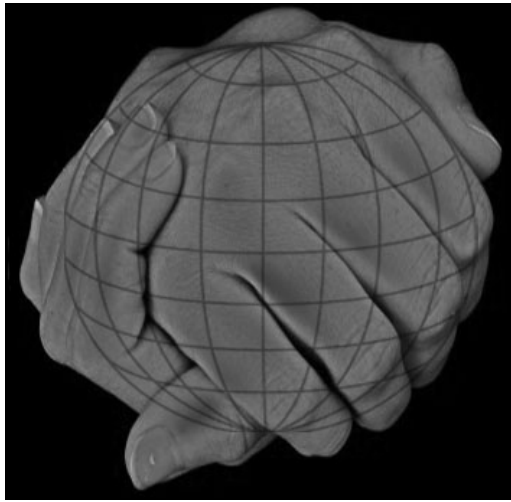


DAVID AVSHALOMOV

GEMEINSAM



Mixed Chorus

(SATB, spot divisi, brief S1 solos)

(German lyrics with English singing translation)

(v.1.1)

Program note by the composer

“*Gemeinsam*” (Together) is a colorful, earnest, *a cappella* setting of a sensitive, artistic “One-World” poem. I composed this piece for a German composition contest in late 2019. As a fervent environmental alarmist and social-justice fanatic, it spoke to me on both tracks—how we humans are “stuck” here together on this damaged and possibly dying planet, and how at the same time we are connected in all our basic human traits, good and bad, no matter how riven our societies have become. *We are* “travelling together”, like it or not. I wrote this music well before the 2020 global pandemic lockdown began, not in response to it, and yet it turned out to be directly germane to our current situation—both the dire state of nature and the globe, and the agonizing state of humanity and our failing social structures.

In composing the music, I succumbed to the obvious, strong imagery of the poem and indulged in many old-fashioned madrigalisms to set expressions like “ascending mountains,” “plucking raspberries”, “carried by the Four Winds,” “makes our blooming last”, “torn-apart World,” etc. The form is episodic, with some returning material (“*vergesset nicht*”). The harmonic style is 20th Century tonal-modern, the German prosody natural. (This was my first setting of a German poem; I studied some German in college. The English singing translation is my own.) The voicing is SATB with spot divisi and a few high soprano solos.

There is also a longer version of this piece, extended to meet the competition duration requirement. Comparison of the two versions could be enlightening.

DURATION: 4 minutes

Gemeinsam

Vergesst nicht
Freunde
wir reisen gemeinsam
besteigen Berge
pflücken Himbeeren
lassen uns tragen
von den vier Winden

Vergesst nicht
es ist unsre
gemeinsame Welt
die ungeteilte
ach die geteilte
die uns aufblühen läßt
die uns vernichtet
diese zerrissene
ungeteilte Erde
auf der wir
gemeinsam reisen

Rose Ausländer (1901–1988)

SINGING TRANSLATION

Forget it not
My friends
We travel together
Ascending mountains
Plucking raspberries
Let us be carried by the four winds

Forget it not
It is our united world
The undivided, ouch the divided,
that makes our blooming last
and then destroys us
o this so ripped-apart undivided planet
on which we, together, travel
(Forget it not
My friends)

(NOTE: Participation in the original composition contest conveyed to all composers the right to set this poem, granted by Fischer Verlag GmbH, Frankfurt am Main.)

GEMEINSAM

(TOGETHER)

David Avshalomov

(Pensieroso) Poco Mosso

♩ = 50 ♩ = 60

SOPRANO
p Ver-gess-et nicht, Freun - de *pp* Ver-gess-et nicht, Freun - de *p* Wir
 For - get it not, my friends *pp* For get it not, my friends. *p* We

ALTO
p Ver-gess-et nicht, Freun - de *pp* Ver-gess-et nicht, Freun - de *p* Wir
 For - get it not, my friends *pp* For get it not, my friends. *p* We

TENOR
p Ver-gess-et nicht, Freun - de *pp* Ver-gess-et nicht, Freun - de *p* Wir
 For - get it not, my friends *pp* For get it not, my friends. *p* We

