

# how wonderful and unexpected

a setting of a poem by robertson fox

for soprano and alto voices in three combinations

james humberstone 2004

Slowly (for example, ♩ = c.50)

Each part divides into two, making 4 parts

Sopranos

Altos

*pp*

Mm Mm Mm Ah Ah Ah that

Mm Mm Mm Ah Ah Ah that

9

S. *(pp)* *mp* *pp* , *poco*

S. *(pp)* *mp* *pp* , *poco*

A. *(pp)* *mp* *pp* , *poco*

A. *(pp)* *mp* *pp* , *poco*

war had end - ed then how won - der - ful and

war had end - ed then how won - der - ful and

war had end - ed then how won - der - ful and

war had end - ed then how won - der - ful and

15

S. *mp* *pp* ' *sempre p* *pp*

S. *mp* *pp* ' *sempre p* *pp*

A. *mp* *pp* ' *sempre p* *pp*

A. *mp* *pp* ' *sempre p* *pp*

un - ex - pect - ed were ra - dio\* waves from deep - est space Mm

un were ra - dio\* waves from deep Mm

un were ra - dio\* waves from deep Mm

un were ra - dio\* waves from deep Mm

to 2 parts

\* one syllable

Divide into 3  
even parts

21

S. *Mm Mm Ah Ah Ah*

A. *Mm Mm Ah Ah Ah*

29

1. *f* for - give them God for they have dug a shal - low dish *ff*

2. *f* for - give them God for they have dug *ff*

3. *f* for they have dug a shal - low dish *ff*

34

1. *f* up - on the sands of Do - - ver Heights

2. *f* up - on the sands of Do - - ver Heights

3. *f* the sands of Do - ver Heights

38

To S and A  
(two parts)

1. *ff* near the mul - ti el - e - ment an - ten - nae for - *mf* *f* *ff* *sub. p*

2. *ff* near the mul - ti Ya - gi for - *f* *ff* *sub. p*

3. *ff* near mul - ti mul - ti Ya - gi *f* *ff*

5  
Each part divides into  
two, making 4 parts

43 (p) , (pp)

S. give for - give them God \_\_\_\_\_ for - give for - give them God \_\_\_\_\_ Oh

A. give for - give them God \_\_\_\_\_ for - give for - give them God \_\_\_\_\_ Oh

51 mf , pp mf p , <

S. God we would not build \_\_\_\_\_ new Ba - bel Ba - bel Tow - ers \_\_\_\_\_ but

S. God we would not build \_\_\_\_\_ new Ba - bel Ba - bel Tow - ers but

A. God we would not build \_\_\_\_\_ new Ba - bel Ba - bel Tow - ers but

A. God we would not build \_\_\_\_\_ new Ba - bel Ba - bel Tow - ers but

To S and A  
(two parts)

59 mf > mp f , p , mp , pp

S. long for you for you \_\_\_\_\_ at Mec - ca and Je - ru - sa - lem \_\_\_\_\_ Se

S. long for you for you \_\_\_\_\_ at Mec - ca and Je - ru(oo) \_\_\_\_\_ Se

A. long for you for you \_\_\_\_\_ at Mec - ca and Je - ru(oo) \_\_\_\_\_ Se

A. long for you for you \_\_\_\_\_ at Mec - ca and Je - ru(oo) \_\_\_\_\_ Se

Solo soprano (optional)

*mp* *mf* *mp* *mf*

Se - lah Se lah Se lah Se lah

Divide into 3 even parts

S. Se Se Se - lah Se - lah Se - lah

A. Se Se Se - lah Se - lah Se - lah

75 *f* *mp* *mf*

1. yet how beau - ti - ful is Voy - 'ger One a quar-ter

2. how beau-ti - ful is Voy - 'ger One a quar-ter

3. yet beau-ti - ful Voy - 'ger One

81 *f* *ff*

1. cen - tu - ry in - to the pla - net - a - ry void

2. cen - tu - ry in - to the pla - net - a - ry void

3. the void the void to the pla - net - a - ry void

to four parts, SSAA

86 *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

1. bra-ving the term in - a - tion shock at the

2. bra-ving the shock bra - ving the shock at the

3. bra-ving the term - in - a - tion shock