

African Noel is a jubilant setting of a traditional African Christmas folksong. Arranged with optional percussion accompaniment (available separately, No. 19967), it is available in editions both for 3-part mixed voices and for unison or 2-part (treble or mixed) voices. It is appropriate for performance by both school and church choirs.

Call-and-response between soloist and choir is a notable element of this lively tune. The solo passages (e.g., mm. 49-52, 56-60, et. al.) may be sung by a single voice, several voices or the entire choir. The dynamics are carefully marked and should be observed with energy and excitement.

For performance by church choirs, suggested corresponding scripture readings include Isaiah 9: 1-7, Luke 2: 1-20 and Titus 2: 11-14. One basic homiletical theme is singing with joy and gratitude for the birth of the Newborn King.

Dave and Jean Perry live in Mesa, Arizona, where Dave retired after 28 years as a high school choral director and Jean teaches general music and chorus at Holmes Elementary School. They are both involved in the music ministry at First United Methodist Church in Mesa. Active as choral composers and clinicians, they have over 175 sacred and secular choral works in print and received the ASCAP special composer's award in 1999 and 2000.

PLEASE NOTE: In the InstruPax score and compact disc recording, the percussion part begins four measures before the keyboard entrance.

AFRICAN NOEL

for 3-part mixed voices, accompanied,
with opt. soloist and percussion*

TRADITIONAL AFRICAN FOLKSONG
Arranged by **DAVE & JEAN PERRY** (ASCAP)

Joyful and rhythmic (♩ = ca. 80)

ACCOMP.

8 PARTS I & II

9

PART III

mf

Sing No - el, sing No - el, No - el, No - el. _

* Also available for unison or 2-part voices, No. 19965. Parts for percussion (shekere, high drum and low drum), No. 19967, and a full performance/accompaniment compact disc, No. 19966, are available separately.

PART II only

12 *mf*

Sing No - el, sing No - el, No - el, No - el. —

16 ⑰ (*mf*)

Sing No - el, sing No - el, No - el, No - el. —

20 *cresc. poco a poco*

Sing No - el, *cresc. poco a poco* sing No - el, No - el, No - el. —

cresc. poco a poco

24 (25) *f* PART II only

Now sing No -

Sing we all ___ No - el! _____

27

el! Now sing No - el!

Sing we all ___ No - el, _____ No - el!

30

Now sing No - el! _____

Now sing No - el! Sing No - el!

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33

mf (unis.)

Sing No - el, sing No - el, No - el, No - el.

37 *mp*

Sing No - el, sing No - el, No - el, No - el.

41

45

(49) SOLO (or Parts I & II unison)

mf

Long a - go _____ one win - ter night, _____

mf

53 *mp* TUTTI *mf* SOLO

Sing No - el, sing No - el, No - el, No - el. _____ Lit-tle

mp

(57)

ba - by was born, _____ it was quite a sight. _____

mf

61 *mp* TUTTI *mf* SOLO

Sing No - el, sing No - el, No - el, No - el. The

65

an - gels sang — with a glo - ri - ous sound. —

69 *mf* TUTTI *f* SOLO

Sing No - el, sing No - el, No - el, No - el. When the

(73)

ba - by was born — down in Beth - le - hem town. —

77 TUTTI
mf cresc. poco a poco

Sing No - el, sing No - el, No - el, No - el.

(81) PART II only

Now sing No - el! Now sing No -

Sing we all No-el! Sing we all No-el, No -

PART I

Sing we all — No-el! — Sing we all — No-el! —

85 *f*

el! Now sing No - el! el! Now sing No - el! Sing No - el!

89 *mf* (unis.)

Sing No - el, sing No - el, No - el, No - el.

mf

93 *mp*

Sing No - el, sing No - el, No - el, No - el.

mp

(97) *mf*

101

(105) *mf* (unis.)

Sing No - el, sing No - el, No - el, No - el.

109 *cresc. poco a poco*

Sing No - el, sing No - el, No - el, No - el.

cresc. poco a poco

cresc. poco a poco

113 PART II *only**f*

Now sing No - el!

Sing we all — No - el! —

Sing we all — No - el, —

116

PART I

f

Now sing No - el!

Now sing No -

No - el!

Now sing No -

Sing we all — No-el! —

119

el!

No - el!

el!