### **GREG BARTHOLOMEW**

# To a Locomotive in Winter

A setting of the poem by Walt Whitman

for unaccompanied mixed choir

with piano reduction for rehearsal only

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### To a Locomotive in Winter

Walt Whitman (1819–1892)

THEE for my recitative!

Thee in the driving storm, even as now—the snow—the winter-day declining;

Thee in thy panoply, thy measured dual throbbing, and thy beat convulsive;

Thy black cylindric body, golden brass, and silvery steel;

Thy ponderous side-bars, parallel and connecting rods, gyrating, shuttling at thy sides;

Thy metrical, now swelling pant and roar—now tapering in the distance;

Thy great protruding head-light, fix'd in front;

Thy long, pale, floating vapor-pennants, tinged with delicate purple;

The dense and murky clouds out-belching from thy smoke-stack;

Thy knitted frame—thy springs and valves—the tremulous twinkle of thy wheels;

Thy train of cars behind, obedient, merrily-following,

Through gale or calm, now swift, now slack, yet steadily careering:

Type of the modern! emblem of motion and power! pulse of the continent!

For once, come serve the Muse, and merge in verse, even as here I see thee,

With storm, and buffeting gusts of wind, and falling snow;

By day, thy warning, ringing bell to sound its notes,

By night, thy silent signal lamps to swing.

#### Fierce-throated beauty!

Roll through my chant, with all thy lawless music! thy swinging lamps at night;

Thy piercing, madly-whistled laughter! thy echoes, rumbling like an earthquake, rousing all!

Law of thyself complete, thine own track firmly holding;

(No sweetness debonair of tearful harp or glib piano thine,)

Thy trills of shrieks by rocks and hills return'd,

Launch'd o'er the prairies wide—across the lakes,

To the free skies, unpent, and glad, and strong.

"To a Locomotive in Winter" was published in "Two Rivulets," 1876, and in "Leaves of Grass," 1900.

For unaccompanied mixed choir with piano reduction for rehearsal only

Duration: 6 minutes

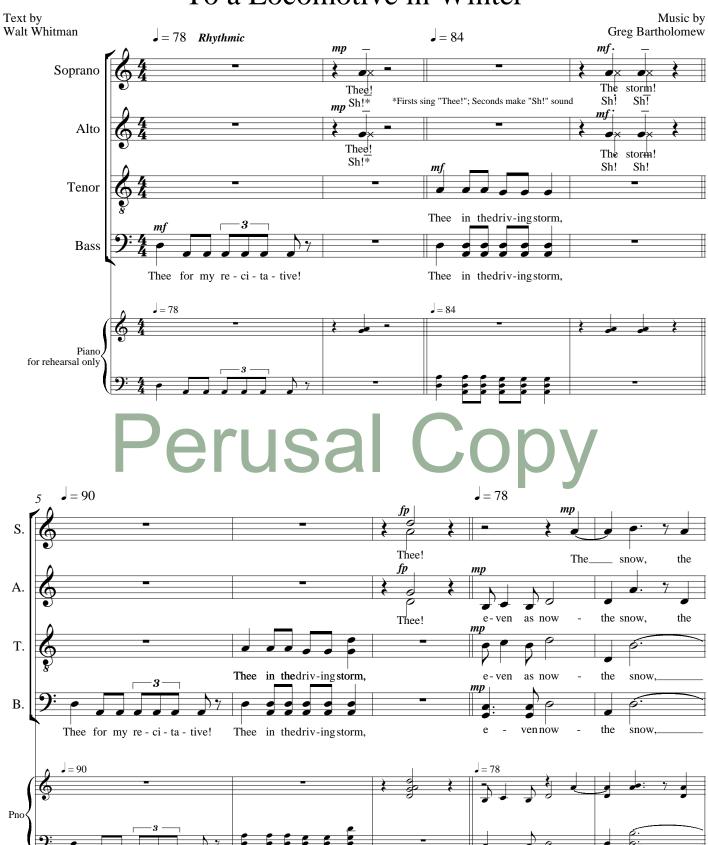
Premiere performance July 6, 2002, by the Oregon Repertory Singers at the Oregon Bach Festival. For information about composer Greg Bartholomew, visit www.gregbartholomew.com.

