No. 5189 | Walker | This Train | SATB

GWYNETH WALKER This Train

for SATB Chorus unaccompanied

PROGRAM NOTES

This Train is a traditional American song which uses the train as a metaphor for the way to heaven. "This train is bound for glory." Sounds of a train whistle and steam engine are interspersed with the music.

Additional lyrics have been added for contemporary relevance ("This train will stop in the ghetto . . . and at the factory door.") And new musical sections ("If you reach up, reach up to the sky . . . ") have been inserted to broaden the formal structure.

This song was selected as the basis of this new composition due to the compelling rhythmical nature of the theme and the universal message of the lyrics. "This is the train of freedom and glory and justice, and it's pulling out tonight."

ABOUT THE COMPOSER

If you were to hear a performance of Gwyneth Walker's *White Horses* or *The Lord's Prayer* and then walk next door to a performance of *Match Point*, you'd find it difficult to believe she wrote all three. In the first two, the composer has embraced the art of serious choral composition. In the third, she has written an entertaining, tongue-in-cheek orchestral work where the timpani player uses tennis balls instead of mallets and the conductor trades in the baton for a racket.

Gwyneth Walker is a prolific and inventive composer equally at home writing for children, amateurs, and professional choruses and orchestra. In a recent interview, the composer noted, "I've always admired Benjamin Britten for the diversity of his music. He wrote for everyone . . . from local kids to Rostropovich."

Ms. Walker has been composing full-time since 1982, following a 14 year career as a teacher of theory and composition at Oberlin College, the Hartford Conservatory, and the Hartt School of Music. She is co-founder and former director of the Consortium of Vermont Composers.

Composer's Revised 2008 Edition Catalog No. 5189

Commissioned by the Oklahoma Choral Directors Association for the 1998 All-OMEA Chorus

This Train for SATB Chorus unaccompanied



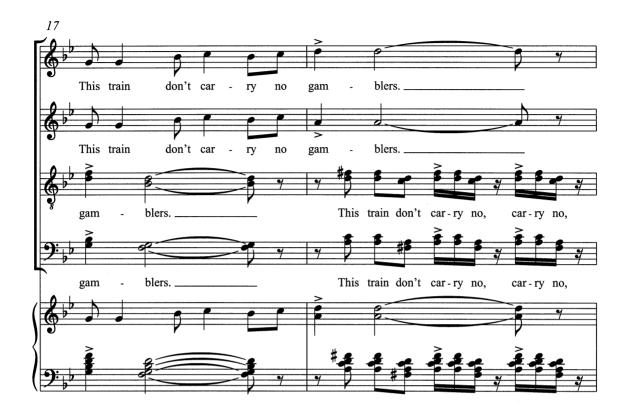
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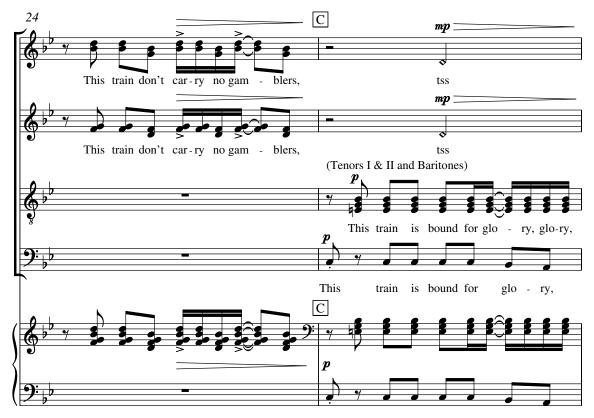






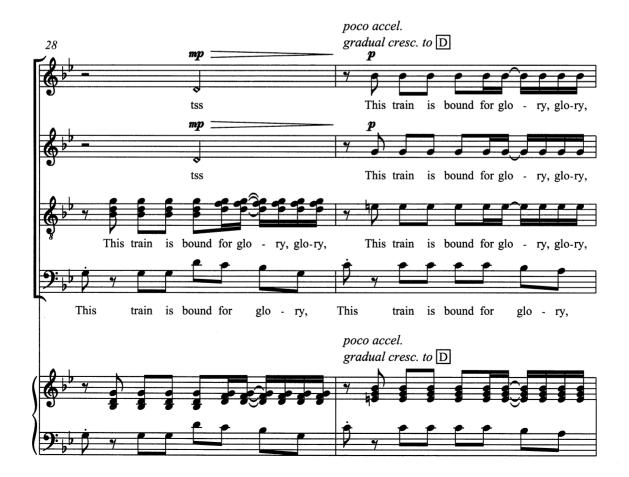






^{*} This note was corrected from F to D in 2008.







