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欧阳真真

Sweet Spontaneous Earth

– for SSATTB a cappella choir –

Text from E. E. Cummings' *O sweet spontaneous*

Instrumentation: SSATTB a cappella choir

Duration: *ca.* 4 minutes 30 seconds

Written for 2023 APAC Asia Division Choir Festival

Text from E. E. Cummings' *O sweet spontaneous*

O sweet spontaneous
earth how often have
the
doting

fingers of
prurient philosophers pinched
and
poked

thee
,has the naughty thumb
of science prodded
thy

beauty how
often have religions taken
thee upon their scraggy knees
squeezing and

buffeting thee that thou mightest conceive
gods
(but
true

to the incomparable
couch of death thy
rhythmic
lover

thou answerest

them only with

spring)

Sweet Spontaneous Earth

E.E. Cummings

Sofia Jen Ouyang

$\text{♩} = 64$ at times legato, at times rhythmic

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

p $\left(\frac{1}{2} \text{ step}\right)$

p $\left(\frac{1}{2} \text{ step}\right)$

0

0

0

0

sweet spon-ta-ne-ous sweet spon-ta-ne-ous

O sweet spon-ta-ne-ous O

sweet spon-ta-ne-ous O

sweet spon-ta-ne-ous

3 3

3 3

3 3

3 3

S.

A.

T.

B.

4

mf *f* *p*

mf *f* *p*

mf *p*

mf *p*

earth

earth

earth

earth

3 3

3 3

7 **A**

S. dot - ing fin - gers of

A. *mp* how of - ten have the *p* dot - ing fin - gers of

T. *p* hmmm *mp* of - ten have the dot - ing fin - gers of

B. *p* hmmm hmmm *mp* dot - ing fin - gers of

active diction

10

S. pru - ri - ent phi - lo - so - phers pinched and poked thee *p* ✓

A. pru - ri - ent phi - lo - so - phers pinched and poked thee *p*

T. pru - ri - ent phi - lo - so - phers pinched and poked thee *p*

B. pru - ri - ent phi - lo - so - phers pinched and poked thee *p* ✓

kd

13 **B**

S. *mp* has the

A. hmm hmm hmm

T. *mp* has the naugh-ty *p*

B. *mp* has the naugh-ty *p* hmm

Handwritten blue annotations: a bracket under the Soprano line for 'has the', a bracket under the Tenor line for 'has the naugh-ty', and a bracket under the Bass line for 'has the naugh-ty'.



16

S. *p* naugh-ty thumb of sci-ence prodd-ed

A. *mp* has the naugh-ty thumb of sci-ence prodd-ed

T. *mp* thumb of sci-ence prodd-ed

B. *mp* has the naugh-ty thumb of sci-ence prodd-ed

Handwritten blue annotations: a bracket under the Soprano line for 'thumb of sci-ence prodd-ed', a bracket under the Alto line for 'thumb of sci-ence prodd-ed', a bracket under the Tenor line for 'thumb of sci-ence prodd-ed', and a bracket under the Bass line for 'thumb of sci-ence prodd-ed'. A large black bracket groups the lyrics 'thumb of sci-ence prodd-ed' across all four parts.

Unison

Amaj

18

S. *mp* has the naugh-ty thumb of sci-ence prodd-ed thy beau - ty *f*

A. *p* hmm thumb of sci-ence prodd-ed thy beau - ty *f*

T. *p* hmm thumb of sci-ence prodd-ed thy beau - ty *f*

B. *p* hmm thumb of sci-ence prodd-ed thy beau - ty *f*



23 **C**

S. [Empty staff]

A. *p* *mp* 3 *p* *mp* *p* 3 *p*
 0 sweet spon - ta-ne-ous 0 sweet spon-ta-ne-ous 0

T. *p* *mp* 3 *p*
 0 sweet spon - ta-ne-ous 0

B. *p* *mp* 3 *p*
 0 sweet spon-ta-ne-ous 0

whole step this time

- whole tone scale

26

S. *p* *mp* *p* *mp* *p*
 0 sweet spon - ta - ne - ous 0

A. *mp* *p* *mp*
 sweet spon - ta - ne - ous 0 sweet spon -

T. *p* *mp* *p* *mp* *p*
 0 sweet spon - ta - ne - ous 0 sweet spon - ta - ne - ous 0

B. *mp* *p*
 sweet spon - ta - ne - ous 0

w step



28

S. *mp* *mf* *p*
 sweet spon-ta-ne-ous sweet spon-ta-ne-ous earth

A. *p* *mp* *mf* *p*
 ta-ne-ous 0 sweet spon-ta-ne-ous earth

T. *mp* *mf* *p*
 sweet spon-ta-ne-ous earth

B. *mp* *mf* *p*
 sweet spon-ta-ne-ous earth

whole tone

Interesting release

32 **D**

S. *p* how of - ten have hmmm *pp* how_ of - ten *p*

A. *pp* hmmm of - ten have_ hmmm *p* *pp* how_ of - ten *p*

T. 8 hmmm how of - ten_ have *p*

B. *pp* hmmm how_ of - ten_ have *p*



36

S. *mp* *mf* *p* *mf* ta - ken thee up - on their scrag-gy knees *3*

A. *mp* *mf* *p* *mf* ta - ken thee up - on their scrag-gy knees *3*

T. *mf* *p* *mf* re - li-gions re - li-gions ta - ken_ thee up - on their scrag-gy knees *3*

B. *mf* *p* *mf* re - li-gions re - li-gions ta - ken_ thee up - on their scrag-gy knees *3*

5/A Octaves

39

S. squee - zing and buf - fe - ting thee that

A. squee - zing and buf - fe - ting thee that

T. squee - zing and buf - fe - ting thee hat

B. squee - zing and buf - fe - ting thee that



41 **E**

S. thou might - test con - ceive

A. thou might - test con - ceive

T. thou might - test con - ceive con - ceive

B. thou might - test con - ceive con - ceive

45 *mf* *mp*

S. gods true to the

A. gods but *mf* *p* *mp* true to the

T. gods true to the

B. gods true to the



48 *mf* *p* *mp* *bring out rhythm*

S. in-com-pa-ra-ble couch of death thy rhyth-mic lo-ver

A. in-com-pa-ra-ble couch of death thy rhyth-mic lo-ver

T. in-com-pa-ra-ble couch of death rhyth-mic lo-ver

B. in-com-pa-ra-ble couch of death rhyth-mic lo-ver

51 **F**

S. *p* thou *mp* (7) *pp* an-swer-est hmm

A. *p* thou *mp* (7) *pp* an-swer-est hmm

T. *p* thou *mp* (4) *pp* an-swer-est hmm

B. *p* thou *mp* (7) *pp* an-swer-est hmm thou



54

S. *mp* 3 thou *mp* an-swer-est them

A. *mp* 7 *pp* thou an-swer-est hmm *mp* 7 *pp* an-swer-est hmm

T. *mp* 3 *pp* thou an-swer-est hmm

B. *mp* (4) *pp* an-swer-est hmm *mp* 3 an-swer-est hmm

56

S. *mp* *mf*
 on - ly with

A. *p* *pp* *p* 4 +
 them hmm hmm

T. *p* *pp* *mp* *p*
 them on - ly hmm

B. *p* *pp* *p*
 them hmm hmm hmm

alt
bring out movement
don't rush

59

S. *f*
 spring

A. *p* *mf* *f*
 hmm with spring

T. *p* *mf* *f*
 hmm with spring

B. *p* *mf* *f*
 with spring

stay (f) same