For SSAATTBB choir

MUSIC BY Candace Bustard

WORDS BY Veronika Mikolajewski

Duration - 5'50"

2020

KOKYŪ

TRANSLATION

Here we struggle, here we toil,

Imah [ee-mah] (Sundanese) - Home or house

From our mother do recoil.

Itthon [ee-tt-hon] (Hungarian) - Home

Here we hate, here we fight,

Heedless of our mother's plight. Hoyoo [hoo-yoo] (Somali) - Mother

Here we love, her we lust. Searching, sweating in the dust. Dom [deom] (Croatian) - Home

Cradled in her earthy breast, Among the stars a humble nest. Anshikcheo [an-shlk-chø] (Korean) - Home or

homeland, nation

This is home - where we draw breath. In this united all till death.

Spiti [spltz-ee](Greek) - Home

Domum [dø-mum] (Latin) - Home

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Domoy [da-moj] (Russian) - Home or homeward

PERFORMANCE NOTES

Stomping is used to compliment the text and emphasize unity through our struggles trudging through life on earth. This action is notated on a seperate stave but applies to the whole choir. The movement should be synchronized.

(Optional) Begin this piece with the choir encompassing the audience. Once the piece has begun, the choir will slowly walk towards their positions at the front of the auditorium, arriving for the statement of "This is home" at m. 11.

ABOUT THE PIECE

The text evokes sentiments of the fallibility of human existence and the gratitude we must have for the gifts of life that Earth bestows upon us. The music was written with the intention of evoking the sense of unity through our shared experience. Stemming from a place of unison, I use closed harmonies to emphasize this unity – even through hardship – and move to open the harmonies as we realize a world of love and unity. We are one people and one nation - we breathe together, suffer together, love together. These actions transcend colour, nationality, and status. I chose to incorporate multilingualism to further emphasize global unity.

SSAATTBB choir













