



Kalmus Choral Library

EDWARD

ELGAR

THE MUSIC MAKERS

for Contralto Solo, Chorus, and Orchestra

Op. 69

VOCAL SCORE

EDWIN F. KALMUS, CO.

Duration: approx. 40 minutes

PROGRAM NOTE

Edward Elgar (1857-1934) began work on **The Music Makers**, Op. 69, a work for solo contralto, mixed chorus, and orchestra, in 1903 and completing it in 1912. It sets the entirety of *Ode* by Arthur O'Shaughnessy to music, a text that likely appealed to Elgar's sense of an artist's life and relationship to society. (The text begins with, "We are the music makers, And we are the dreamers of dreams, Wandering by lone sea-breakers, And sitting by desolate streams.") Perhaps given the kinship he felt to the text, Elgar's music is almost autobiographical in ways, quoting music from some of his own most popular works, including: **The Dream of Gerontius**, the **Violin Concerto**, *sea-breakers* from **Sea Pictures**, *Nimrod* from the **Enigma Variations**, Symphonies Nos. 1 and 2, the **Violin Concerto**, **Rule, Britannia**, and **La Marseillaise**. Despite the many quotations, most of the music is original. It premiered on October 1st, 1912 at the Birmingham Festival, with Muriel Foster singing the alto solo, and Elgar himself conducting the Festival Chorus and Orchestra.

O D E.

WE are the music makers,
And we are the dreamers of dreams,
Wandering by lone sea-breakers,
And sitting by desolate streams;—
World-losers and world-forsakers,
On whom the pale moon gleams:
Yet we are the movers and shakers
Of the world for ever, it seems.

With wonderful deathless ditties
We build up the world's great cities,
And out of a fabulous story
We fashion an empire's glory:
One man with a dream, at pleasure,
Shall go forth and conquer a crown;
And three with a new song's measure
Can trample a kingdom down.

We, in the ages lying
In the buried past of the earth,
Built Nineveh with our sighing,
And Babel itself in our mirth;
And o'erthrew them with prophesying
To the old of the new world's worth;
For each age is a dream that is dying,
Or one that is coming to birth.

ODE

A breath of our inspiration
Is the life of each generation ;
 A wondrous thing of our dreaming
 Unearthly, impossible seeming—
The soldier, the king, and the peasant
 Are working together in one,
Till our dream shall become their present,
 And their work in the world be done.

They had no vision amazing
Of the goodly house they are raising ;
 They had no divine foreshowing
 Of the land to which they are going :
But on one man's soul it hath broken,
 A light that doth not depart ;
And his look, or a word he hath spoken,
 Wrought flame in another man's heart

And therefore to-day is thrilling
With a past day's late fulfilling ;
 And the multitudes are enlisted
 In the faith that their fathers resisted
And, scorning the dream of to-morrow,
 Are bringing to pass, as they may,
In the world, for its joy or its sorrow,
 The dream that was scorned yesterday.

But we, with our dreaming and singing,
 Ceaseless and sorrowless we !
The glory about us clinging
 Of the glorious futures we see,
Our souls with high music ringing :
 O men ! it must ever be
That we dwell, in our dreaming and singing,
 A little apart from ye.

ODE

For we are afar with the dawning
And the suns that are not yet high,
And out of the infinite morning
Intrepid you hear us cry—
How, spite of your human scorning,
Once more God's future draws nigh,
And already goes forth the warning
That ye of the past must die.

Great hail! we cry to the comers
From the dazzling unknown shore;
Bring us hither your sun and summers,
And renew our world as of yore;
You shall teach us your song's new numbers,
And things that we dreamed not before:
Yea, in spite of a dreamer who slumbers,
And a singer who sings no more.

ARTHUR O'SHAUGHNESSY.

THE MUSIC MAKERS.

A. O'Shaughnessy.

Edward Elgar, Op. 69.

Moderato e nobilmente. *espress.*

$\text{♩} = 138.$

p cresc. *f* *sonoramente*

ten. *ten.* *ten.* **1**

dim. *cresc.*

2 *tranquillo e cantabile*

f *dim.* *pp dolce* *con Ped.*

10 Larghetto.

Soprano. *p sostenuto*

pp poco rit.

Alto. *p sostenuto*

pp

poco rit.

Tenor. *p sostenuto*

pp

poco rit.

Bass. *p sostenuto*

pp

poco rit.

CHORUS.

We are the mu - sic mak - ers, And we are the dream - ers of

10 Larghetto.

♩ = (circa) 58.

p

poco rit.

a tempo

ppp

dreams,

11

p

Wand^l - ring by lone sea -

a tempo

ppp

dreams,

p

Wand^l - ring by lone sea -

a tempo

ppp

dreams,

p

Wand^l - ring by lone sea -

a tempo

ppp

dreams,

p

Wand^l - ring by lone sea -

pp a tempo

11

con Ped.

102 *più lento*

p

a sing-er who sings no more.

This system contains five staves. The top staff is a vocal line with lyrics. The four staves below are piano accompaniment. The music is in a minor key with a key signature of three flats and a 4/4 time signature. The tempo is marked 'più lento' and the dynamic is 'p'.

102 *più lento*

This system contains two staves for piano accompaniment. The music continues from the previous system, featuring arpeggiated chords and flowing lines in both hands.

no more. no more. no more.

This system contains five staves. The top staff is a vocal line with lyrics. The four staves below are piano accompaniment. The tempo remains 'più lento'. Dynamics include *p* and *pp*. The system concludes with a double bar line and a 4/4 time signature.

rit. *lunga* *pp*

This system contains two staves for piano accompaniment. The tempo is marked 'rit.' and 'lunga'. The dynamic is 'pp'. The system concludes with a double bar line and a 4/4 time signature.

103 Come prima, ma più lento.

ppp *rall. molto*
We are the mu - sic mak - ers, And

ppp *rall. molto*
We are the mu - sic mak - ers, And

ppp *rall. molto*
We are the mu - sic mak - ers, And

ppp *rall. molto*
We are the mu - sic mak - ers, And

103 Come prima, ma più lento. ♩ = 52.

fppp

dim. *pppp*
we are the dream-ers of dreams.

dim. *pppp*
we are the dream-ers of dreams.

dim. *pppp*
we are the dream-ers of dreams.

dim. *pppp*
we are the dream-ers of dreams.

ppp