PERFORMANCE NOTES

Baldassare Donato (sometimes referred to as Donati) was born around 1530. He lived his entire life in Venice, Italy, and died in 1603. During his lifetime, this prolific Renaissance composer was also known for his singing and organ playing. In 1590, Donato was appointed the head choirmaster at St. Mark's Cathedral. Upon his death, he was succeeded there by another great Italian composer, Giovanni Croce.

ALL YE WHO MUSIC LOVE was given its English text by Thomas Oliphant in 1837. This arrangement has been lowered one step from the original key of G major to F major. The soprano (Part I) melody is basically the same; however, Parts II and III have been arranged in such a way as to limit the range and for ease of singing, while retaining the sound and flavor of the original.

As with all Renaissance madrigals, this piece should be sung lightly and lyrically. Although this arrangement is in 2/2 or cut time, the stress within and between measures should always be derived from the text. For example:

Áll ye who músic, áll ye who músic lóve, and would its pléasures próve,

The "fa, la, la" section beginning at measure 29 should also be sung with a slight accent on each "fa." Since this section is homophonic (many Renaissance madrigals are polyphonic in the "fa, la, la" sections), a slight increase in dynamics from mf to f is suggested for excitement and build. Make sure not to over-sing the forte sections, keeping them light.

Take the opportunity at measure 13 to bring the voices together for a nice blend. Be sure to keep the corners of the mouth pulled in especially on the "ah" vowels to keep from spreading the vowel sound or create strident singing. Be sure to take a full breath before each phrase and enjoy!

For further study in warm-ups, vocal production, and rehearsal techniques in this style, see the madrigal section of Alfred Choral Builders:

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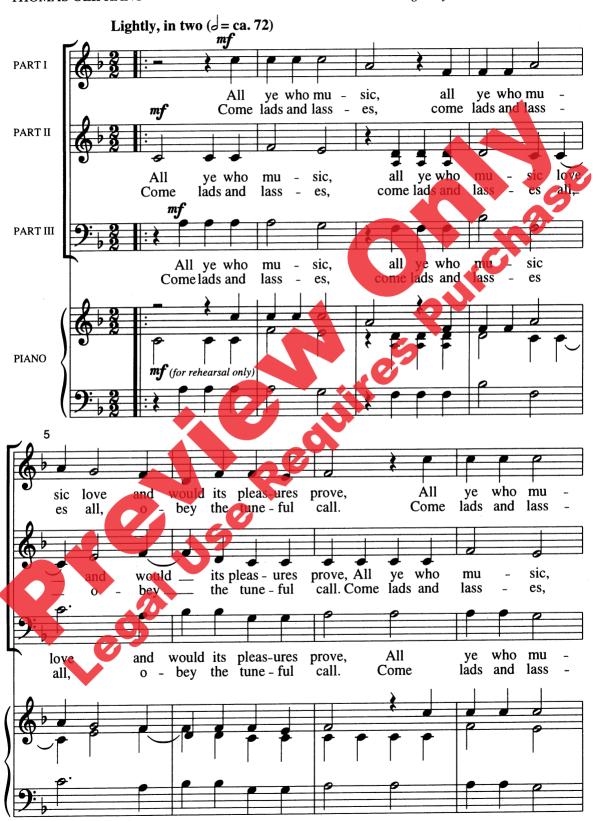
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ALL YE WHO MUSIC LOVE

for 3-part mixed voices, a cappella *

Words by THOMAS OLIPHANT Music by BALDASSARE DONATO Arranged by RUSSELL ROBINSON



^{*} Also available for S.S.A. (20096).













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