

A Mural of Change

for SATB choir and piano



Consortium Members:

Baker University, Dr. Ryan Olsen, conductor; Baldwin City, KS

Branham High School, Barbara West, conductor; San Jose, CA

C. M. Russell High Chanteur Choir, Lynn Ryan, conductor; Great Falls, MT

Chanhassen High School Concert Choir, Sarah Gilbertson, conductor; Chanhassen, MN

Charlotte High School Chorale, Andy Schroetter, conductor; Charlotte, MI

Cherry Creek High School Meistersingers, Sarah Harrison, conductor; Greenwood Village, CO

Concordia International School Shanghai Chamber Singers, Meg Ideker, conductor; Shanghai, China

East Gaston High School Concert Choir, Peter Haley, conductor, Mt. Holly, NC

Estes Park High School Concert Choir, Alan Denney, conductor; Estes Park, CO

Flower Mound High School, Dr. Mark Rohwer, conductor; Flower Mound, TX

Gonzaga University Concert Choir, Dr. Timothy Westerhaus, conductor; Spokane, WA

Great Falls High, Patrick Ryan, conductor; Great Falls, MT

Greater South Jersey Chorus, Dr. Christopher Thomas, conductor; Cherry Hill, NJ

Illinois College, Dr. Abby Musgrove, conductor; Jacksonville, IL

Indianola High School Choir, Myles Finn, conductor; Indianola, IA

Interlochen Arts Academy Choir, John Bragle, conductor; Interlochen, MI

Iowa City West High School Singers, David Haas, conductor; Iowa City, IA

Irvine High School, Tina Peterson, conductor; Irvine, CA

Kansas City Kansas Community College, John Stafford, conductor; Kansas City, KS

Lakeside School Concert Choir, Shekela Wanyama, conductor; Seattle, WA

Laramie High School Plainsmen Singers, Donna Solverud, conductor; Laramie, WY

Mason City High School, Joel Everist, conductor; Mason City, IA

Muleshoe High School, Christy Barber, conductor; Muleshoe, TX

New Richmond High School, New Richmond, WI

North Idaho College Cardinal Chorale, Max Mendez, conductor; Coeur d'Alene, ID

North Lamar HS Varsity Mixed, Rebecca Hildreth, director; Paris, TX

Northeastern Illinois University Choirs, Dr. Christopher Owen, conductor; Chicago, IL

Northern Illinois University, Dr. Eric A. Johnson, conductor; DeKalb, IL

Oriana Consort, Walter Chapin, conductor; Cambridge, MA

Osseo Senior High Chamber Singers, Margaret Sabin, conductor; Osseo, MN

Pella Christian High School Concert Choir, Timothy Van Voorst, conductor, Pella, IA

Penn State Behrend Concert Choir, Dr. Gabrielle Dietrich, conductor; Erie, PA

Sauk Rapids-Rice High School Concert Choir, Steven D. Mick, conductor; Sauk Rapids, MN

Shattuck-St. Mary's Chamber Choir, Peter Schleif and James Yao, conductors; Faribault, MN

South Metro Chorale, Mark Bilyeu, conductor; Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN

Southern Berkshire Regional School District, Chris Clark, conductor; Sheffield, MA

The St. Michael - Albertville Concert Choir, Brandon Berger and Joseph Osowski, directors; St. Michael, MN

Sunnyvale High School Choir, Megan Senter, conductor; Sunnyvale, TX

VJ and Angela Skutt Catholic High School Concert Choirs, Chris Storm, conductor; Omaha, NE

Waconia High School Select Chamber Choir, Aaron Olson, conductor; Waconia, MN

Walter Johnson High School Madrigals, Kelly Butler, conductor; Bethesda, MD

Washington Community High School, Lara Reem, conductor; Washington, IL

Waunakee High School Concert Choir, Molly Petroff, conductor; Waunakee, WI

Wright County Chamber Chorus, Michael Walsh, conductor; Buffalo, MN

Text:

From the black and white we pluck burnt umber, raw sienna, feel the blues and the burning.

Stories have wings the power to show us what is in pale pinks succulent scarlets no longer abstractions what is more pleasant than that?

Oh the outrage to paint what everyone sees, what everyone knows, but refuses to speak.

Oh the joy truth and respect acceptance and kindness bring.

To be the indigo of falling rain, the ruby breast of a robin, to be colored forever by the world.

- Julia Klatt Singer
- Commissioned for this piece. Used with permission.

From the Composer:

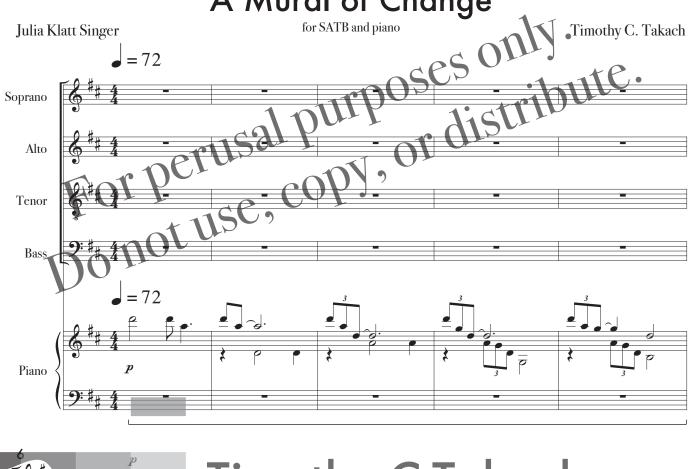
As I've become more in touch with what drives my creative energy, I've tried to find ways to combine my passions togther. When I was a kid, this meant putting every topping imaginable on my ice cream. More recently it means making choral music out of new poetry inspired by film. I had the idea to take a longer look at some of the themes from scenes or moments on film and explore them in a different artistic medium. In this way, we as musicians can explore passion, fear, grief, strength and other emotions with an additional access point other than words and music.