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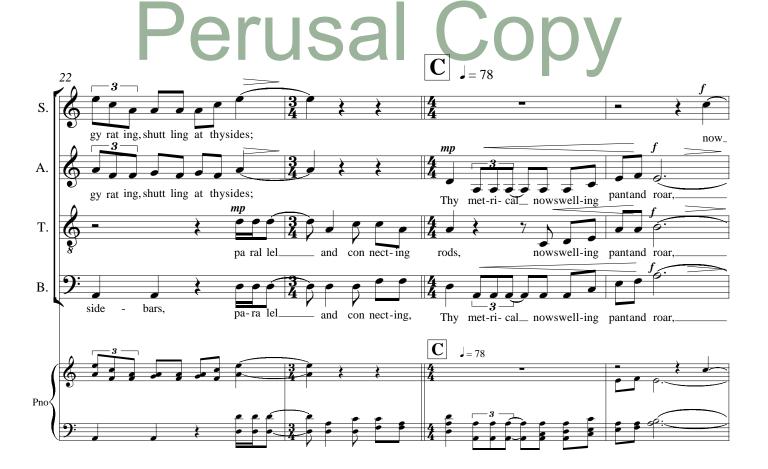
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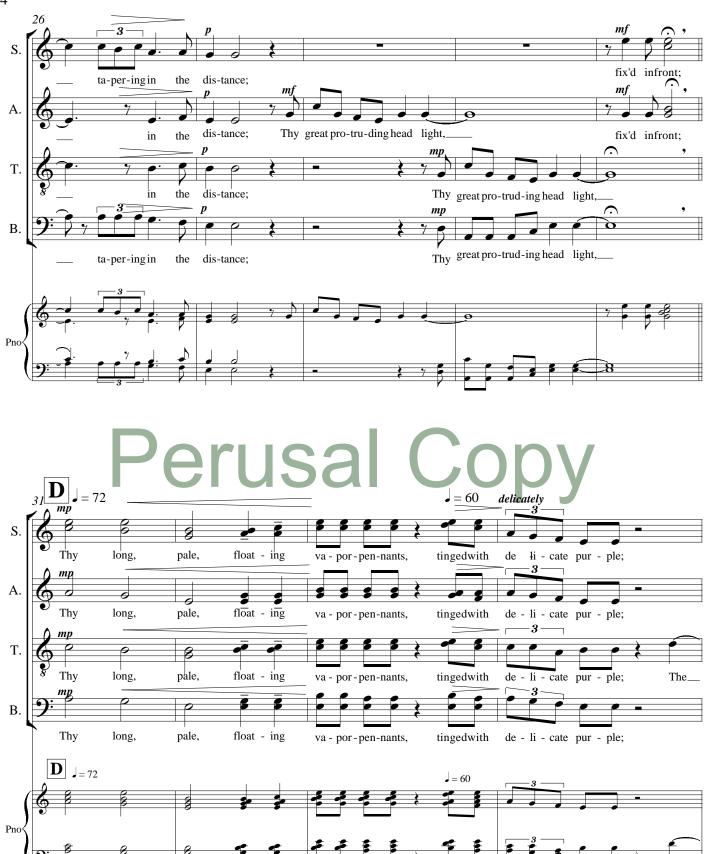
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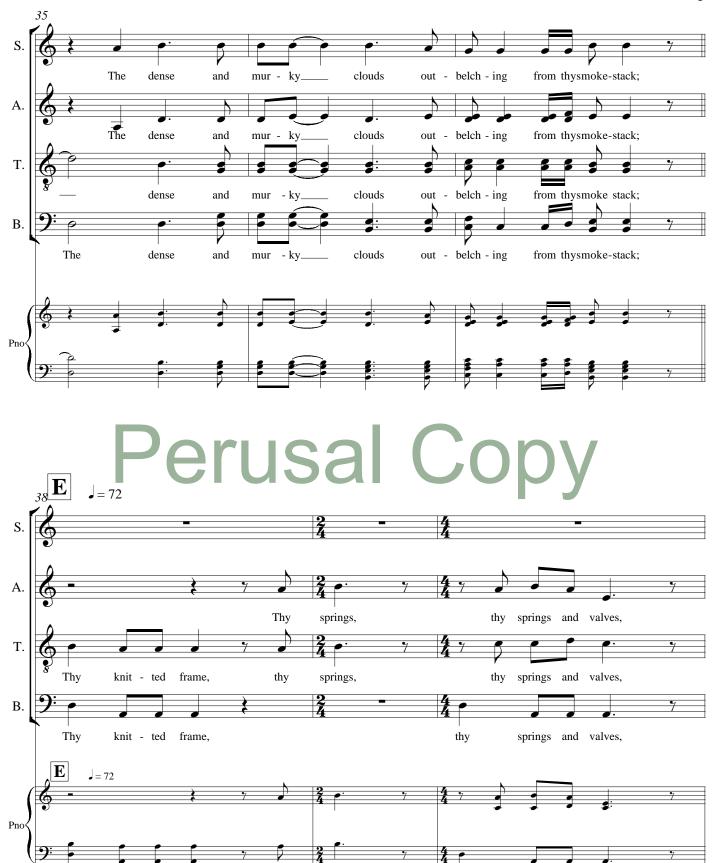