BASS
p Ver-gess-et nicht, Freun - de *pp* Ver-gess-et nicht, Freun - de *p* Wir
 For - get it not, my friends *pp* For get it not, my friends. *p* We

(,) **A** Piu Mosso, Andante

♩ = 84

9
mp reis-en ge-mein - sam ge - mein - sam. (mm)
 trav-el to-geth - er to - geth - er (mm)

only close the T

mp reis-en ge-mein - sam ge - mein - sam. dut du - dut du - dut dut du-dut du-dut dut
 trav-el to-geth - er to - geth - er (doot doo-doot doo-doot)

mp reis-en ge-mein - sam ge - mein - sam. (mm)
 trav-el to-geth - er to - geth - er (mm)

mp reis-en ge-mein - sam ge - mein - sam. (mm)
 trav-el to-geth - er to - geth - er (mm)

18 **B** *mf* (plodding)

Be - stei - gen Ber - ge Be - stei - gen
As - cend - ing moun - tains As - cend - ing

mp *mp* (tutti)

dut du-dut du-dut dut dut du-du du dut du-dut du-dut dut du-dut du-dut dut du-dut

(opt.) *mp* *mp*

only close the T

dut dut du-du du dut du-dut du-dut dut du-dut du-dut dut du-dut

mf (plodding)

Be - stei - gen Ber - ge Be - stei - gen
As - cend - ing moun - tains As - cend - ing

26

Ber - ge moun - tains Ber - ge moun - tains Ber - ge moun - tains ge - tains

mf *mf*

du-dut dut du-dut du-dut dut du-dut du-dut dut du-dut du-dut du-dut du-dut du-dut

du-dut dut du-dut du-dut dut du-dut du-dut dut du-dut du-dut du-dut du-dut du-dut

Ber - ge moun - tains Ber - ge moun - tains Ber - ge moun - tains ge - tains Be - As -

33

C

(,) *mf*

Be - stei - gen Ber - ge, Ber - ge Ber - ge
 As - cend - ing moun - tains moun tains, moun tains

(plodding) *mp* *mf* (,)

Be - stei - gen Ber - ge Be - stei - gen Ber - ge Ber - ge Ber - ge
 As - cend - ing moun - tains As - cend - ing moun tains, moun tains, moun tains

(plodding) *mp* *mf* (,)

Be - stei - gen Ber - ge, be - stei - gen Ber - ge Ber - ge
 As - cend - ing moun - tains As - cend - ing moun tains moun tains

mf (,)

stei - gen Ber - ge Be - stei - gen Ber - ge Ber - ge, Ber - ge Ber - ge
 cend - ing moun - tains As - cend - ing moun tains, mountains, moun tains moun tains

D

42

f *p* *f* *only close the "ck," then articulate it*

ge - tains pflück - en Himm - beer - en plu(ck) - (k)ing ras(p)ber - ries,

f *mf* *f* *mf* *p* *only close the "ck," then articulate it*

ge pflück - en Himm - beer - en pflück - en Himm - beer - en
 tains plu(ck) - (k)ing ras(p)ber - ries, plu(ck) - (k)ing ras(p) ber - ries,

f *p* *mf* *p* *p* *only close the "ck," then articulate it*

ge pflück - en Himm - beer - en pflück - en
 tains plu(ck) - (k)ing ras(p)ber - ries, plu(ck) - (k)ing

f *p* *f* *p* *only close the "ck," then articulate it*

ge pflück - en Himm - beer - en
 tains plu(ck) - (k)ing ras(p)ber - ries,

E

accel.

51

p

Himm - beer_ en, Himm beer_ en, Himm_ beer_ en Himm - beer -
 ras(p)- ber_ ries, ras(p)- ber_ ries, ras(p) ber_ ries, ras(p)- ber_

p

Himm - beer_ en, Himm beer_ en, Himm_ beer_ en Himm - beer -
 ras(p)- ber_ ries, ras(p) ber_ ries, ras(p) ber_ ries, ras(p)- ber_

