

**PERFORMANCE NOTES
FOR
SING WE AND CHANT IT
Thomas Morley
Arranged by Russell Robinson**

This popular Renaissance piece (the Renaissance period is generally regarded as being from 1450-1600) was written in 1595 by Thomas Morley (1557-1603) as part of a collection of choral pieces for five voices. Morley was an organist and composer in London and a contemporary of the poet Michael Drayton who is attributed with writing the words for this madrigal.

This arrangement for three part women's voices has maintained much of the original counterpoint, and the beauty of this timeless piece of music has been preserved.

Utilize vertical vowels so that the choral sound remains free and supported. It might help to sing the entire song on "doo" or "loo" to get the corners of the mouth in. (For further ideas regarding vowel production see **The Complete Choral Warm-Up Book** by Russell Robinson and Jay Althouse (Alfred Publishing Co., Inc. — 11653). In addition, sing all "la's" as if they are "echo-like" and the entrances of the "fa la la's" should be heard for clarity of the counterpoint. Try to give every "fa" a bit of stress and the "la's" a bit less. As with all Renaissance music, the lines should be sung as the text dictates and without a predominant metered pulse. Although the music should be performed sensitively and with excitement, extreme dynamics should be avoided. Enjoy!

For further study in warm-ups, vocal production and rehearsal techniques in this style, see the madrigal section of:

DEVELOPING TECHNIQUE THROUGH CLASSIC STYLES

by Russell Robinson and Jay Althouse

SATB – 4950

3-Part Mixed – 4951

Other madrigals in this style from Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.:

ALL YE WHO MUSIC LOVE – Donato/Robinson

3-Part Mixed – 11623

APRIL IS IN MY MISTRESS' FACE – Morley/Robinson

3-Part Mixed – 18591

FIRE, FIRE – Morley/Robinson

3-Part Mixed – 19205

HOW MERRILY WE LIVE – East/Robinson

3-Part Mixed – 16331

IN THESE DELIGHTFUL PLEASANT GROVES – Purcell/Robinson

SATB – 18603

3-Part Mixed – 11342

SSA – 18604

MY BONNIE LASS – Morley/Robinson

3-Part Mixed – 16221

NOW IS THE MONTH OF MAYING – Morley/Robinson

3-Part Mixed – 17674

SING WE AND CHANT IT – Morley/Robinson

SATB – 19262

3-Part Mixed – 5809

SSA – 19263

SING WE AND CHANT IT

for S.S.A. voices, a cappella*

Arranged by
RUSSELL ROBINSON

Music by **THOMAS MORLEY (1557-1602)**
Words by **MICHAEL DRAYTON (1563-1631)**

Allegro, in 3 (♩ = ca. 154)

f-p

SOPRANO I

Sing we and chant it while love doth grant it.

SOPRANO II

Sing we and chant it while love doth grant it.

ALTO

Sing we and chant it while love doth grant it.

Allegro, in 3 (♩ = ca. 154)

f-p (for rehearsal only)

PIANO

5

Fa la la la la la la, fa la la la.

Fa la la la la la, fa — la la la la.

Fa la la la la, fa la la la la.

* Also available for S.A.T.B., Level Four (19262) and 3-Part Mixed, Level Three (5809).

9 *mf*

Not long youth last - eth and old age hast - eth;

mf

Not long youth last - eth and old age hast - eth;

mf

Not long youth last - eth and old age hast - eth;

mf

13 *mp*

now is best lei - sure to take our pleas - ure.

mp

now is best lei - sure to take our pleas - ure.

mp

now is best lei - sure to take our pleas - ure.

mp

17 *mf*

Fa la la la la

mf

Fa la la la la la la,

mf

Fa la la la la la, fa la

mf

20

la, fa la la la la.

Fa la la la, fa la la la.

la la la la la la, fa la la la.

24

f-p

All things in - vite us, now to de - light us.

f-p

All things in - vite us, now to de - light us.

f-p

All things in - vite us, now to de - light us.

f-p

28

Fa la la la la la la la, fa la la la.

Fa la la la la la, fa ——— la la la la.

Fa la la la la, fa la la la la.

32 *mf*

Hence care be pack - ing, no mirth be lack - ing;

mf

Hence care be pack - ing, no mirth be lack - ing;

mf

Hence care be pack - ing, no mirth be lack - ing;

mf

36 *mp*

let spare no treas - ure to live in pleas - ure.

mp

let spare no treas - ure to live in pleas - ure.

mp

let spare no treas - ure to live in pleas - ure.

mp

40

mf-f

Fa la la la la
 Fa la la la la la la,
 Fa la la la la la, fa la
mf-f

43

rit. second time

rit. second time

rit. second time

rit. second time

la, fa la la la la.
 Fa la la la, fa la la la.
 la la la la la la, fa la la la.
rit. second time

