Kuimba Asante is a joyful celebration of life that calls upon people throughout the world to join their voices in singing thanks. In the spirit of traditional African song, energetic, regular syncopated rhythms and lively call-and-response permeate the texture.

Appropriate for performance by both school and church choirs, **Kuimba Asante** is available in three voicings for singers of all ages. Reflecting its universal theme, the text offers thanks in four languages (in addition to English). Following are a pronunciation guide and translation of additional foreign text:

JAPANESE:

Arigato (ah - ree - gah - toh)

RUSSIAN:

Spaciba (spah - SEE - bah)

SPANISH: SWAHILI:

Gracias (GRAH - see - ahs) Asante (ah - SAHN - teh)

Kuimba (kooEEM - bah) = sing

Sifa (SEE - fah) = praise

Utukufu (OO - too - koo - foo) = glory

Additional textural interest can be created by the improvisation of repeated phythmic patterns by one or more percussion instruments. A full performance/accompaniment cassette (available separately, No. 16112) employs five percussion instruments throughout. The rhythms played by each instrument are simple 1-measure or 2-measure repeated patterns, as follows:



41: 2 1 2 1

4 | X X X X X I

African Maracas

4 li: √ √ √ √ : 11 **11**

Tuned Tenor Drum



Large Drum

41: x x :1

In rehearsal, strive for an energetic, lightly intensive choral sound and rhythmic precision. Practice singing the entire piece on staccato "doo" until the rhythms are precisely aligned. Caution the singers against singing too heavily or loudly, which will result in sloppy rhythms.

Kuimba Asante is appropriate for both concert and worship. When performed in worship, it may be useful for harvest, thanksgiving, world communion or general occasions. Suggested corresponding lectionary readings include 1 Chronicles 29: 9-13, Psalm 100, Isaiah 63: 16 and 1 Corinthians 15: 57. One basic homiletical theme is joining with all of God's people throughout the world to sing jubilant thanks to the Creator.

Dave and Jean Perry live in Mesa, Arizona, where Dave is Chairman of Performing Arts at Mountain View High School and Jean is Director of the Chapel Singers at Grace United Methodist Church and an elementary music teacher at Holmes Elementary School. Active as choral composers and clinicians, they have over one hundred sacred and secular choral works in print.

KUIMBA ASANTE

(Sing Thanks! - Swahili)

for 3-part mixed voices, accompanied,*
with optional percussion**

Words and Music by
DAVE and JEAN PERRY (ASCAP)



- * Also available for S.A.T.B. voices, No. 16109, and 2-part voices, No. 16111.
- ** A full performance/accompaniment CD is available separately, No. 16112. Percussion may be freely improvised (please see the performance notes).

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