## **PERFORMANCE NOTES**

"Sing Gloria" is based on the canon "Wake Ev'ry Breath" by William Billings (1746–1800). Billings was one of America's first choral composers and a friend of the famous Revolutionary War hero, Paul Revere. "Wake Ev'ry Breath" was first published by Billings in a collection of hymn tunes called *The New England Psalm Singer*. This was the first collection of music published by a single composer in America and boasted a cover drawn by Paul Revere.

Billings' original canon, "Wake Ev'ry Breath," is 24 measures in length. "Sing Gloria" has reduced the canon to 16 measures and changed some of the notes to create better harmonies when the voices are singing together. The key has also been changed from the original C major to F major, placing the canon in a more comfortable range for all voices.

When singing this piece, try to achieve pure and unified vowels. As each new voice enters, let it be heard over the previous voice(s). This piece could be used effectively as an opening for a concert or even a processional for the choir.

Enjoy this wonderful canon originally conceived by William Billings.

For additional ideas on warm-ups, vowel formation, and rehearsal techniques, see WARM-UPS BY THE DOZEN, Sets, and II.



## **SING GLORIA!**

SATB, a cappella

Based on a Canon by WILLIAM BILLINGS (1746-1800) Arranged by RUSSELL ROBINSON (ASCAP)



We

sing

glo - ri-a

all\_

to

We

a - round.

this

a!

<sup>\*</sup>Continue four measure phrases throughout.





