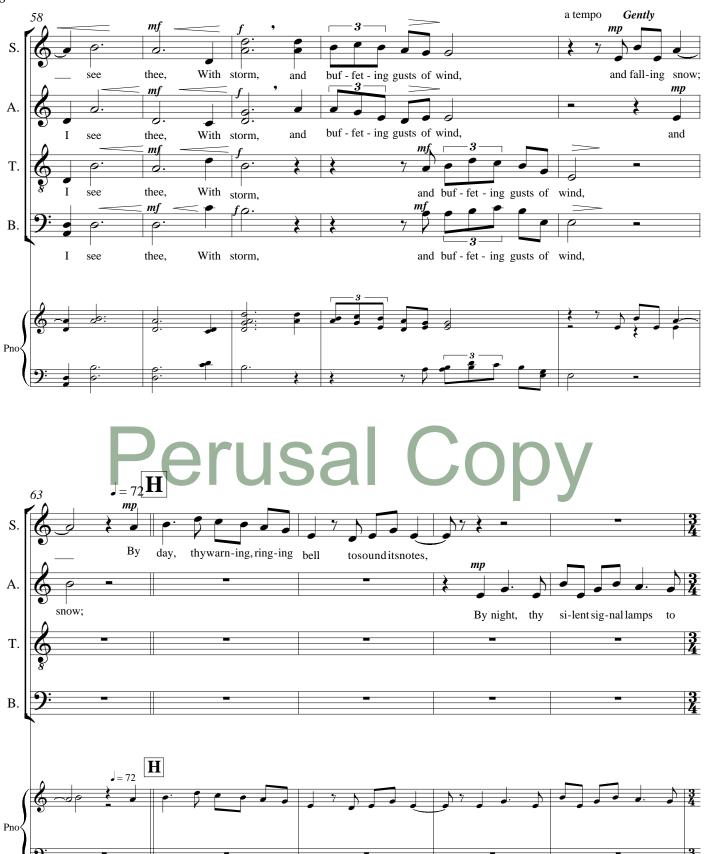












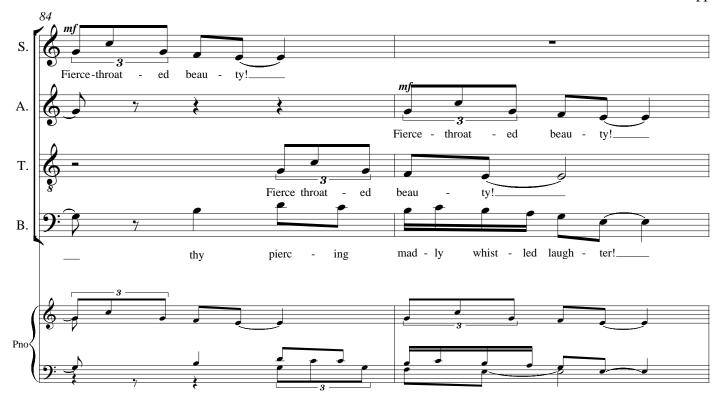




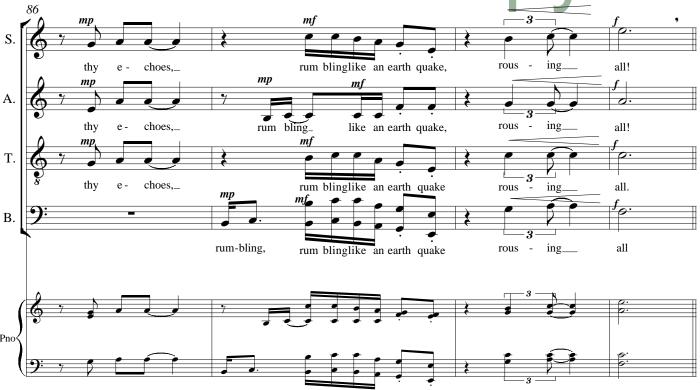


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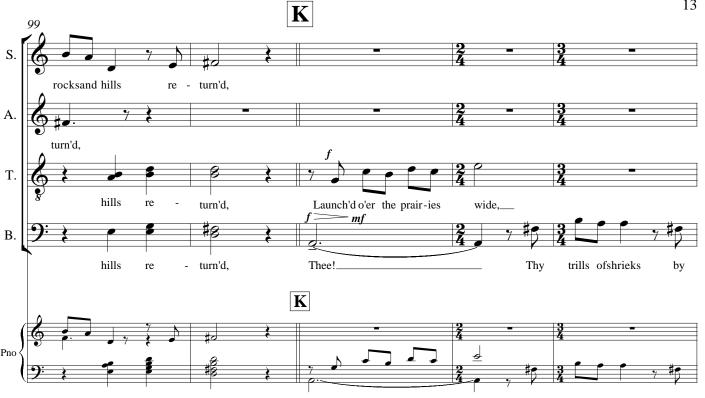




