Hollering Sun

III Quiet



LG Co. 52738

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Notes on *Hollering Sun*Alice Parker

These five choruses are settings of poems by Nancy Wood, published in a picture book of the same title that honors the Taos Indians in their pueblos in New Mexico. Ms. Wood's Note reads: "The thoughts presented in this book are those of the Taos Indians. They were passed on over a period of ten years to the author, who wrote them down as poems, aphorisms and sayings. From her long friendship with these people has come a unique opportunity to capture the Indian way of looking at life. Except for the legends, the philosophy is universal."

The music was commissioned by the Heidelberg (OH) College Choir, and first performed by them in 1993, conducted by the composer. The suite of poems was chosen to represent different moods and ceremonies. The music is not based on any native themes; rather fit tries to give a context in which the words can sing with their full resonance. The choir that understands the words will perform the music well.

- I. Oh my gentle village fierce/Oh my powerful people weak . . . We must pray to the whispering moon/Pray to the tiptoeing stars/And to the hollering sun.
- II. Earth woman with hands/That shape the bread of time. Your children are the crops of all good seasons... Growing strong/In the house of earth woman /Who weaves the thread of life.
- III. It is our quiet time./We do not speak because the voices are within us. . . We rest with all of nature./We wake when the seven sisters wake. . .
- IV. My brother the star, my mother the earth, my father the sun, my sister the moon, to my life give beauty. . . to my spirit give truth, to my elders give wisdom.
- We shall five together, We shall walk with you; We shall find in each new day what hides inside of you. We shall wait together; We shall see the day when we go hand in hand/To the fire in the mountain, To the water in the sand.

Hollering Sun

LG52731 Prayer LG52737 Earth Woman LG52738 Quiet LG52739 Sky Family LG52740 Together

