



ABBIE BETINIS



He Might Have Come On Clouds of Heaven

Carol 2002



(SATB)



*As premiered on
Minnesota Public Radio,
Dec. 2002*

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 uses a text relating somehow to the Burt family tradition. "He Might Have Come On Clouds of Heaven" was inspired by a speech to the Rotary Club which Bates G. Burt delivered in the 1940's.

He Might Have Come on Clouds of Heaven

Christmas 2002

A.B.
(inspired by speeches
of Bates Burt c.1940)

Abbie Betinis

Stately, ♩. = ca. 80

mf

Sop./Alto

1) He might_ have come on clouds of heav'n_ he - rald - ed down by trump - ets bold, He
2) He might_ have come to ci - ty grand, A crown_ of jewels up - on his head, But
3) He might_ have said, "Make known my birth! En - force_ by might what God com - mands!" But

mf

Ten./Bass

(for rehearsal only)

p

S
A

might_ have come in pomp and pow'r, All dressed in fin - est glitt - 'ring gold,
shep - herds poor in Beth - le - hem found Je - sus in a mang - er bed,
see-how he looks from mang - er low and o - pens now his lit - tle hands,

p

T
B

f

S
Come Come, He has come! Join - ing us by hum - ble birth,

A
Come Come, He has come! Join - ing us by hum - ble birth,

T
Come Come, He has come! Join - ing us by hum - ble birth,

B
Come Come, He has come! Join - ing us by hum - ble birth,

S
Come Come, Greet your King! Christ the Lord of Heav'n and Earth!

A
Come Come, Greet your King! Christ the Lord of Heav'n and Earth!

T
Come Come, Greet your King! Christ the Lord of Heav'n and Earth!

B
Come Come, Greet your King! Christ the Lord of Heav'n and Earth!

Selected Choral Works by Abbie Betinis:

Aililiú, ó Íosa	soprano, countertenor, SATB chorus, bodhran, gaelic harp, vielle	Abylon Press AB-036-00
Another Sky	SSA, marimba	Abylon Press AB-012-00
The Babe of Bethlehem (arr.)	SSAATTBB a cappella	Abylon Press AB-031-01
Blessed Be the Lord, My Rock	SAB a cappella/organ	Graphite Publishing GP-B004
Carmina mei cordis I. Aeterna lux divinitas II. Angele dei	SATB a cappella	Abylon Press AB-030-00
Dormi, Jesu	SATB a cappella	Abylon Press AB-007-00
Hail, Christmas Day! (a canon)	SATB (or SAB) a cappella	Abylon Press AB-026-C3
In a Far Judean City	SATB a cappella	Abylon Press AB-009-C1
Jerusalem Luminosa	SA a cappella	Kjos Cat. No. 6323
The Piper's Son	SA children's choir, flute	Abylon Press AB-014-00
Prayer for Peace	SATB a cappella, soprano solo	Abylon Press AB-033-C4
Psalms 126 – A Song of Ascents	SATB a cappella	Augsburg Fortress 0-8006-7720
To the Evening Star	SSAATTBB, flute	Abylon Press AB-040-00
Toward Sunshine, Toward Freedom I. The Bees' Song II. A noiseless patient spider III. Envoi	SATB a cappella, soprano solo	Abylon Press AB-035-01
Yhinx: An Ancient Greek Love Charm	T'TBB a cappella, TTB soli	Abylon Press AB-018-01

ABBIE BETINIS (b. 1980) has written music in a variety of genres, but her greatest passion is for the human voice, as evidenced by her continually expanding catalogue of works for solo, chamber, and mixed vocal ensembles. Since graduating from St. Olaf College in 2001, she has received over thirty commissions for new work, from organizations such as the American Suzuki Foundation, Cantus, the Dale Warland Singers, Ensemble of the North, Kantorei (Denver, CO), The Rose Ensemble, The Schubert Club, and the University of Minnesota Men's Choir. Betinis has spent two summers on scholarship from the European American Musical Alliance at La Schola Cantorum and the Ecole Normale de Musique in Paris, France, where she studied harmony and counterpoint in the tradition of Nadia Boulanger with faculty from Juilliard and the Paris Conservatory. Originally from Stevens Point, Wisconsin, she now lives in Minneapolis, where she is completing her Master of Arts degree in music composition at the University of Minnesota, and working as a freelance singer, music copyist, and web designer. In September 2005, she was named a composer-in-residence for The Schubert Club in Saint Paul, MN.