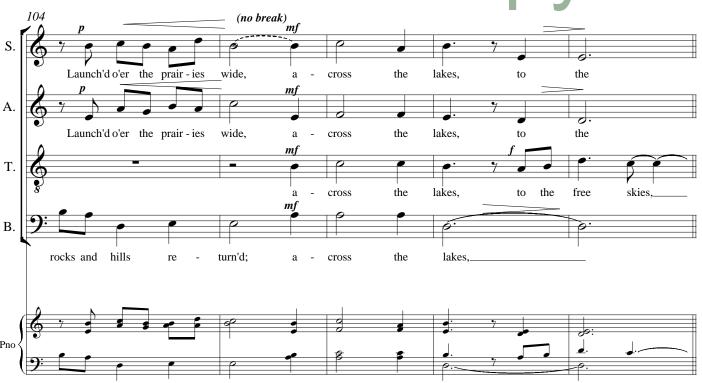








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Leo, for unaccompanied SATB choir, 2002 (Duration: 5:45)

A setting of excerpts from *Astronomica*, a 1<sup>st</sup> Century B.C. Latin text by Marcus Manilius.

Finalist in the 2007 Cincinnati Camerata Choral Composition Competition.

From the Odes of Solomon Available on CD from Capstone Records

From Odes 1 & 3 of the Odes of Solomon, 2000 (Duration: 5:00) From Ode 14 of the Odes of Solomon, 2000 (Duration: 5:00) From Ode 17 of the Odes of Solomon, 2000 (Duration: 5:30)

For unaccompanied SATB choir. The Odes of Solomon are believed to have been written around the year 100 A.D., and include strong parallels to the Dead Sea Scrolls.

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The 21st Century (A Girl Born in Afghanistan), for unaccompanied SATB choir, 2002 (Dur.: 6:40)

A setting of excerpts from United Nations Sec.-Gen. Kofi Annan's Nobel Peace Prize Lecture.

Available on CD released by Connecticut Choral Artists (Concora): Songs & Stories of Liberation (2007).

Finalist in the 2003 Briar Cliff University New Choral Music Competition.

Beati Quorum Via, for unaccompanied SATB choir, 2003 (Duration: 2:30)

A new setting of the traditional Latin text.

The Fervid Hokey Poke, for unaccompanied SATB choir, 2010 (Duration: 2:45)

A setting of the hilarious prize-winning poem by Jeff Brechlin.

Song of the Mountains, for mixed SSAATB choir with piano accompaniment, 2004 (Duration: 6 min.)

A setting of text adapted from prose by American naturalist John Muir (1838 - 1914).

Stoke Fleming, for unaccompanied SATB choir, 2000 (Duration 3:30)

A meditation on rocks and waves written at a small hamlet on the English Channel.

The Tree, for unaccompanied SATB choir, 2003 (Duration: 3 min.)

A setting of the poem by American transcendental poet Jones Very (1813 - 1880).

The Promise of Liberty, or unison or 2-part chorus and piano, 2009 (Duration: 3 min.)

Adapted from the poem, The New Colossus by Emma Lazarus ("Give me your tired, your poor...").

#### Three American Winter Settings

A Country Boy in Winter, for unaccompanied TTBB men's chorus, 2001 (Duration: 3:20)

A setting of the poem by American poet Sarah Orne Jewett (1849 - 1909).

A Rainy Day, for unaccompanied SSAA women's chorus, 2001 (Duration: 4:15)

A setting of the poem by American poet John Brainard (1796 - 1828).

To a Locomotive in Winter, for unaccompanied SATB choir, 2001 (Duration: 6 min.)

A setting of the poem by Walt Whitman (1819 - 1892).

#### Three Gnostic Poems

An Open World, 2007 (Duration: 3 min.) When I Land, 2007 (Duration: 4 min.) And the Wind, 2007 (Duration: 5 min.)

For unaccompanied SATB choir. Three settings of poems by Fletcher LaVallee Bartholomew, meditations on the ineffable.

Perusal copies provided on request