

BP128

Sing You Home

Mark Murphy and Maureen Ennis

SATB

CONCERT SERIES | DAN FORREST & JAMIE HILLMAN, EDITORS

Sing You Home

Mark Murphy and Maureen Ennis
with Dan Forrest and Jamie Hillman

 **BECKENHORST**
P R E S S , I N C .

Editor's Note

I first heard *Sing You Home*, performed by the Chamber Choir at Holy Heart High School in St. John's, Newfoundland (directed by Robert Colbourne), in an online video created during the Covid-19 pandemic. I was moved by the performance - not only by the beautiful singing and musicianship, but by the way that the young singers personally and collectively engaged with the painful theme of losing loved ones before their time.

Holy Heart's performance incorporated American Sign Language, taught to them by the Newfoundland Deaf Choir. During one musical interlude, singers held up poster boards that read phrases that answered the prompt "I sing because..."

I sing because... it is an expression of love.

I sing because... it writes our story.

I sing because... it builds community!

I sing because... when I sing, I am home.

Like the singers from Holy Heart, we encourage you to create a safe space in which singers can begin to process the difficult losses in our lives. I find the most powerful portion of text to be the opening of the refrain: "I'll sing for you because I need to. Right now this is all I know." When we don't know what else to do, when we have done all we could, singing by ourselves - and singing with others - can help us cope.

Another powerful online video is of the Ennis Sisters performing *Sing You Home* at one of Canada's D-Day commemoration ceremonies. On D-Day, June 6, 1944, 4,414 Allied troops were killed - "too soon to leave this earth."

As you prepare to perform the piece, be sure that the rhythmic syncopations are precise, yet never accented; the longer legato phrase is the goal. Also, be sure to keep the melody prominent even when it moves between voices, so the listener can distinguish between melody and harmony/accompanying voices. (Those singing harmony or "Oo" are like those who give unwavering support to their friends through a tragic loss.)

Through singing this piece, may you grieve, remember, honor your loved ones, and find comfort and hope.

Dr. Jamie Hillman

Sing You Home

For SATB Choir and Piano

Mark Murphy and Maureen Ennis
Arranged by MARK MURPHY,
JAMIE HILLMAN and DAN FORREST

With loss and longing ♩ = ca. 60 *stagger breathing*

p

Soprano
Oo

Alto
Opt. solo *mp*
Too soon to leave this earth. How could all your work be

Tenor
p
Oo

Bass
p
1 2 3
Oo

done? Ash to ash and dust to dust, seems to me you'd just be-

Oo

4 5 6 7

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mp

When grief in-vades my soul there's com-fort in a prayer I

(All) *mp*

gun. When grief in-vades my soul there's com-fort in a prayer I

Oo

Oo

Piano

p

find. Though these can-dles hon-or you, they burn for those you left be-

mel.

find. Though these can-dles hon-or you, they burn for those you left be-

Oo

Oo

SA may divide however works best for balance, throughout

mp

hind. I'll sing for you_ be-cause_ I need to._

mel. mf

hind. I'll sing for you_ be-cause_ I need to.

p

Oo

p

Oo

mp

Right now this is all_ I know_ I'll sing so we_ will not_

Right now this is all_ I know_ I'll sing so we_ will not_

Oo

Oo

18

19

— for-get you. — I will sing you home, I will sing you home.

— for-get you. — I will sing you home, I will sing you home.

mp Oh, I will sing you home, — I will sing you home.

mp I will sing you home, will sing you home.

mf

20 21 22

I will sing you home, I will sing you home.

mf

f

23 24 25 26

mf

Know that you will live on the lips of those who knew

mf

Know that you will live on the lips of those who knew

mf

27 28 29

what it was you had to give, and what it was they learned from

what it was you had to give, and what it was they learned from

30 31 32

mp
This is our prayer for you: May-be some-day we will

mp
This is our prayer for you: may-be some-day we will

p
you. Oo

p
you. Oo

33 34 35

know if it helped your jour - ney home or

know if it helped your jour - ney home or

mp
If it helped your jour - ney home or

or

mp

36 37 38

mf

if it helped me let you go. I'll sing for you _ be-cause_

mf

if it helped me let you go. I'll sing for you _ be-cause_

mf

if it helped me let you go. Sing _____

mf

if it helped me let you go. Sing _____

39 40 41

— I need_ to. _____ / Right now this is all_ I know_ I'll

— I need_ to. _____ Right now this is all_ I know_ I'll

8 for you, I _____

for you, I _____

42 43

sing so we will not forget you
 sing so we will not forget you.
 sing. Oh,
 sing.

44 45

mf I will sing you home, I will sing you home.
mf I will sing you home, I will sing you home
mf I will sing you home, I will sing you home.
mf I will sing you home, I will sing you home.

46 47

48 49 50

f

51 52 53

f

We're born un-to this earth,

f

We're born un-to this earth,

f

We're born un-to this earth,

f

We're born un-to this earth,

gen - er - a - tions one by one.

gen - er - a - tions one by one.

gen - er - a - tions one by one.

gen - er - a - tions one by one.

54 55

Ash to ash and dust to dust. There is noth-ing left un -

Ash to ash and dust to dust. There is noth-ing left un -

Ash to ash and dust to dust. There is noth-ing left un -

Ash to ash and dust to dust. There is noth-ing left un -

56 57 58

Opt. solo

p

- done. I'll sing for you be-cause I need to.

p

- done. I'll sing for you be-cause I need to.

- done.

- done.

59 60 61

Right now this is all I know. I'll sing so we will not.

Right now this is all I know. I'll sing so we will not.

-

-

62 63

(All) *mp* *f*

- for-get _you. — I will sing you home, I will sing you home. I'll

(All) *mp* *f*

- for-get _you. — I will sing you home, I will sing you home. I'll

mf *f*

I'll

mf *f*

I'll

mp

64 65 66

sing for you — be - cause — I need — to. —

sing for you — be - cause — I need — to. —

f

sing for you, Sing for you,

f

sing for you, Sing for you,

f

67 68

Right now this is all I know. I'll sing so we will not.

Right now this is all I know. I'll sing so we will not.

Right now this is all I know. Sing so we'll

Right now this is all I know. Sing so we'll

69 70

for - get you. I will sing you home,

for - get you. I will sing you home,

not for - get you. I will sing you home,

not for - get. I will sing you home,

71 72



poco rit.

I will sing you home.

poco rit.

I will sing you home.

poco rit.

I will sing you home.

poco rit.

I will sing you home.

espressivo

poco rit.

73 74

Slower, freely

Opt. solo *mp* (All) *p*

I will sing you home, I will sing you home.

mp (All) *p*

I will sing you home, I will sing you home.

75 76 77 78

Slower, freely

mp *p* (piano tacet)

75 76 77 78