p

Himm - beer-en
 ras(p)- ber-ries, Himm - beer - en
 ras(p)- ber_ ries,

p

Himm - beer - en
 ras(p)- ber_ ries,

F

Allegretto

♩ = 100

58

en ries, Himm - beer - en
 ras(p)- ber_ ries,

Himm (mm)
 Hmm

en Himm - beer - en
 ras(p)- ber_ ries,

Himm (mm)
 Hmm

Himm - beer - en
 ras(p) ber_ ries,

Himm (mm)
 Hmm

Mm

Himm - beer - en
 ras(p)- ber_ ries,

Himm (mm)
 Hmm

Mm

66

mf

Mm Lass-en uns trag - en
Let us be car - ried

mf

Mm Lass-en uns trag - en
Let us be car - ried

(stagger breathing)

pp

Mm Mm

(stagger breathing)

pp

Mm Mm

74

mf

Lass-en us trag - en von den vier Wind
Let us be car - ried by the four wind

mf

Lass-en us trag - en von den vier Wind
Let us be car - ried by the four wind

U U
(oo) (oo)

U U
(oo) (oo)

82

H *pp*

en (nn) nn

pp

en (nn) nn

(,)

Mm

(,)

Mm

(Mezzo Movimento)

I Tempo I ♩ = 60

90

poco rit. //

p

Ver-gess-et
For-get it

p

Ver-gess-et
For-get it

mp *pp* *p*

nn nn trag en Ver-gess-et
car ried. For-get it

p

nn nn Ver-gess-et
For-get it

**Piu Mosso,
Andante**

one, solo

100

mp

p

♩ = 76

mf

nicht, Ver-gess-et nicht, Es ist uns_ re ge mein - sam-e welt
not, For - get it not, It_ is_ our u-ni_ ted world

gli altri

mp

p

mf

nicht, Ver-gess-et nicht, Es ist uns_ re ge mein - sam-e welt
not, For - get it not, It_ is_ our u-ni_ ted world

mp

p

mf

nicht, Ver-gess-et nicht, Es ist uns_ re ge mein - sam-e welt
not, For - get it not, It_ is_ our u-ni_ ted world

mp

p

mf

nicht, Ver-gess-et nicht, Es ist uns_ re ge mein - sam-e welt
not, For - get it not, It_ is_ our u-ni_ ted world

J Tempo I

♩ = 60

110

p

mf

p

mp

<

Die un-ge - teil - te, Ach die ge - teil - te_ die uns auf - blü - hen läßt_ auf -
The un - di - vid - ed ouch the di - vi(d) - ded_ that makes our bloom - ing last_ our

p

mf

p

mp

<

Die un-ge - teil - te, Ach die ge - teil - te_ die uns auf - blü - hen läßt_ auf -
The un - di - vid - ed ouch the di - vi(d) - ded_ that makes our bloom - ing last_ our

p

mf

p

mp

<

Die un-ge - teil - te, Ach die ge - teil - te_ die uns auf - blü - hen läßt_ auf -
The un - di - vid - ed ouch the di - vi(d) - ded_ that makes our bloom - ing last_ our

p

mf

p

mp

<

Die un-ge - teil - te, Ach die ge - teil - te_ die uns auf - blü - hen läßt_ auf -
The un - di - vid - ed ouch the di - vi(d) - ded_ that makes our bloom - ing last_ our

(German:) only close the "T" **K** poco accel.
 then articulate it roll the "rr", close the "ss" quickly

120 *mf* *mp* *pp* // *mf* *mp* *pp* // *pp*

blü hen läßt die uns ver-nich(t) -(t)et. Die-se zer-riss-en-e riss-en-e
 bloom ing last and then des-troys us This o so ripped a-par(t) rippeda-par(t)

blü hen läßt die uns ver-nich(t) -(t)et. Die-se zer-riss-en-e riss-en-e
 bloom ing last and then des-troys us This o so ripped a-par(t) rippeda-par(t)

mf *mp* *pp* // *pp*

blü hen läßt die uns ver-nich(t) -(t)et. Die-se zer-
 bloom ing last and then des-troys us This o so

mf *mp* *pp* // *pp*

blü hen läßt die uns ver-nich(t) -(t)et. Die-se zer-
 bloom ing last and then des-troys us This o so