* In 2008, the composer moved the tempo marking "= 120" from bar 31 to bar 33 and added the words "Quickly, with energy."









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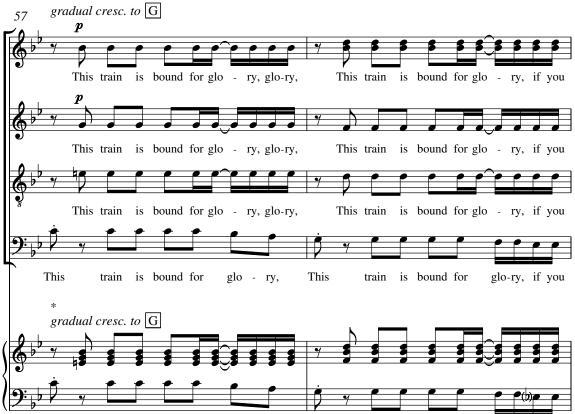


* grace notes on the beat ** In 2008, the composer replaced the words "Quickly, with energy d = 120" with the word "*accel*." in bar 49.



^{*} In 2008, the composer moved the words "Quickly, with energy $\bullet = 120$ " from bar 49 to bar 51.





* In 2008, the composer removed the words "poco accel." from 57.



* In 2008, the composer removed the term " \bullet = 120" from bar 59 and added the word "*rit*." to bar 60.





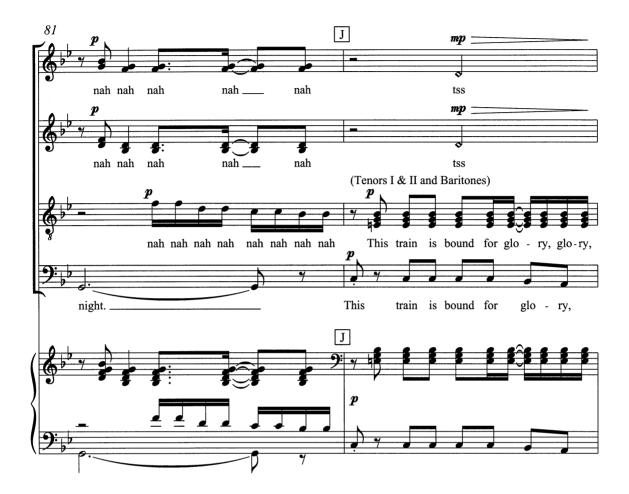




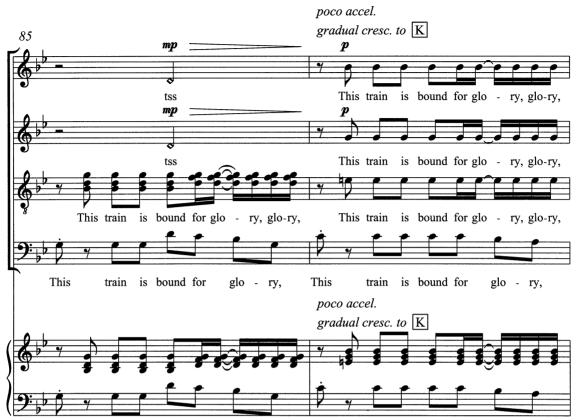




* In 2008, the composer removed the words "a tempo $\bullet = 120$ " from bar 76, added the word "*accel*." to bar 79 and the words "Quickly, with energy $\bullet = 120$ " to bar 80.

















May 24, 1997 New Canaan, Connecticut Duration: 3'45"

ECSPUBLISHING COMMITTED TO THE COMPOSER'S CRAFT

