

Commissioned for the Saint Louis Chamber Chorus, Philip Barnes, Artistic Director
by Dorsey and Sondra Ellis in celebration of their fiftieth wedding anniversary

Before the ice (O magnum mysterium)

Emily Dickinson (1830–86)
Latin Responary for Matins on Christmas Day

BOB CHILCOTT

Soft and expressive ♩ = c.66

SOPRANO 1
pp
Be - fore the ice is in the pools, Be - fore the skat - ers__

ALTO 1
pp
Be - fore the ice is in the pools, Be - fore the skat - ers__

TENOR 1
pp
Be - fore the ice is in the pools, Be - fore the skat - ers__

BASS 1
pp
Be - fore the pools, the skat - ers

SOPRANO 2
pp
Be - fore the ice is in the pools, Be -

ALTO 2
pp
Be - fore the ice is in the pools, Be -

TENOR 2
pp
Be - fore the ice is in the pools, Be -

BASS 2
pp
Be - fore the ice in the pools, the

(for rehearsal only)
pp

Soft and expressive ♩ = c.66

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go, Or a - ny cheek at night - fall.

go, Or a - ny cheek at night - fall Is tar - nished by the

go, Or a - ny cheek at night - fall, tar - -

go, Or cheek at night - fall, is

- fore the skat - ers go, at night - fall, at night - fall.

- fore the skat - ers go, at night - fall, at night - fall, night - fall.

- fore the skat - ers go, at night - fall, at night - fall,

skat - ers go, at night - fall, night - fall, is tar - nished, is

p

9

pp Be-fore the fields_ have_

snow, by the snow. *pp* Be-fore the fields_ have_

- nished by the snow. *pp* Be-fore the fields_ have_

tar - nished by the snow. *pp* Be-fore the

pp Be - fore, be -

pp Be - fore, be -

pp tar - - nished by the snow. Be - fore the

pp tar - nished_ by the snow. Be - fore the

pp