

KIKAPUST CHORAL SERIES

The Oxen

SAATTBB

Jonathan Rathbone

As recorded by the Swingle Singers on
The Story of Christmas

EIGENTUM DES VERLEGERERS · ALLE RECHTE VORBEHALTEN
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

EDITION PETERS

LONDON · FRANKFURT · LEIPZIG · NEW YORK

Kikapust: composers and arrangers

Jonathan Rathbone

After training as a chorister at Coventry Cathedral and choral scholar at Christ's College Cambridge, where he read mathematics, Jonathan rounded-off his musical education at the Royal Academy of Music with a second degree, specializing in singing and composition. Jonathan's compositional career includes works for theatre, film, radio, television, concert platform and the church, and a song-writing contract with Noel Gay Music. Large-scale commissions include the Christmas Cantata, *Night of Wonder*, and *Requiem for the Condemned Man* – an extended work for two soloists, orchestra and choir (for more details please contact the Peters Edition Hire Library). The first choral compositions to be published as sales items are: *Absolon, My Son* (EP 7741) and *Cradle Song* (EP 7740). Jonathan Rathbone was Musical Director and arranger of the Swingle Singers (1984–96) and has worked with many of the world's leading musicians, from the New York Philharmonic Orchestra, under Pierre Boulez, to Stephane Grappelli and George Martin. He is much in demand in Europe, the USA and UK, as a freelance choral director, arranger and workshop leader. A natural communicator, Jonathan leads workshops covering anything from close-harmony singing, improvisation, choral conducting, vocal arranging to choral techniques.

Ben Parry studied music at Cambridge, where he sang in King's College Choir, and for five years was a member of the Swingle Singers. Since 1992 Ben has established himself as a conductor and arranger, as well as a singer in classical and light-music fields. He founded the Scottish vocal group Dunedin Consort, was Musical Director of Haddo House Opera and Director of Choral Music at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama. In 2003 he was appointed Director of Music at St Paul's School in Barnes, London. Ben is a director of the Eton Choral Courses and has conducted the Leicestershire Youth Choir, Aberdeen Youth Choir and British Federation of Youth Choirs as well as orchestras and choruses all over Europe.

Mark Williams studied at the Royal College of Music, Trinity College of Music and the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School and was a member of the Swingle Singers between 1992 and 1997, and Musical Director for the latter part of that time. He has written over 40 vocal and orchestral arrangements for the Swingle Singers and composed and arranged incidental music for the Bristol Old Vic and Newbury Watermill theatres. Mark combines his writing and arranging with his freelance career as a singer, musical director and actor.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior written permission of the publisher.

The Oxen

Words by Thomas Hardy
Music by Jonathan Rathbone

Andante Misterioso (♩ = 104) *pp*

SOPRANO
ALTO
TENOR
BASS

Christ - mas eve, and twelve of the
Christ - mas eve, and twelve of the

pp *poco* *sim.*

* oo oo oo oo

8 *poco cresc*

S
A
T
B

clock. "Now they are all on their knees" An el - der said as we sat in a
clock. "Now they are all on their knees" An el - der said as we sat in a
oo oo An el - der said as we sat in a
oo oo An el - der said as we sat in a

poco cresc

16 *p* *mp*

S
A
T
B

flock By the em-bers in hearth-side ease. We pic-tured the
flock By the em-bers in hearth-side ease. We pic-tured the
flock By the em-bers in hearth-side ease. oo oo We pic-tured the
flock By the em-bers in hearth-side ease. oo oo We pic-tured the

p *poco* *poco* *mp*

* oo is pronounced [u:] to rhyme with you