

MOMENTS IN FILM

Insidious

for SATB choir and piano



Text:

A piano plays in an empty room. A baby cries in the nursery. When I look in the mirror it's him I see. He wants the life that's meant for me. My teeth are brittle. My body decays. I feel myself fading away as he grows stronger. The dead are greedy. They try to grasp any living soul whenever they can. They take our place and we take theirs in the netherworld of old nightmares, in the crumbling house, in the pitch black Further. Their sheet-covered bodies fill a church of the dead. A congregation full of dread and he is their minister. He's the bride who'll wed the sin. His dead soul is killing my living skin.

- William Reichard
- Commissioned for this piece. Used with permission.

This piece was funded through the website Consortio.io

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

Shanghar, Chinia
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

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

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

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 together. 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 have a love of horror movies, so I knew that the Moments in Film project needed to contain something from a horror movie. I asked my poet friend and horror movie lover William Reichard to help out with a poem. "Insidious" is easily the creepiest song I've ever written. And to be truthful, the first poem Bill wrote was so terrifying I couldn't even consider using it. So I had to send him back to try again (Sorry, Bill!). But this still makes me cringe in all the right ways, so I knew he nailed it.

The 2010 movie "Insidious" is where you should start watching the series, but this poem is inspired by the second installment, 2013's "Insidious: Chapter 2." The themes are the same - a little demonic possession, a little soul stealing, a journey into another realm. Right from the beginning, I'm playing with the sound of the choir as some are whispering and some are speaking. As the music progresses we hear the piano growing in richness and range as the possession becomes stronger. The piano writing is pretty off from the beginning, but it gets more agressive and confident as the piece moves foreward. There is no happy ending here.

A broader way of looking at this, though, is through a metaphorical lens. We've all seen people become inhabited by other negative forces that can lead to a path of destruction and sometimes death: addiction, rage, racism, etc. With this view, the "He" in the poem is an idea, a sickness. This could be an access point for those who are uncomfortable with the subject matter.

I knew going in that this piece will struggle to find it's way onto the stage very often. But darn it, there should be more horror choral music. And now there is. (Pats self on back.)

- Timothy C. Takach, 2018

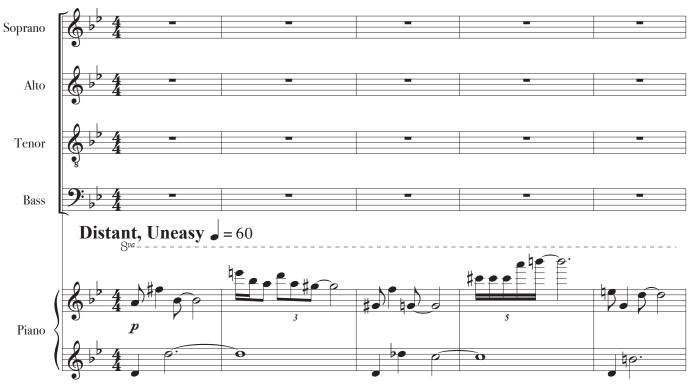
Muleshoe High School, Christy Barber, conductor; Muleshoe, TX New Richmond High School, New Richmond, WI North Idaho College Cardinal Chorale, Max Mendez, conductor; Coeur d'Alene, ID North Lamar HS Varsity Mixed, Rebecca Hildreth, director; Paris, TX Northeastern Illinois University Choirs, Dr. Christopher 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

for SATB and piano









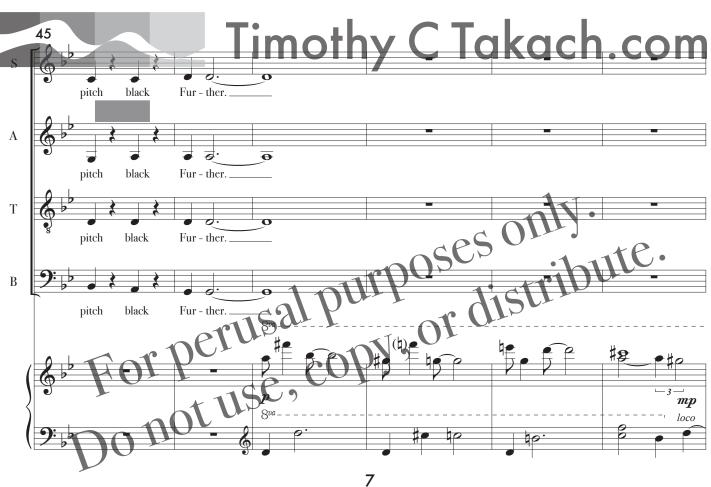




















Reviewed as "gorgeous" (Washington Post) and "stunning" (Lawrence Journal-World), the music of Timothy C. Takach has risen fast in the concert world. Applauded for his melodic lines and rich, intriguing harmonies, Takach has received commissions from the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, St. Olaf Band, Cantus,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