For "A Mural of Change," Julia and I took our inspiration from the 1998 film "Pleasantville." In the fictional black and white town, there is a growing conflict between the naive black and white characters and an small number of colored characters who are segregated. Certain things give people color - art, books, music, and so these things are banned. The main characters choose to rebel and paint the side of a building in full color and it causes immediate shock and fear from the black and white characters. Instead of hiding or denying their work, they stand proudly beside their work and own their act of defiance.

The racial metaphor in the film is obvious, but when we distill this theme into a poem it becomes more blurry, and we're more easily able to apply it to our own context. Julia's poem references the wisdom gained from stories, the power in acknowledging our differences, and the bravery it takes to speak these things out loud. As we own the differences found in humanity, we create a world that's better for everyone.

- Timothy C. Takach, 2018

A Mural of Change





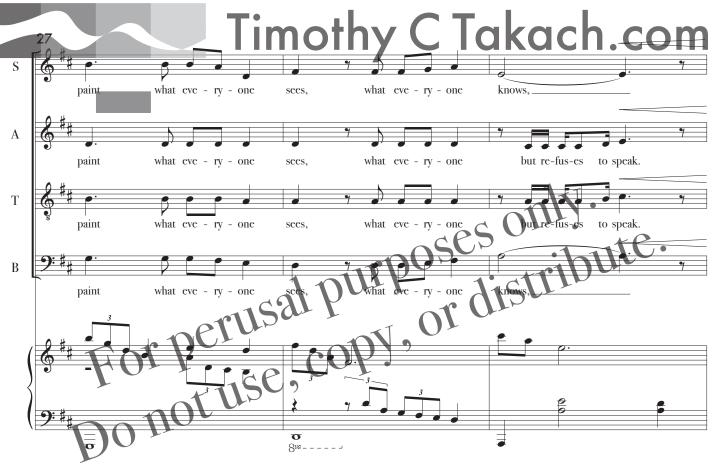
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Reviewed as "gorgeous" (Washington Post) and "stunning" (Lawrence Journal-World), the music of Timothy C. Takach has risen fast in the concert world. Applauded for his melodic lines and rich, intriguing harmonies, Takach has received commissions from the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, 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, and 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.

Selected vocal works by Timothy C. Takach:

A Worshipper and a Man SATB a cappella And I Saw SATB div. a cappella SSAATBB div, Sop. solo, SSATB soli, a cappella As the Sunflower Turns on Her God The Darkling Thrush (earthsongs) SATB, SAT soli, a cappella SATB, hand drum Fragile Listen to the Apples SATB div. a cappella SATB, piano MOMENTS IN FILM: A Mural of Change SATB, piano MOMENTS IN FILM: Insidious MOMENTS IN FILM: Flying Solo SATB, piano Neither Angels, Nor Demons, Nor Powers (Graphite Publishing) SSATBB a cappella SSATBB a cappella Nubes Oriebatur: the eruption of Vesuvius One Boy Told Me SATB, piano Ragnarök SATB div. a cappella Su Rahva Koda (The House of Your Kindred) SSAATTBB a cappella

Su Rahva Koda (The House of Your Kindred)

This Alien Landscape

This Amazing Life

SATB, crotales, suspended cymbal, bass drum
SA(T)B, piano

And I Saw
Bahihii Waaliidkay Dhaqay
Cassiopeia
Duende
How to Triumph Like a Girl
SSAA div. a cappella
SSAA div. a cappella
SSAA cappella
SSAA, floor toms
SSAA, floor toms
SSAA, piano

The Streets of Laredo (arr. American Folk Song) (Graphite Publishing) Unison, TTB, piano There is No Rose (Lorelei Ensemble) SSAA, SS soli, a cappella Torn Map (Graphite Publishing) SA, piano

Empty TB (opt. div), piano, opt. djembe Goodbye, Then TBB choir, Bb clarinet, piano I Will Howl TBB choir, piano or cello Kin TB, piano Luceat Eis TTTBB a cappella

Mad TB, piano
Original Harmony (Colla Voce) TTBB a cappella
Rough Beast TTBB, percussion
Salve Regina (Graphite Publishing) TBB semi-chorus, TTBB a cappella

Things I Didn't Know I Loved (Graphite Publishing) TTBB a cappella

Helios (ca. 65')

The Longest Nights (ca. 21')

SATB, piano or string quartet

This is How You Love (ca. 35') composed with Jocelyn Hagen

True North (ca. 16')

We, the Unknown (ca. 40')

Where Beauty Comes From (ca. 16')

SATB, chamber orchestra

TBB, soloists, chamber orchestra

TBB, 2-part, SSAA, SATB; piano