Poco Meno Mosso

rit. ♩ = 50

129 *f*

riss-en-e riss-en, zer-riss-en-e riss-en-e riss-en-e riss-en-e, un-ge-teil-te Er-de, un-
 ripped a-par(t) ripped, o so ripped a-par(t) ripped a-par(t) ripped a-par(t) ripped a-part un-di-vid-ed plan-et, un-

riss-en-e riss-en, zer-riss-en-e riss-en-e riss-en-e riss-en-e un-ge-teil-te Er-de, un-
 ripped a-par(t) ripped, o so ripped a-par(t) ripped a-par(t) ripped a-par(t) ripped a-part un-di-vid-ed plan-et, un-

riss-en-e riss-en-e riss-en-e riss-en, zer-riss-en-e riss-en-e un-ge-teil-te Er-de, un-
 ripped a-par(t) ripped a-par(t) ripped a-par(t) ripped, o so ripped a-par(t) ripped a-part un-di-vid-ed plan-et, un-

riss-en-e riss-en-e riss-en-e riss-en, zer-riss-en-e riss-en-e un-ge-teil-te Er-de, un-
 ripped a-par(t) ripped a-par(t) ripped a-par(t) ripped, o so ripped a-par(t) ripped a-part un-di-vid-ed plan-et, un-

(glottal
restart)

134

— ge - teil - te Er - de, un ge - teil - te, un - ge - teil - te
— di - vid - ed plan - et, un di - vid - ed, un - di vid ed -

— ge - teil - te Er - de, un ge - teil - te, un - ge - teil - te
— di - vid - ed plan - et, un di - vid - ed, un - di vid ed -

— ge - teil - te Er - de, un ge - teil - te, un - ge - teil - te
— di - vid - ed plan - et, un di - vid - ed, un - di vid ed -

— ge - teil - te Er - de, un ge - teil - te, un - ge - teil - te
— di - vid - ed plan - et, un di - vid - ed, un - di vid ed -

138

ff (non troppo)

Er - de auf der wir ge - mein - sam reis - en!
plan - et on which we to - geth - er trav - el!

ff (non troppo)

Er - de auf der wir ge - mein - sam reis - en!
plan - et on which we to - geth - er trav - el!

ff (non troppo)

Er - de auf der wir ge - mein - sam reis - en!
plan - et on which we to - geth - er trav - el!

ff (non troppo)

Er - de auf der wir ge - mein - sam reis - en!
plan - et on which we to - geth - er trav - el!

Songs of Innocence and of Experience, A Cappella Settings

TITLE-- Alphabetical	Level *	Dur.	Brief Opt. Div., Soli	also solo Quar tet	Type	Character	Energy/ speed	Topic	Opt. Special FX, Stage Business
Ah! Sun-Flower	M	2:10		OK	Air	Wistful, poignant	slow, limp, soft	Death, time, release	
The Angel	II	3:00	SSA, women only		Melodrama	Mysterious	slow	Age, womanhood	
The Blossom	III	1:00		*	Playful Madrigal	Fun, light	fast, light, rhythmic	Nature	
The Chimney Sweeper I	I	4:00	SSAATTBB middle		Melodrama	Ironic, ecstatic	slow fast slow	Child labor	
The Chimney Sweeper II	II	2:00			Melodrama	Bitter	moderate	Child labor	
The Clod & the Pebble	III	2:00		OK	Madrigal	Ironic. Formal	moderate	Love's illusions	
A Cradle Song	III	3:15		OK	Lullaby	Sweet with a twist	slow, soft, steady	Baby innocence, mother worry	eyes shutting, end
The Divine Image I	III	2:00		OK	Prayer	Reverent	moderate	Tolerance	
A Divine Image II	II	1:30			Aphorism	Bitter, ironic	slow, solid, full	Darkness of the soul	
A Dream (the lost ant)	M	2:00	BB end		Melodrama	Play spooky	moving, rhythmic	Lost ant	
Earth's Answer	III	2:30			Plaint	Dark	slow, strong	Forbidden love	
The Echoing Green	II	2:30			Carol, glee	Exuberant	high, rhythmic	Children's play, sleep	Bell tones
The Fly	III	1:20		*	Playful Madrigal	Witty	lively, rhythmic	Fly or Man?	eye movement, end
Freedom/Uhuru	I	4:15	opt. Bar. solo		Affirmation	Proud, African	high, strong, rhythmic	Divine soul of a slave child	Chant BG. Clapping, rhythmic movement
The Garden of Love	II	2:30		OK	Moral Madrigal	bitter, poised	intense	Forbidden love	
Hear the Voice of the Bard	III	2:45			Prophecy	Hortatory	strong	Mystery, end of night	
Holy Thursday I	III	2:00			Hymn	Hopeful	steady	Exploitation of children	
Holy Thursday II	III	3:15			Sermon	Tragic	slow	Poverty	
The Human Abstract	I	3:30		OK	Moral Madrigal	Bitter, sharp	slow	Selfishness	
Infant Joy	M	2:00	light Sopr. Solo		Air/rocking song	Sweet	moderate , rhythmic	Innocence	
Infant Sorrow	III	2:15			Blues moan	Soulful	slow, heavy	Pains of birth	moan, groan
The Lamb	M	2:20		OK	Prayer	Sweetest	gentle, soft	Lamb and Christ	
Laughing Song	I	3:40			Playful Madrigal	Hilarious	lively, rhythmic, full	Laughter and youth	Laughter, Hilarity breakdown near end
The Lilly	III	1:30		*	Nature Madrigal	Esthetic	slow, soft	Lilly vs. rose	

