

### Inspired by Ovid's Metamorphoses

Most beings spring from other individuals  
 But there's a certain kind that reproduces itself  
 It's called the Phoenix.  
 A spirit proudly willing to burn so it may live again  
 Dives to the depths of the earth in search for the eternal flame.  
 Up from the ashes, it soars to amazing heights and is reborn by the sunlight.

Sun, glorious Sun, Make me young and strong again!

Nothing retains the shape of what it was.  
 Nature always makes old things new.  
 Nothing dies in this world.  
 It simply takes another form.  
 Birth is change from what we were.  
 Death is change from what it was.  
 Though all things melt or grow the balance of the world remains.

When receiving the invitation to compose a work for the West Virginia Chapter of ACDA, many different texts came to mind. My first thoughts jumped to the unique landscape of the state, however, after living there for a few years, I realized that the citizens themselves are what truly make the state unique. It takes a certain type of spirit to do the back-breaking work that keeps the state running. For that, the myth of the Phoenix is quite fitting to honor those who give every day and those who have given their lives to keep the light burning bright.

It was said that no man could recreate the call of the Phoenix. The opening soloists trade pitches in their attempt to emulate that call.

Evan Mack

Commissioned by the West Virginia chapter of the American Choral Directors Association

# OF FIRE AND FORM (The Phoenix)

Words based on  
Ovid's Metamorphoses

for S.A.T.B. divisi voices, soloists, and piano

Music by EVAN MACK

**Adagio** (♩ = ca. 75)

SOPRANO *ppp* *pp*  
Oo

ALTO *pp*  
Most be-ings\_ spring\_ from oth-er in-di-vid-u-als

TENOR *ppp*  
Oh

BASS

PIANO **Adagio** (♩ = ca. 75)  
Depress silently *ppp* *L.V.* 3

S.P.  
(Middle Pedal)

5 *pp* *ppp* *pp* *ppp* *pp*  
but there's a cer-tain kind that re-pro-du-ces it - self, it's called the Phoe-nix.  
Phoe-nix.  
ah Phoe-nix.  
Phoe-nix  
Phoe-nix  
*pp*  
*sotto voce/falsetto*  
Phoe-nix

*continue S.P. through m. 29*



9 SOPRANO SOLO (*sotto voce*)

*molto rubato*

Oo \_\_\_\_\_ *slow gliss.* ah \_\_\_\_\_ oo \_\_\_\_\_

TENOR SOLO (*sotto voce*)

*molto rubato*

Oo \_\_\_\_\_ *slow gliss.* ah \_\_\_\_\_

*molto rubato*

*molto rubato*

*molto rubato*

*molto rubato*

*on cue*

*molto rubato*

very slow gliss. ah very slow gliss. ah ah

oo ah

*pp*

Ped.

18 Poco meno mosso (♩ = 70)

(sotto voce) *p*

Oo

*p*

Ah

*p*

A spir - it proud - ly will - ing to burn  
 Proud - ly will - ing to burn

*pp*

Oo

Poco meno mosso (♩ = 70)

(both hands)

20

*slow ass*

so it may live a - gain.

so it may live a - gain.

*p*

A - gain.

Ah

*mf* Dives to the depths of the earth,

*mf* Dives to the depths of the earth,

*mf* Dives to the depths of the earth,

*mf* Dives to the depths of the earth.

oo

in search for the e - ter - nal

in search for the e - ter - nal

in search for the e - ter - nal

in search for the e - ter - nal

*8va* L.H. R.H.

24

flame.

flame.

flame.

flame.

25

*mp*

Up from the ash - es it soars

*mp*

Up from the ash - es it soars

*mp*

Up from the ash - es it soars

*mp*

Up from the ash - es it soars

*p*

26 *mf*  
 Oo

*mf* 3  
 to a - maz - ing heights and

*mf* 3  
 to a - maz - ing heights and

*mf* 3  
 to a - maz - ing heights and

*mf* 3  
 to a - maz - ing heights and

*mf* 3  
 to a - maz - ing heights and

*mf* (S.P.)

27

Oo

*f cresc.*  
 is re - born

*f cresc.*  
 is re - born

*f cresc.*  
 re - born, re - born

*f cresc.*  
 is re - born, is re - born

28

oo

(end solo)

*ff*

by the sun

*ff*

by the sun

*ff*

by the sun

*ff*

by the sun

29

(end solo)

light!

light!

light!

light!



Twice as fast (♩ = ca. 140)

30

*fff*

Sun! Sun! Sun! Glo - ri - ous Sun!

Sun! Sun! Sun! Glo - ri - ous Sun!

Sun! Sun! Sun! Glo - ri - ous Sun!

Sun! Sun! Sun! Glo - ri - ous Sun!

Twice as fast (♩ = ca. 140)

*ff*

Ped. senza S.P.

34

Sun! Sun! Sun! Glo - ri - ous Sun!

Sun! Sun! Sun! Glo - ri - ous Sun!

Sun! Sun! Sun! Glo - ri - ous Sun!

Sun! Sun! Sun! Glo - ri - ous Sun!

38

*ff*  
 Make me young. Make me strong. Make me young a - gain!

*ff*  
 Make me young. Make me strong. Make me young a - gain!

*ff*  
 Make me young. Make me strong. Make me young a - gain!

