

ken davies

God, The Artist Of Creation

for SATB Choir and Organ

An equal partner counterpoint between organ and choir,
the prominent organ weaves a tapestry of lines and
rhythms through the choral voices at equal volume.



KD 702

kendavies music

www.kendavies.net

God, The Artist Of Creation - SATB/organ - performance time 5:15

Program Notes

In 1998, the American Guild of Organists (AGO) held their national convention in Denver, Colorado. The AGO awarded several grants during that year, one of which went to Denver's St. Barnabas Episcopal Church Choir for a new work to be performed during the convention dates. St. Barnabas then commissioned Ken Davies to compose a work based on the AGO's convention theme *The Beauty Of Creation*. Davies' original poetic text combines scriptural references and analogies to the visual, musical and literary creative arts. With an eye to the AGO, a challenging and prominent organ part was created to be an equal partner with the chorus, weaving a tapestry of melodic threads and rhythms to be heard through the choral voices. The work was first performed June 1998 (later recorded) by the St. Barnabas Episcopal Choir, Mary Erickson, director and Jim Hill, organist. Other fine performances have included the Clarke University Collegiate Singers, Brian Burns, director (Dubuque IA) and the Malone University Chamber Choir, Jon Peterson, director (Canton, OH).

Text

The immense expanse of heaven expounds the eminence and glory of our God,
The range of which our rockets cannot reach;
His speech, alone, sufficient to sustain the sculptured sun and stars, we laud
The sights and source our science seeks, though cannot teach,
The essence of this mighty force; the Source on whom all strength depends,
Our Elohim, whose eloquent, creative art transcends.
The beauty of the earth declares divine aesthetic revelation.
We raise our hymn of grateful praise to God, the Artist of Creation.

The massive mountains magnify His view of hue and texture, shadow, light
Under gliding clouds across the skies.
As we look to see beyond the stars for mystic links to sense and sight
And knowledge, let us also see to look behind our eyes.
His art must have an audience immersed in full complete devotion,
Mimicking the oceans in their light-reflecting motion.
Abruptly breaking waves, awash with contrapuntal variation,
Raise their songs of surging praise to God, the Artist of Creation.

About the Composer

Ken Davies (www.kendavies.net) has had acoustic and electronic works performed at numerous new music festivals such as the Society of Composers, Electroacoustic Barn Dance, Southeastern Composers League (he is a past president), Electronic Music Midwest, International Trombone Festival, National Association of Composers USA, Christian Fellowship of Art Music Composers, Parma Music Festival, London New Wind Festival (UK), and Sonic Coast (UK). Since 2002, he resides in coastal south Mississippi. Awards include the Mississippi Arts Commission's Performing Arts Fellowship for Composition (three times), the Mississippi Music Teachers' Association's Commissioned Composer Of The Year, and winner of the American Trombone Workshop National Composition Competition. His music studies were at the University of Wisconsin at Madison, Yale School of Music, Middle Tennessee State University at Murfreesboro (MA trombone), and the University of Colorado at Boulder (MM composition). A writer and publisher member of ASCAP, his music is published by Kenvad Music.

Commissioned by St. Barnabas Episcopal Choir of Denver. Mary Erickson, conductor. Jim Hill, organist.
For performance during the 1998 National Convention of American Guild of Organists in Denver, Colorado.

God, The Artist of Creation

Text and Music
Ken Davies

dur: c. 5:15

SATB and Organ

Andante

♩ = 84

Soprano
Alto
Tenor
Bass
Organ

Cre
Cre
Cre
Cre

Andante ♩ = 84

Andante ♩ = 84

S.
A.
T.
B.
Org.)

a - tion God, the art - ist of cre a - tion.

a - tion God, the art - ist of cre a - tion.

a - tion God, the art - ist of cre a - tion.

a - tion God, the art - ist of cre a - tion.

sw. flutes 8' 4' 2' mixtures
principal 8' 4' mutations

mf

4

8

S.

A.

T.

B.

Org.

gt. strong reeds 8'

ped. flute, diapason 32' 16' 8'

10

S.

A.

T.

B.

Org.

f

The im -

f

The im -

f

The im -

f

The im -

f

The im -

f

f

f

f

stay only slightly under voices

12

S. mense ex - panse of hea - ven ex - pounds the

A. mense ex - panse of hea - ven ex - pounds the

T. mense ex - panse of hea - ven ex - pounds the

B. mense ex - panse of hea - ven ex - pounds the

Org. -32' (ped)

14

S. em - i - nence and glo - ry of our

A. em - i - nence and glo - ry of our

T. em - i - nence and glo - ry of our

B. em - i - nence and glo - ry of our

Org.

16

S. God, _____ The range of which our

A. God, _____ The range of which our

T. God, _____ The range of which our

B. God, _____ The range of which our

sw.

Org. gt.

19

S. rock - ets can - not reach; _____

A. rock - ets can - not reach; _____

T. rock - ets can - not reach; _____

B. rock - ets can - not reach; _____

sw. flute, principal, 8'

Org.

22

S. *mf* sus -

A. *mf* sus -

T. *mf* His speech, a - lone, suf - fi - cient to sus -

B. *mf* His speech, a - lone, suf - fi - cient to sus -

Org. *f* *mf*

26

S. *f* stain the sculp - tured sun and stars. We laud the sights and source our

A. *f* stain the sculp - tured sun and stars. laud the sights and source our

T. *f* stain the sculp - tured sun and stars. We laud the sights and source our

B. *f* stain the sculp - tured sun and stars. laud the sights and source our

Org. *f* *mf* *f*

8'

Choral and Vocal Music
by Ken Davies
from **kenvad music**
www.kendavies.net/kenvad

VOCAL

Mountain Dreams - tenor or soprano & piano
Nature's Paintbrush - tenor or soprano & piano
Beach Thoughts - tenor or soprano & piano
Window To The Stage - tenor or soprano & contrabass
Bayou Sketches - soprano, horn in F, & piano
Message In A Bottle - medium voice & piano
A Psalm Of Life - tenor or soprano & piano
Who Shall Separate Us From The Love Of Christ? - solo voice & organ
If Any Man Serve Me (The Deacon's Song) - medium voice & piano
Our Lord's Prayer (pop style new music) - baritone solo - w. SATB optional - track or charts
Thank You, Mom (pap ballad) - medium voice and piano (accompaniment track available)
Our Lord's Prayer - (new music) - medium voice and recorded accompaniment track

CHORAL

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence - SATB/organ, 2 tpts, 2 tbns
An Easter Call To Worship - SATB a cappella
Psalm 117 - SATB/piano
God, The Artist Of Creation - SATB/organ
Who Shall Separate Us From The Love Of Christ? - SATB a cappella
Psalm 153 - SATB a cappella
Day And Night - SATB a cappella
Psalm 53 - SATB a cappella
Make A Joyful Noise - SATB & rock band w. horns or track
Our Lord's Prayer - (new music) - medium solo voice, SATB choir & rock band w. horns