

MT 1426

MUSICAL TIMES

1s. 0d.

*For The Livery Club of  
The Worshipful Company of Musicians*

A HYMN  
FOR ST. CECILIA

FOR S.A.T.B. AND ORGAN

Words by  
URSULA VAUGHAN WILLIAMS

Music by  
HERBERT HOWELLS

NOVELLO AND COMPANY LIMITED  
160 WARDOUR STREET  
LONDON W 1

*The Hymn was commissioned by The Livery Club of The  
Worshipful Company of Musicians to mark the Composer's  
Mastership of the Company, 1959-1960.*

### A Hymn for St. Cecilia

Sing for the morning's joy, Cecilia, sing,  
in words of youth and phrases of the Spring,  
walk the bright colonnades by fountains' spray,  
and sing as sunlight fills the waking day ;  
till angels, voyaging in upper air  
pause on a wing and gather the clear sound  
into celestial joy, wound and unwound,  
a silver chain, or golden as your hair.

Sing for your loves of heaven and of earth,  
in words of music, and each word a truth ;  
marriage of heart and longings that aspire,  
a bond of roses, and a ring of fire.  
Your summertime grows short and fades away,  
terror must gather to a martyr's death ;  
but never tremble, the last indrawn breath  
remembers music as an echo may.

Through the cold aftermath of centuries  
Cecilia's music dances in the skies,  
lend us a fragment of the immortal air,  
that with your choiring angels we may share,  
a word to light us thro' time-fettered night,  
water of life, or rose of paradise  
so from the earth another song shall rise  
to meet your own in heaven's long delight.

Ursula Vaughan Williams

The Descant in verse 3 should be sung whenever possible,  
but could be omitted if need be.

For The Livery Club of The Worshipful Company of Musicians

# A HYMN FOR ST. CECILIA

For S.A.T.B. and Organ

\* Words by URSULA VAUGHAN WILLIAMS

Music by

HERBERT HOWELLS

Un poco con moto *f*

VOICES IN UNISON

ORGAN

Ped.

Sing for the morn-ing's joy, Ce-ci-lia,†

sing, in words of youth and phra-ses of the Spring,—

walk the bright co-lon-nades by foun-tains' spray, and sing as

sun-light fills the wa-king day; till an-gels,

*mf*

\* Copyright words

† The second syllable of Cecilia should rhyme with 'ill'

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MADE IN ENGLAND

voy - ag - ing in up - per air      pause on a wing and ga - ther the clear

sound in - to ce - les - tial joy, - wound and un - wound, a sil - ver

chain, or gold - en as your hair.

Man.

*poco f*  
SOPRANO  
ALTO  
TENOR  
BASS *poco f*

Sing for loves of heav'n and earth, in words of  
Sing for your loves of heav'n and of earth,

mu - sic, and each word a truth; — mar-riage of heart and long-ings

*mf* *f*

(Man.)

that as-pire, a bond of ro - ses, and a ring of fire.

*mf*

Ped.

Your sum-mer-time grows short and fades a - way, ter-ror must ga-ther to a

*mf* *f*

*più f*

mar - tyr's death; but nev - er trem - ble, the last —

*più f*

*f*

in-drawn breath re-mem-bers mu - sic as an e - cho may.

*f*

ardente, un poco meno mosso  
DESCANT SOPRANOS

*f*

Ce-ci - lia's mu - sic dan -

VOICES IN UNISON

*ff*

Through the cold - af - ter-math of

ardente, un poco meno mosso

*ff*

ces in the skies, *f* Ce-ci-lia's  
 cen - tur-ies Ce-ci-lia's mu-sic dan-ces in the skies,

mu - sic dan -  
*f*  
 lend us a frag - ment of the im - mor - tal air, that with your

ces in the skies.  
*mf ma sonoro*  
 choir-ing an - gels we may share, a word to  
*mf*

*mf*

from the earth a song

light us thro' time-fet-tered night, wa-ter of life, or rose of

*f*

shall rise to

pa - ra - dise so from the earth an - oth - er song shall

*allargando*

meet in heav'n's de - light.

rise to meet your own in heav'n's long de - light.

*allargando*