*ff*  
 Make me young. Make me strong. Make me young a - gain!

42

*fff* Sun! Sun! Sun! *rit.* Glo - ri - ous Sun!

*fff* Sun! Sun! Sun! *rit.* Glo - ri - ous Sun!

*fff* Sun! Sun! Sun! *rit.* Glo - ri - ous Sun!

*fff* Sun! Sun! Dives to the depths of the earth *rit.*

*Ped.* *Ped. sim.*

46 *f* *mf* *p* *molto rit.* *pp* Half tempo (♩ = ca.70)

Make me young. Make me strong. Make me young a - gain.

Make me young. Make me strong. Make me young a - gain.

Make me young. Make me strong. Make me young a - gain.

while proud - ly will - ing to burn to live a gain.

Half tempo (♩ = ca.70)

*f* *mf* *p* *molto rit.* *pp*

50

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(L.V.) *ppp* *p* *sim.*

41905 Ped. Ped. Ped.

54

55

*p expressive*

Noth-ing keeps the shape of what it was.

*p expressive*

Noth-ing keeps the shape of what it was.

*p expressive*

Noth-ing keeps the shape of what it was.

*p expressive*

Noth-ing keeps the shape of what it was.

58

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*



62

*p*

Noth-ing keeps the shape of what it was.

*p*

Noth-ing keeps the shape of what it was.

*p*

Noth-ing keeps the shape of what it was.

*p*

Noth-ing keeps the shape of what it was.

Ped. Ped.

65

*mf*

Noth-ing dies in the world. It sim-ply takes an - oth - er form.

*mf*

Noth-ing dies in this world. It sim-ply takes an - oth - er form.

*mf*

Noth-ing dies in this world. It sim-ply takes an - oth - er form.

*mf*

Noth-ing dies in this world. It sim-ply takes an - oth - er form.

*mf cresc.*

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. \* *sim.* Ped.

70 *poco stretto* **p** *mf* *a tempo*

Noth- ing dies in the world. It sim- ply takes an - oth - er form.

*poco stretto* **p** *mf* *a tempo*

Noth- ing dies in this world. It sim- ply takes an - oth - er form.

*poco stretto* **p** *mf* *a tempo*

Noth- ing dies in the world. It sim- ply takes an - oth - er form.

*poco stretto* **p** *mf* *a tempo*

Noth- ing dies in the world. It sim- ply takes an - oth - er form.

*poco stretto*  
sub. **p** *cresc.* *mf* *a tempo*

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

74 *sub. pp molto cresc.* *mf* *a tempo*

Birth is change from what we were. Death is change from what it was.

*sub. pp molto cresc.* *mf* *a tempo*

Birth is change from what we were. Death is change from what it was.

*sub. pp molto cresc.* *mf* *a tempo*

Birth is change from what we were. Death is change from what it was.

*sub. pp molto cresc.* *mf* *a tempo*

Birth is change from what we were. Death is change from what it was.

*sub. ppp molto cresc.* *mp* *a tempo*

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

77

*rit.* Though all things melt or grow the bal - ance of the world re -

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*rit.* Though all things melt or grow the bal - ance of the world re -

*rit.* *ff* *fff*

Ped. Ped. Ped.

80

TENOR SOLO

*Tempo primo*  
*sotto voce pp*  
Oo *gliss.*

*fff* mains! Re - mains!

*fff* mains! Re - mains!

*fff* mains! Re - mains!

*fff* mains! Re - mains!

*Tempo primo*

*fff*

Ped. Ped.





95 *mp* *mf* *f cresc.*  
 oo Oo Oo Make me  
*mp cresc.* *mf cresc.*  
 Na-ture al-ways makes old things new. Noth - ing dies in this world...  
*mp* *mf cresc.* *f cresc.*  
 ah ah Ah Ah Make me  
*mf* *f cresc.*  
 ter - nal flame. Soar, soar up from the ash - es. Soar to a -  
*mp cresc.* *mf* *f cresc.*  
 Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

99 *ff cresc.* *rit.*  
 young. Make me strong. Make me re - born. Re - born...  
*f* *ff cresc.* *rit.*  
 It sim-ply takes an - oth - er form. Birth! Death! Melt!  
*ff cresc.* *rit.*  
 young Make me strong. Make me re - born.  
*ff cresc.* *rit.*  
 maz - ing heights. And be re - born, be re - born, re - born, be  
*ff cresc.* *rit.*  
 sim.

103 *molto rit.* *a tempo un poco stretto*  
*fff*  
 \_\_\_\_\_ by the Sun! \_\_\_\_\_ Sun! \_\_\_\_\_

*molto rit.* *a tempo un poco stretto*  
*fff*  
 Grow! Change! Sun! \_\_\_\_\_ Sun! \_\_\_\_\_

*molto rit.* *a tempo un poco stretto*  
*fff*  
 Re - born by Sun! \_\_\_\_\_ Sun! \_\_\_\_\_

*molto rit.* *a tempo un poco stretto*  
*fff*  
 re - born by the Sun! \_\_\_\_\_ Sun! \_\_\_\_\_

*molto rit.* *fff a tempo un poco stretto*  
 Ped. Ped. Ped. sim.

107 \_\_\_\_\_ SUN! \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ SUN! \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ SUN! \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ SUN! \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ SUN! \_\_\_\_\_