



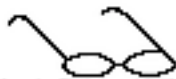
CAROL BARNETT

FROM THE GOOD EARTH

for SSA Chorus and Piano

Text by Pearl S. Buck




BEADY EYES PUBLISHING
www.carolbarnett.net

CAROL BARNETT
FROM THE GOOD EARTH

for SSA Chorus and Piano

Text by Pearl S. Buck

Commissioned by the Randolph-Macon Woman's College,
under the direction of Dr. Randall Speer

Premiered April 17, 2005 by the Randolph-Macon Woman's College Chorale,
Randall Speer, conductor
at Houston Memorial Chapel, Randolph-Macon Woman's College, Lynchburg, VA

c. 4:15 minutes

PROGRAM NOTE:

Keeping in mind that Pearl Buck spent much of her life in China, I have tried to enhance her wonderfully evocative text by employing the traditional Chinese pentatonic scale, avoiding Western-type harmonies in favor of long melodic lines to convey the vastness of that country, and using the piano to imitate the sounds of the ch'in (Chinese zither) and large gongs.

FROM THE GOOD EARTH

Pearl Buck

Carol Barnett

♩ = 108

Soprano 1

Soprano 2

Alto

Piano

♩ = 108

mf

sim.

8va

8vb

5

5

5

5

S 1

mf

The earth lay rich and dark,

S 2

mf

The earth lay rich and dark,

A

mf

The earth lay rich and dark,

Pno.

p

mf

8va

8vb

5

5

5

5

FROM THE GOOD EARTH

9

S 1

the earth lay rich and dark, _____ and fell a - part light - ly _____

S 2

the earth lay rich and dark, _____ and fell a - part light - ly _____

A

the earth lay rich and dark, _____ and fell a - part light - ly _____

Pno.

p

8va -

8vb -

13

S 1

un - der the points _____ of their hoes. _____

S 2

un - der the points _____ of their hoes. _____

A

un - der the points _____ of their hoes. _____

Pno.

13

8va -

8vb -

mf

16

S 1 *mp* Some-times they turned up a bit of

S 2 *mp* Some-times they turned up a bit of

A *mp* Some-times,

Pno. *mp* *p*

(8va)

5

20

S 1 *mf* brick. It was

S 2 *mf* brick. It was

A *mf* a spli - i - in - ter of wood. It was

Pno. *mf*

(8va)

25 *mp*

S 1 noth - ing. —

S 2 *mp* noth - ing. —

A *mp* noth - ing. —

Pno. *mf* *8va* *sim.* *8vb*

28 *p* *mf*

S 1 Some time, in some age, bod - ies of men and wom - en

S 2 *p* *mf* Some time, in some age, bod - ies of men and wom - en

A *p* *mf* Some time in some age, bod - ies of men and

Pno. *pp* *p* *pp* *mp* *8va* *8vb*

32

S 1 *p* *mp*
_____ had been bur-ied there, _____ hous-es had stood there, _____ had

S 2 *p* *mp*
_____ had been bur-ied there, _____ hous-es had stood there, _____ had

A *p* *mp*
wom-en _____ had been bur-ied there, _____ hous-es had stood there, _____ had

Pno. *p* *ppp* *p*

37

S 1 *mf*
fall-en, _____ and gone back, _____ back in-to the earth.

S 2 *mf*
fall-en, _____ and gone back, _____ back in-to the earth,

A *mf*
fall-en, _____ and gone back in-to the earth, _____

Pno. *pp* *p* *mp*

41 *mp* *p* *mp*

S 1 So would

S 2 *mp* *p* *mp*
back in - to the earth. So would

A *mp* *p* *mp*
back in - to the earth. So would

Pno. *p* *mp*

44 *mf* *dim. poco a poco*

S 1 al - so their house, some - time, some-time re -

S 2 *mf* *dim. poco a poco*
al - so their house, some - time, some-time re -

A *mf* *dim. poco a poco*
al - so their house, some - time, some-time re -

Pno. *mf*

47

S 1 *p* turn in - to the earth, their bod - ies al - so.

S 2 *p* turn, re - turn in - to the earth, their bod - ies al - so.

A *p* turn, re - turn in - to the earth, their bod - ies al - so.

Pno. *p* 8^{va}

52

S 1 *pp*

S 2 *pp*

A *pp* ah

Pno. *pp*

57

S 1 *p* Each had his turn at

S 2 *p* Each had his turn at

A *p* Each had his turn at

Pno. *p*

61

S 1 *poco accel.* *pp* più mosso (♩ = 116) this earth.

S 2 *pp* this earth.

A *pp* this earth.

Pno. *poco accel.* *pp* più mosso (♩ = 116)

64

S 1 *p* *mf*
ah

S 2 *p* *mf*
ah

A *p* *mf*
ah

Pno. *mf*
8vb

68

S 1 *dim. poco a poco*
ah

S 2 *dim. poco a poco*
ah

A *dim. poco a poco*
ah

Pno. *mp* *p*

Tempo I (♩ = 108)

S 1 *p* They worked on, *mp* mov - ing to -

S 2 *p* They worked on, *mp* mov - ing to -

A

Pno. *pp*

72

8^{va}

Tempo I (♩ = 108)

S 1 *p* geth - er, to - geth - er,

S 2 *p* geth - er, to - geth - er,

A *p* pro -

Pno. *p* pro - duc - ing the

75

8^{va}

78

S 1

pro-duc-ing the fruit, _____

S 2

duc-ing the fruit, _____

A

fruit _____ of this earth, _____

Pno.

pp *p*

82

S 1

p speech-less in their move-ment to- geth- er. _____

S 2

p speech-less in their move-ment to- geth- er. _____

A

p speech-less in their move-ment to- geth- er. _____

Pno.

pp

86

S 1

S 2

A

Pno.

86

8va

sim.

mp *p*

8vb

90

S 1

S 2

A

Pno.

90

8va

p *dim. poco a poco* *pp*

ah

p *dim. poco a poco* *pp*

ah

p *dim. poco a poco* *pp*

ah

dim. poco a poco *n.*