

GREG BARTHOLOMEW

FIRE AND ICE

a setting for unaccompanied mixed choir (SATB)
of the poem by Robert Frost



BURKE & BAGLEY

Duration: ca. 3'15"

FIRE AND ICE

a setting for unaccompanied mixed choir (SATB)
of the poem by Robert Frost (1874 - 1963)

*Some say the world will end in fire,
Some say in ice.
From what I've tasted of desire
I hold with those who favor fire.
But if it had to perish twice,
I think I know enough of hate
To say that for destruction ice
Is also great
And would suffice.*

Published in December 1920 in *Harper's Magazine* and again in 1923 in his Pulitzer Prize-winning book *New Hampshire*, **Fire and Ice** is one of Robert Frost's most popular poems. Some have asserted that the poem is a compression of Dante's *Inferno*. In an anecdote he recounted in 1960, prominent astronomer Harlow Shapley claimed to have inspired *Fire and Ice* in an encounter with Frost a year before the poem was published. Frost asked Shapley how the world will end, and Shapley responded that either the sun will explode and incinerate the Earth, or the Earth will somehow escape this fate only to end up slowly freezing in deep space.

For information about the composer, visit gregbartholomew.com. If you perform this work in public, please send a PDF of the concert program to office@burkeandbagley.com.

BURKE & BAGLEY

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FIRE AND ICE

Robert Frost

Greg Bartholomew

Briskly con moto ritmico ♩ = 90 *mf*

SOPRANO
Fire! _____

ALTO
Fire! _____

TENOR
mf
Some say the world will end in fire.

BASS
mf
Some say the world will end in fire.

Piano
Briskly con moto ritmico ♩ = 90

Detailed description: This system contains the first four measures of the piece. It features five staves: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass, and Piano. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is 'Briskly con moto ritmico' with a quarter note equal to 90 beats per minute. The dynamic is mezzo-forte (mf). The Soprano and Alto parts have a rest in the first measure, followed by a quarter rest and then a half note 'Fire!' with a fermata. The Tenor and Bass parts have a rest in the first measure, followed by a quarter rest and then a half note 'Some' with a fermata. The piano accompaniment starts with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note chord, a half note chord, and a quarter note chord.

5

Fire!_ Some say!_____ Some say in

Fire!_ Some say!_____ Some say in

Some say the world will end in fire.

Some say the world will end in fire.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 5 through 8. The Soprano and Alto parts have a rest in measure 5, followed by a quarter rest and then a half note 'Fire!' with a fermata. The Tenor and Bass parts have a rest in measure 5, followed by a quarter rest and then a half note 'Some' with a fermata. The piano accompaniment continues with a quarter note chord, a half note chord, and a quarter note chord. The lyrics for the Soprano and Alto parts are 'Fire!_ Some say!_____ Some say in' and 'Fire!_ Some say!_____ Some say in' respectively. The lyrics for the Tenor and Bass parts are 'Some say the world will end in fire.' and 'Some say the world will end in fire.' respectively.

Fire and Ice

9



ice. Some say in ice. Some say in ice. Some say the world will end in fire. Some say the world will end in fire.

13



Some say the world will end. Some say the world, Some say the world, Some say the world will

Fire and Ice

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end in fire. De sire... De sire... I
end in fire. De sire... De sire... I hold with those.
From what I've tast-ed of de sire... I hold with those, I hold with those who, I
From what I've tast-ed of de sire... I hold with those, I hold with those who, I

35

hold with those... who fa - vor fire. I hold with those... who fa - vor fire.
... who fa - vor fire. I hold with those... who fa - vor fire.
hold with those... who fa - vor fire. I hold with those... who fa - vor fire.
hold with those... who fa - vor fire. I hold with those... who fa - vor fire.

Fire and Ice

39 **a tempo** ♩ = 90

But if it had to per-ish twice, — if it had to per-ish twice,
But if it had to per-ish twice, — if it had to per-ish twice,
But if it had to per-ish twice, — if it had to per-ish twice,
But if it had to per-ish twice, — if it had to per-ish twice,

mp *p* *mp* *mf*

mp *p* *mp* *mf*

mp *p* *mp* *mf*

mp *p* *mp* *mf*

a tempo ♩ = 90

mp *p* *mp* *mf*

43 **mf**

I think I know, I think I know e-nough of hate to say that for de-struction,
I think I know e-nough of hate, e-nough to say that
I think I know e-nough of hate, e-nough to say that
I think I know e-nough of hate, e-nough to say that

mf *mf* *mf* *mf*

Fire and Ice

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p Ice is al - so great.____

p Ice is al - so great.____

f hold with those____ who fa - vor fire. *mp*

f hold with those____ who fa - vor fire. *mp*

p

66

mf Ice is al - so great. *f* Ice!____

mf Ice is al - so great. *f* Ice!____

f hold with those____ who fa - vor fire. *f* Fire!____

f hold with those____ who fa - vor fire. *f* Fire!____

mf *f*

CHORAL WORKS OF GREG BARTHOLOMEW

Read the complete texts and listen to recordings at

www.gregbartholomew.com

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

A setting of excerpts from United Nations Secretary-General 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.

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).

For Every Love a Place, for unaccompanied TTBB men's chorus, 2016 (Duration: 5:00)

A setting of the poem "To a Friend" by American poet James Fenimore Cooper, Jr. (1892 - 1918).

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

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

Fire and Ice, for unaccompanied SATB mixed choir, 2019 (Duration: 3:45)

A setting of the poem by American poet Robert Frost (1874 - 1963).

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

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

Finalist in the 2007 Cincinnati Camerata Choral Composition Competition.

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

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

Moon Man, for unaccompanied SATB choir or 2-part treble choir, 2004 (Duration: 3 min.)

A humorous romp for the holidays. An adaptation of the poem by Tom Clarke.

The Promise of Liberty, for SATB 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...").

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).

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).

Finalist for the 2011 Seghizzi International Choral Festival and Winner of the Silver Platter Repertoire Award (ChoralNet). Available on CD from The Esoterics.

We Are the Dust of Stars, for 2-part treble choir with piano, 2013 (Duration: 3:00)

A thought-provoking, joyful and humorous song about our connection to everything in the universe.

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.

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. Meditations on the ineffable by Fletcher LaVallee Bartholomew.

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Perusal copies provided on request