	52
F	65
G	75

### Measures 6-12:

Breathe after “earth” and “flower.” (also true, m. 57-58).

Sing “be – éarth” rather than “beeyerth”.

Make the attack on the word “earth” a gentle one, please!

Don’t breathe after “root.” (also true, m. 61).

Sing “you – áre”, rather than “yoowahr”. (also true, m. 62, 75).

Make the attack on the word “are” a gentle one, please!

### Measure 16:

Don’t breathe after the word “boat.” (also true, m. 66).

### Measure 25:

Cut off on downbeat.

( Also true in measures 64 [altos] and 65 [sopranos] ).

### Measure 34:

Put “d” of the word “bud” on the last eighth.

### Measure 36:

Put “T” of “desert” on the downbeat of this measure –the first eighth

rest (♩).

### Measure 44:

Put “D” of “need” on the third beat.