

MOTHER'S SONG

If snow falls on the far field
where travelers
spend the night,
I ask you, cranes,
to warm my child in your wings.

*Anonymous, Japanese,
translated by Willis Barnstone*

During this time of quarantine and crisis it is impossible to forget that, of the many roles I play in life, my role as a mother is of most importance. I nurture my children and protect them. I take their health and well-being into account with every decision I make. They remind me that we were all children once, and that we are all worthy of the utmost care from our friends and neighbors.

Jocelyn Hagen, October 2020

*Commissioned by VOCES8 for their LIVE from London – Christmas 2020 festival,
and first performed by them at the VOCES8 Centre, London, on 5th December, 2020
and live-streamed globally as part of a set of six new works.*

Duration: 1'45"

Mother's Song

Anonymous Japanese
Translated Willis Barnstone

Jocelyn Hagen

Warm and inviting $\text{♩} = 69$

Soprano
Alto
Tenor
Bass

mp
mp
mp
mp

Oo Oo Oo
Oo Oo Oo
Oo
Oo Oo Oo

6 **rit.** **a tempo**

S
A
T
B

p *pp* *pp* *p*

Oo If snow falls on the
Oo Doo doo doo doo
Oo
Oo

10 *mf*

S
A
T
B

mf *p* *mf* *pp* *p* *mf*

far field where travelers spend the night, Oo
Doo doo doo doo Oo Doo doo doo doo doo doo doo
Oo Oo Oo
Oo Oo Oo

* very light "D"