

for the Sisters of the Good Shephard,
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

ISSAY, ISSAY!

(Hear Ye, Hear Ye!)

for S.A.T.B. voices and piano
with optional SoundTrax CD*

Arranged by
PHILIP KERN (ASCAP)

Based on a traditional
Ethiopian Christmas song
with English words by
PHILIP KERN (ASCAP)

Brightly (♩ = ca. 84-92)

PIANO

mp

5

SOPRANO
mp

ALTO
Up in Beth - le-hem _____ on this ho - ly morn, _____

TENOR
mp

BASS

9

up in Beth - le-hem _____ babe is born. _____

* Also available for S.A.B., Level Three (19218) and 2-part/S.S.A., Level Two (19219).
SoundTrax CD available (19220).

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13

mp *cresc.*

An - gels in the air sing - ing ev - 'ry-where and they

mp *cresc.*

mp *cresc.*

17

sing, "Hal - le - lu - jah!" They sing,

21

f

"Is - say, Is - say!* Gay - tah - teh - weh - leh - deh.

f

* See note on p. 12.

25

Is - say, _____ Is - say! Med - hehn_ teh - weh - leh - deh.

29

Hear ye! _____ O, hear _____ ye! Je - su* has

32

come to - day! Is - say, _____ Is - say!

* pronounced "Yeh - soo"

35

Gay - tah_ teh - weh - leh - deh!"

decresc.

39

Kings from far_ a-way_

41 *mf*

mf

mf

42

come to see_ the boy.

45

Kings from far a-way shout for joy!

The first system of music features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is in a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The piano accompaniment is in a bass clef. The music is marked with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The lyrics are "Kings from far a-way shout for joy!".

The piano accompaniment for the first system consists of two staves (treble and bass clefs). It features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in the right hand and a more active bass line in the left hand. The music is marked with a forte (*f*) dynamic.

49

Peo - ple join the kings, ev - 'ry-bod - y sings,

The second system of music continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line is marked with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The piano accompaniment also features a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The lyrics are "Peo - ple join the kings, ev - 'ry-bod - y sings,".

The piano accompaniment for the second system continues with the same rhythmic pattern as the first system. It is marked with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The lyrics "Peo - ple join the kings, ev - 'ry-bod - y sings," are written below the piano part.

52

and they sing, "Hal - le - lu - jah!"

The third system of music concludes the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line is marked with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The piano accompaniment also features a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The lyrics are "and they sing, 'Hal - le - lu - jah!'".

The piano accompaniment for the third system concludes with the same rhythmic pattern as the previous systems. It is marked with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The lyrics "and they sing, 'Hal - le - lu - jah!'" are written below the piano part.

56 57 *f*

They sing "Is - say, — Is - say! Gay - tah — teh -

f

60

weh - leh - deh! Is - say, — Is - say! Med - hehn — teh -

f

64 65

weh - leh - deh! Hear ye! — O, hear — ye! Je - su — has

68

come to - day! Is - say, Is - say!

71

Gay - tah - teh - weh - leh - deh!"

75

Oo, Hear the an - gels sing.

mp

mp



79

Oo, _____ Shep-herds' voic - es ring. Hal - le-lu - jah!

83

cresc. poco a poco

Ev - 'ry-bod - y sing. Is - say! Is - say! Sing - ing to _____ the King!

cresc. poco a poco

cresc. poco a poco

86

mf cresc. div.

Hal - le-lu - jah! Hal - le-lu - jah! Hal - le-lu - jah! Hal - le-lu - jah!

mf cresc.

mf cresc.

92

90

Hal-le - lu - jah! Is - say, Is - say!

f.

f.

94

Gay - tah_ teh - weh - leh - deh. Is - say, Is - say!

f.

100

98

Med - hehn_ ten - weh - leh - deh. Hear ye! O, hear ye!

f.

102

Je - su has come to - day! Is - say,

105

108

Is - say! Gay - tah teh - weh - leh - deh! Is - say!

109

Hal - le - lu - jah! Is - say! Hal - le - lu - jah!

112 *cresc.*

Is - say! Hal - le - lu -

cresc.

116 *ff*

jah!

ff

The image shows a musical score for a piece titled 'Issay, Issay!'. It is arranged for voice and piano. The score is divided into two systems. The first system (measures 112-115) features a vocal line with lyrics 'Is - say!' and 'Hal - le - lu -' and a piano accompaniment. The second system (measures 116-119) features a vocal line with the lyric 'jah!' and a piano accompaniment. The score includes dynamic markings such as 'cresc.' and 'ff'. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the score.

Issay, Issay! (pronounced "Ih-say, Ih-say," and meaning "Hear ye, Hear ye!") is based on an Ethiopian Christmas song.

"Gay-tah teh-weh-leh-deh" and "Med-hehn teh-weh-leh-deh" are phonetic pronunciations of Amharic phrases meaning "The Lord is born" and "The Savior is born." Amharic is spoken by millions of northern Africans and is the official language of Ethiopia.

