

CAROLS



Abbie Burt Betinis

ABBIE BETINIS

Behind the Clouds

~ an Advent carol ~

for soloist & SATB chorus (or organ)

Premiered on Minnesota Public Radio, December 2008

FAMILY



Alfred Burt

THE BURT



Bates Burt

ON THE BURT FAMILY CAROLS:

In 1922, Rev. Bates G. Burt, a self-taught musician, began composing Christmas carols and sending them as seasonal greeting cards to his friends, family, and parishioners. He eventually passed the job of composing the music to his son, Alfred Burt, a jazz trumpeter and young composer. The father-son team produced five carols together before Bates's death, and Alfred Burt went on to write ten more, including the popular "Caroling, Caroling," and "Some Children See Him," made famous originally by the Voices of Jimmy Joyce and now recorded by artists all over the world.

Since 2001, Abbie Burt Betinis has been continuing this family tradition begun so long ago by Rev. Bates G. Burt, her great-grandfather. Abbie created the text for "Behind the Clouds" from a prose poem Bates wrote for the family Christmas card in 1942, as World War II raged on and many US troops spent their first Christmas away from their families.

Composer Abbie Betinis (b. 1980) has received more than 50 commissions for new music leading to performances in some of the most famous concert halls in the United States. A McKnight Composer Fellow, she is composer-in-residence at The Schubert Club in Saint Paul, Minnesota. For more on Abbie and the Burt Family Carols, visit www.abbiebetinis.com.

PERFORMANCE STRICTLY PROHIBITED.

Please support the composer's art & livelihood by purchasing performance-ready scores at www.abbiebetinis.com. Thank you.

Abbie Betinis Music Co.

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Behind the Clouds

~ for soprano solo and SATB chorus ~

A. B.
(after Rev. Bates G. Burt)

Abbie Burt Betinis

Slowly, with rubato

Solo *mp* 1. Be - hind the clouds that dark-en hu - man life, For - ev - er shines the Light of
mf ears at - tuned to heav en's proph - e - cies, Our hearts a - wait a Prince of

Tenor *second time only pp*
Mm...

Bass *second time only pp*
Mm...

5
Solo God; And when-so - ev - er those clouds may go, Dis - pel - ling the shad - ows in
Peace, And when-so - ev - er that Prince ap - pear, And we in dark-ness, and

T

B

9
Solo which we so blind-ly grope, Then is it, in deed, Hope. *mf* 2. With
we in fear find re - lease, Then is it, in deed, Peace. *f* 3. A -

T *push ahead pull back a tempo*

B *push ahead pull back a tempo*

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27 (possible soli Sop.)
expressively, intimately

Solo
come, O come, come clos - er still to-night, The pains of life re - main, but

S/A
legato, intimately
come O come come clos - er still, (O come) pains of life re - main, but

T/B
legato, intimately
come, The pains of life re - main, but

31 *mf* *expressively*

Solo
Light...! And when - so - ev - er that Light breaks through, And we, in radianc, re-

S/A
mp *expressively*
Light...! When - so - e'er that Light breaks through we re -

T/B
mp *expressively*
Light...! When - so - e'er that Light breaks through, we re -

35

Solo
(Solo) *p*
flect a new world a - bove, Then is it, in - deed, Love.

S/A
p
flect a new (a new) Ah... Oo... Love.

T/B
p
flect, re - flect a new Ah... Oo... Love.

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