The Little Boy Lost/Found	II	3:30			Melodrama	Worried	moving, rhythmic	Boy lost in the marsh	
A Little Boy Lost [III]	I	4:00			Sermon	Righteous	moderate	Boy burned at the stake	
A Little Girl Lost (Ona)	II	3:00		OK	Madrigal/melodrama	Light, then heavy	lively, then slow	Forbidden young love	
The Little Girl Lost/Found (Lyca)	II	4:00			Story Madrigal	Narrative, varied	moderate	Lost girl, symbolic nature	
The Little Vagabond	II	1:45			Glee	High-spirited	lively, rhythmic	Need for ale in church	
London	III	2:00			Sermon	Gloomy	slow	Degradation in the city	
Motto to the Songs of I&E	II	2:15			Conundrum	Ironic	lively, rhythmic	The turning of human nature	
Night	III	3:00			Prayer	Sweet	moderate	Angels while we sleep	
Nurse's Song I	II	2:45	SSAATT-B end		Vignette	Innocent	moderate	Children on the Green	Echo divisi ending
Nurse's song II	III	1:30			Vignette	Bitter	moderate	Mortality	
On Another's Sorrow	III	1:30		OK	Hymn	Sweet	moderate	Compassion	
Piping down the Valleys Wild	III	2:00	SSAATTBB end		Playful Madrigal	Cheery	lively, rhythmic	The Poet's inspiration	solo whistle intro
A Poison Tree	I	3:45		OK	Moral Madrigal	Bitter	slow, intense	Revenge	
My Pretty Rose Tree	II	1:45		*	Madrigal	Ironic	moderate, gentle	Spurned love	
The School Boy	II	3:30		OK	Madrigal	Ironic	lively, rhythmic	Summer school	
The Shepherd	M	1:30			Prayer	Sweet	rocking, gentle	Guarding the flock	solo whistle intro and end
The Sick Rose	II	1:45		*	Madrigal	Bittersweet	slow	Love/death	
Spring	III	1:30		*	Playful Madrigal	Charming	lively, rhythmic	Children in spring	
To Tirzah	III	2:15			Chorale	Bitter	steady	Misogyny	
Tyger Tyger Burning Bright	II	2:10			Paeon	Sharp	lively, rhythmic	Fearsome nature	Eye movement end
The Voice of the Ancient Bard	I	2:00		OK	Sermon	Hortatory	moderate	Folly	

LEVEL RANKINGS:	I. Professional, Advanced University or Collegiate (NOTE: All , naturally, are suitable for pro and advanced groups.)
	II. Upper Division High School (chamber/madrigal, all-city, all-state honor), and Advanced Community or above
	III. General High School, Community College, and general Community or above
	M. Level III but ALSO suitable for Advanced Middle School (chamber/madrigal, honor): based on suitable ranges, age-appropriate subject matter

