

The Spirit of the Drum

SATB a cappella, optionally with choreography

Lyrics: Lorenz Maierhofer,
inspired by a Native American
legend of the "Abenaki"

Music: Lorenz Maierhofer

A expressive, free *f*

B narrative – free, with a dramatic feeling *f*

S Ah. In a Na-tive A-me-ri-can le-gend it is said that the

A Ah. In a Na-tive A-me-ri-can le-gend it is said that the

T Ah. In a Na-tive A-me-ri-can le-gend it is said that the

B Ah. In a Na-tive A-me-ri-can le-gend it is said that the

Choreography (optional)
||| (slap rapidly on thighs) *musical improvisation, e.g. rattle*

Piano (for rehearsal)

3

Cre - a - tor gave to all the spir - its a place to dwell, to dwell, to

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• commissioned by Maria Fürtner (Singakademie Graz), performed at the "6th World Choir Games 2010 in Shaoxing, China".



4 *f*

dwel, dwell in the in - ha - bi - tants of Mo - ther Earth, Mo - ther Earth.

mf

dwel, ooh, _____ - ther Earth

mf

8 dwel, ooh, _____ of Mo - ther Earth.

f

dwel, _____ dwell in the in - ha - bi - tants _____ Earth, _____ of Mo - ther Earth.

|| (rainmaker, free)

C expressive, free *mf*

5 Ah. _____

mf

D rubato

Ah. _____

mf

8 Ah. _____

mf

Then, sud - den - ly, there came a sound, a sound _____ a loud

mf

Ah. _____

mf

Then, sud - den - ly, there came a sound, a sound _____ a loud

|| "m" _____ a bass drum _____ a steping and drum ad lib)



19 [Solo S ad lib] [Solo S ad lib] *p*

bub. The sound came, came clo-ser! Bub ba bub ba bub ba bub. The sound came, came Clo ser
 It came close and clo-ser! It came close and clo-ser

bub. Bub ba bub ba bub ba bub. ser

bub. Bub ba bub ba bub ba bub Clo ser

bub. Bub ba bub ba bub bub. Clo - ser

23 *G* rubato [Solo, free *mf*] [Solo, spoken free *mf*]

and clo ser, and! Who are you? Who

and clo ser, and! Who

and clo ser, and! The Cre-a-tor said: Who

and clo ser, and! Who



H narrative

mf Solo, free

28

— are you? —

— are you? What can I do for you? —

— are you? —

— are you? —

Oh, *mf*

on the chest, keep the hand on the chest to part **I**

33

mf Solo, free

spir-it of — rhy — spir — drum. The spir-it of the drum. Dear Cre-a - tor, let —

The spir-it of the drum.

bom bom bom. The spir-it of the drum.

(stamp) bom bom bom. The spir-it of the drum.



songs, deep with-in the hearts, in the hearts of the sing - - ing peo - ple! Give them
 songs, deep with-in the hearts, in the hearts of the sing - - ing ple! Give them
 songs, deep with-in the hearts, in the hearts of the sing - ing peo - ple!
 songs, deep with-in the hearts, in the hearts of sing - ing peo - ple!

L rhythmical ♩ = c. 116

f (repeat ad lib) *f* **M**
 rhy-thm! (snap) Rhy-thm! Like the heart-beat of the Earth, like the
 rhy-thm! (snap) Rhy-thm! Like the heart-beat of the Earth, like the
 *) A m m m a m m m a m m m a m m m m a
 *) A m m m a m m m a m m m m a

*) "A m m m" (optionally sing "dm dm dm") = percussive like a bass drum. Add vocussion ad lib (male voice): M ts ts a m.



breath at man-kind's birth, _____ like the rhy-thm of _____ night and day, _____ like the

breath at man-kind's birth, _____ like the rhy-thm of _____ night and day, _____ like the

m m m m a m m m m a m m m m a

m m m m a m m m m a m m m m a

ff

ev' - ry day! Hey!

ev' - ry day! Hey!

m m m m a m m m m a m m m m a m m m. Hey!

m m m m a m m m m a m m m m a m m m. Hey!

(clap)

foot-steps on their way, _____ on their way, _____ on their way, _____ ev' - ry day! Hey!

foot-steps on their way, _____ on their way, _____ on their way, _____ ev' - ry day! Hey!

m m m m a m m m m a m m m m a m m m m a m m m. Hey!

m m m m a m m m m a m m m m a m m m m a m m m. Hey!

(clap)



64 **N** body percussion,
repeat and improvise ad lib

64 **O** *f*

(clap)

(stamp)

8 (clap on cheeks)

(snap / tongue clicks ad lib)

Mah mah mah mah mah mah

Mah mah mah mah mah mah

(stamp and sing a flattering "llll ...")

70

rit. *slow and expressive*

Ah. ah. And the

And the

8 mah mah mah mah mah mah mah mah. Ah. And the

mah mah mah mah mah mah mah mah. Ah. And the



75 *rit.* D.S. *al* $\text{♩} - \text{♩}$ Fine

mf

spir-it of rhy - thm changed peo - ple's mu - sic and lives! Mu - sic and lives! lives!

spir-it of rhy - thm changed peo - ple's mu - sic and lives! Mu - sic and _____ With _____ lives! _____

spir-it of rhy - thm changed peo - ple's mu - sic and lives! Mu - sic and _____ lives!

spir-it of rhy - thm changed peo - ple's mu - sic and lives! _____ and lives! _____ lives!

• Lyrics: In a Native American legend it is said that the Creator gave to all the spirits a place to dwell, to dwell, to dwell in the inhabitants of Mother Earth. Then, suddenly, there came a sound, a loud bom bom, bom, a loud bom bom bom. The sound came closer, came closer and closer, and!

The Creator said: "Who are you? What can you do for you?"

"Listen, I am the spirit of rhythm, the spirit of rhythm. Dear Creator, let me accompany the singing people."

The Creator agreed! "Be in the heart of songs, deep in the heart of singing people. Give them rhythm! Like the heartbeat of the Earth, like the breath of mankind's birth, like the rhythm of night and day, like the footsteps on their way, every day, hey!"

Ah! And the spirit of rhythm changed people's music and lives, music and lives. With rhythm, rhythm. Like the heartbeat of the Earth, like the breath of mankind's birth, like the rhythm of night and day, like the footsteps on their way, on their way, every day, hey! Ah! And the spirit of rhythm changed people's music and lives, music and lives.

• „Abenaki“ bedeutet so viel wie „Lied der ersten Leber“ oder „Lied des Sonnenaufgangs“.

Lorenz Maierhofer,



Lorenz Maierhofer

born in 1936, is a leading European choral composer, choral expert and author and editor of several choral books and series. Total sales of his works, published by Helbling, amount to several million copies.

A distinguishing characteristic of Lorenz Maierhofer's music is the great diversity of his styles, ranging from contemporary and classical forms of expression to pop, jazz, gospel and ethno. The breadth of his compositional oeuvre ranges from the oratorio to the mass and from the scenic musical collage to hymn-like sacred songs and secular lieder.

His numerous publications, recordings and international performances are proof of the creativity of his musical work.

On the international stage, he is active as a lecturer, juror and conductor of large scale "women singing" events.

Further information: www.maierhofer.cc

Publications: www.helblingchoral.com