



# ABBIE BETINIS

## *Prayer for Peace*

*Carol for TTBB a cappella chorus*



*Premiered by the Orpheus Male Chorus of Phoenix  
Robb Butler, artistic director; December 2007*



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. In 1942, he passed the job of composing the music to his son, Alfred Burt, a jazz trumpeter who had just received his music degree from the University of Michigan. The father-son team produced five carols together before Bates' death in 1948. Alfred Burt went on to write a total of fifteen Christmas carols, 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 Bates, her great-grandfather. Each new carol has used a text relating somehow to the Burt family tradition. "Prayer for Peace" was inspired by the Christmas sermons which Bates G. Burt delivered to his Michigan congregation during World War II. (Luckily her family never throws anything away.)



### The Music of Abbie Betinis

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# Prayer for Peace

~ TTBB carol ~

Premiered by the Orpheus Male Chorus of Phoenix  
Robb Butler, artistic director; December 2007

Abbie Betinis

Text based on sermons  
by Bates G. Burt, ca. 1940

*Freely, introspectively*

T1 *p*  
1. *mm\**  
2-3. *oo*

T2 *p*  
1. *mm\**  
2-3. *oo*

B1 *mp*  
1. *mm\**  
2-3. *oo*

B2 *p*  
1. *mm\**  
2-3. *oo*

1. Peace, \_\_\_\_\_ the breath of peace is near, it calms \_\_\_\_\_ and cheers, As  
2. Love - - - ly, oh so love - ly, the re - flec - - - ted star, The  
3. Soft - - - ly, o'er the snow so soft - ly comes \_\_\_\_\_ the sign, A

4 *poco rit. a tempo*

T1 *poco rit. a tempo*

T2 *poco rit. a tempo*  
*mp*

B1 *poco rit. a tempo*  
*p*

B2 *poco rit. a tempo*

Peace, \_\_\_\_\_ it was the  
Far, \_\_\_\_\_ they sought to  
Soft - ly, o'er the  
we, with eyes of faith, \_\_\_\_\_ look back-ward through the years...  
star of Hope in ev' - - - ry eye that sought so far...  
bet - ter peace de - scends \_\_\_\_\_ to us at Christ - mas - time.

1. *mm\**  
2-3. *oo*

7 *cresc.*

T1

T2

B1

B2

An - gels' song \_\_\_\_\_ when He was born, Peace and Good - will to all, \_\_\_\_\_ they sang, on  
love him: Beth - l'hem, Cal - va - ry, That from their want and fear \_\_\_\_\_ all peop - le  
snow so soft - ly, then is gone... So we wait in hope, and fear, \_\_\_\_\_ to see our

\* (all accompanying voices staggered)

10

T1 *mf* *mf*  
 Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! in ter - ra

T2  
 Christ-mas morn. \_\_\_\_\_  
 shall be free. \_\_\_\_\_  
 centur - y dawn. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Glo - - - - ria et in ter - - - ra

B1 *mf* *mf*  
 Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! in ter - ra

B2 *mf* *mf*  
 Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! in ter - ra

## THIS STAFF LEFT BLANK

(in the hopes that you might buy the score)

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T1 *mp* *rit.* *pp*  
 wings, And help us to keep sa - cred all the love He brings.

T2 *p* *rit.* *pp*  
 wings, And help us to keep sa - - - cred love He \_\_\_\_\_ brings.

B1 *p* *rit.* *pp*  
 wings, And help us to keep sa - - - cred love He \_\_\_\_\_ brings.

B2 *p* *rit.* *pp*  
 wings, sa - - cred love He brings.

## Also by Abbie Betinis . . .

### The Burt Family Carols Series:

Hail, Christmas Day!	SATB or SSAA a cappella	self-published AB-026-C3
He Might Have Come on Clouds of Heaven	SATB a cappella	self-published AB-016-C2
In a Far Judean City	SATB a cappella	self-published AB-009-C1
Prayer for Peace	SATB or TTBB a cappella, s./t. solos	self-published AB-033-C4
Song of the Pines	SATB a cappella	self-published AB-041-C5

### Selected Choral Works:

<b>Another Sky</b> Text: Emily Dickinson	SSA, marimba	self-published AB-012-00
<b>The Babe of Bethlehem, arr.</b> Text and tune: William Walker in <u>Southern Harmony</u>	SATB div., a cappella	self-published AB-031-01
<b>Blessed Be the Lord, My Rock</b> Text: Psalm 144	SAB a cappella/organ	<b>Graphite Publishing</b> GP-B004
<b>Build a House (for friends and birds)</b> Text: Háfez	SATB, string quartet	self-published AB-043-00
<b>Carmina mei cordis</b> Text: traditional Latin	SATB div., a cappella	self-published AB-030-01
<b>Cedit, Hyems</b> Text: Prudentius (in Latin)	SATB div., flute	<b>G. Schirmer</b> Cat. No. 50486492
<b>Dormi, Jesu</b> Text: traditional Latin	SATB a cappella	self-published AB-007-01
<b>Jerusalem Luminosa</b> Text: Thomas a Kempis (in Latin)	SA a cappella	<b>Kjos Music</b> Cat. No. 6323
<b>Psalm 126: A Song of Ascents</b> Text: Psalm 126	SATB a cappella	<b>Augsburg Fortress</b> 0-8006-7720
<b>From Behind the Caravan</b> Text: Háfez (in Persian)	SSAA div., viola, oud, hand drums	self-published AB-049-00
<b>Yhinx: An Ancient Greek Love Charm</b> Text: Theocritus & ancient Greek stone (in Greek)	TTBB a cappella, t. t. b. solos	self-published AB-018-01

Reviewed as “most audacious... edgy and thrilling,” the music of Abbie Betinis is being performed increasingly in the United States and abroad. At age 28, Betinis has been commissioned by nearly 40 music organizations including the American Suzuki Foundation, Cantus, Cornell University Chorus, Dale Warland Singers, The Rose Ensemble, The Schubert Club, and the Young New Yorkers’ Chorus. Published by Augsburg Fortress, Graphite Publishing, Kjos, Santa Barbara Music Publishing, and, most recently in G. Schirmer’s *Dale Warland Series*, she has won a Jerome Commissioning Grant (2007), the Esoterics’s Polyphonos Young Composer Prize (2006), the Craig and Janet Swan Composer Prize in Choral Music (2005), and awards from the American Composers Forum, ASCAP, Cambridge Madrigal Singers, and Minnesota Music Educators Association. Betinis holds a BA from St. Olaf College, and MA in music composition from the University of Minnesota. Upon twice receiving the Cynthia Lilley Scholarship from the European American Musical Alliance, she spent two summer sessions in Paris, France, where she studied harmony and counterpoint in the tradition of Nadia Boulanger with faculty from Juilliard and the Paris Conservatory.

Since 2005, Betinis has served as Composer-in-Residence for The Schubert Club in St. Paul, Minnesota. She has also held residencies with The Singers—Minnesota Choral Artists, The Rose Ensemble, and, in 2008, the Saint Paul Conservatory of Music.

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