**MIXED
CHORUS**

Choral Works by DAVID AVSHALOMOV

Secular

Songs of Innocence and of Experience SATB (divisi in a few) (Wm. Blake)
Double cycle, 45 separate settings, averaging [1-4 min. ea.] *See full list overleaf.*
Principles, secular cantata (Thos. Jefferson) [32'] SATB (divisi), solo baritone, orchestra, (or piano, can add perc.) (also version with band) (also for TTBB, below)
There's a Wind [4'] SATB (divisi), (brief S1 solo), opt. wind whistling (lyrics by composer)
There Was Another Song to Sing [4'] SATB, Alto (or Mezzo) solo, piano, cello, opt. harp (Bialik)
Gemeinsam [8'] SATB (divisi), (brief S1 solos) (Rose Ausländer) [also 4' version]
Let the Children Play [4'] SAB (or SAA), piano, opt. flute(s), (lyrics by the composer)
Go Ahead and Rejoice [2'] SATB (divisi) (Doris Avshalomov)
Father the Tree [4'] SATB (brief S1 solo) (Doris Avshalomov)
Song For Late Summer [4] SATB (divisi) (Doris Avshalomov)
U.S. 30 in Idaho [2'] SATB (divisi) (Doris Avshalomov)

Sacred

The Mixed Blessings, [12'] SSAATTBB, (*Beatitudes*—Matthew/Luke)
handbells (6-7 players)
Praise the Lord! [4:40] SATB (divisi), organ, opt. cymbal (Psalm 150)
This Sacred Space [4:45] Consecration Anthem with original congregational hymn
SATB (divisi) (brief alto solo)/organ/4 brass/timpani (text by the composer)
I Bend the Knee of My Heart [5'] SATB (divisi) (Canticle 14/Manasseh)
O Eucharist (*Columba Virtutem Illius*)—Meditation [5] SATB (divisi) (Hildegard von Bingen)
Kedushah, High Holy Days (Trad.) [5'] Cantor (solo ten. or sopr.), SATB, piano, flute
Chanukah tonight! [2:45] SATB (opt. divisi), piano, opt. tamb. (lyrics by the composer)
Also with string orchestra (or mandoline or balalaika orchestra)

WOMEN

Let the Children Play [4'] SAA, piano, opt. flute(s), (lyrics by the composer)
Where You Go, I Will Go (Ruth and Naomi) [12'] SSAA (brief S2, A2 soli)
Do You Believe in Angels? [9'] SSAA, 8 high strings (or organ reduction) (poem by the composer)
The Angel [3'] SSA from Songs of Innocence and of Experience (Wm. Blake)
Enchanted River [2'], SA, opt. S solo (Meredith Kennedy)

MEN

Principles, secular cantata (Thos. Jefferson) [32] Orig. version TTBB (divisi),
solo baritone, concert band (or piano, can add perc.)
The Star Spangled Banner [1:45] arranged for barbershop quartet or ensemble, TTBB
Happy Anniversary [1'] TTBB (lyrics by the composer)
Medley - Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band (Lennon/McCartney) [15']
transcribed for TTBB chorus and/or 5 soli, piano/bass/drums/guitar (OR concert band)

NOVELTY

The Chocolate Carol, Holiday version [4:15] (David/Randi Avshalomov)
○ SATB (brief divisi), piano, optional flute; (also SATB *a cappella* caroling version)
○ SSAA, piano, optional flute
Love & Chocolate, Valentine's version [4:15]
○ SATB (brief divisi), piano, optional flute; (also SATB solo quartet version, piano)
Goodnight Moon (M.W. Brown), Unis. Trebles, piano/keyboard (opt. flute/string qtt.) [3']
Chicken Pie [3'] arr. of "Old Joe Clark" (trad.), SS, Orff instruments, string quintet (opt.)
Happy Anniversary [1'] SATB, or SSAA, or TTBB (lyrics by the composer)
The Garlic Blessing [3'] SATB (brief divisi), piano (lyrics by the composer)
Flopsy, the Christmas Pup [4:45] SATB, piano, opt. bass, drums (lyrics by the composer)
The U.S. Air Force Fugue [3'] TTBB (parody on "Off we Go, into the Wild Blue Yonder")

