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GREG BARTHOLOMEW

INVITATION TO LOVE

a setting for unaccompanied mixed choir (SATB)
of the poem by Paul Laurence Dunbar
with piano reduction for rehearsal only



BURKE & BAGLEY

Duration: ca. 3'15"

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*Come when the nights are bright with stars
Or come when the moon is mellow;
Come when the sun his golden bars
Drops on the hay-field yellow.
Come in the twilight soft and gray,
Come in the night or come in the day,
Come, O love, where'er you may,
And you are welcome, welcome.*

*You are sweet, O Love, dear Love,
You are soft as the nesting dove.
Come to my heart and bring it to rest
As the bird flies home to its welcome nest.*

*Come when my heart is full of grief
Or when my heart is merry;
Come with the falling of the leaf
Or with the redd'ning cherry.
Come when the year's first blossom blows,
Come when the summer gleams and glows,
Come with the winter's drifting snows,
And you are welcome, welcome.*

Paul Laurence Dunbar (1872 – 1906) was born in Dayton, Ohio, and published his first poems at age 16. He gained fame as a poet, novelist and playwright, and wrote the lyrics for the musical comedy *In Dahomey* (1903), the first all-African-American musical produced on Broadway.

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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Invitation to Love

Paul Laurence Dunbar (1872 - 1906)

Greg Bartholomew (b. 1957)

Relaxed and freely ♩. = 48

Musical score for the first system of "Invitation to Love". It features four vocal parts: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass, and a Piano accompaniment. The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 6/8. The tempo is "Relaxed and freely" with a quarter note equal to 48 beats. The dynamic marking is *mp* (mezzo-piano). The Soprano part begins with a rest followed by a melodic line starting on a whole note. The Alto, Tenor, and Bass parts have similar rhythmic patterns. The Piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines in both hands.

A

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Musical score for the second system of "Invitation to Love", starting at measure 5. It features vocal parts for Soprano and Alto, and a Piano accompaniment. The dynamic marking is *mf* (mezzo-forte). The lyrics are: "Come when the nights are bright with stars Or come when the moon is mel-low." The Soprano and Alto parts have identical lyrics. The Piano accompaniment continues with a similar rhythmic pattern to the first system.

Invitation to Love

9

Musical score for measures 9-12. The score is in 8/8 time and B-flat major. It features a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Come when the sun his golden bars Drops on the hay - field yel - low." The piano part consists of chords and moving lines in both hands.

13

Musical score for measures 13-16. The score is in 8/8 time and B-flat major. It features a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Come when the nights are bright, O, Come when the nights are bright with stars." The piano part consists of chords and moving lines in both hands.

Invitation to Love

B

17

Come in the twi - ight soft and gray, Come in the night or come in the day,
Come in the twi - ight soft and gray, Come in the night or come in the day,
Come in the twi - ight soft and gray, Come in the night or come in the day,
Come in the twi - ight soft and gray, Come in the night or come in the day,

21

Come, O love, when - e'er you may, And you are wel - come, wel - come.
Come, O love, when - e'er you may, And you are wel - come, wel - come.
Come, O love, when - e'er you may, And you are wel - come, wel - come.
Come, O love, when - e'er you may, And you are wel - come, wel - come.

Invitation to Love

25

Come when the nights are bright, Oh, Come when the nights are bright with stars.

Come when the nights are bright, Oh, Come when the nights are bright with stars.

Come when the nights are bright with stars.

Come when the nights are bright with stars.

29

C

You are sweet, O Love, dear Love, You are soft as the nest - ing dove.

You are sweet, O Love, dear Love, You are soft as the nest - ing dove.

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33

You are soft as the nest - ing dove.

You are soft as the nest - ing dove.

D

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35

f Come to my heart and bring it to rest *mf* As the bird flies home to its wel - come nest.

f Come to my heart and bring it to rest *mf* As the bird flies home to its wel - come nest.

Invitation to Love

39

mp
You are sweet, O Love, dear Love.

mp
You are sweet, O Love, dear Love.

mp
You are sweet, O Love, dear Love.

mp
You are sweet, O Love, dear Love.

43

E

mf

Come when my heart is full of grief Or when my heart is mer - ry.

mf
Come when my heart is ful of grief Or when my heart is mer - ry.

Invitation to Love

47

Musical score for measures 47-50. It features a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Come with the fall - ing of the leaf Or with the redd' - ning cher - ry." The piano part consists of chords and moving lines in both hands. Dynamics include *mp* and *mf*.

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51

Musical score for measures 51-54. It features a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Come with the fall - ing of the leaf Or with the redd' - ning cher - ry." The piano part consists of chords and moving lines in both hands. Dynamics include *mp* and *mf*.

Invitation to Love

55

F

Musical score for measures 55-58. The score is in F major and 4/4 time. It features three vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, Bass) and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Come when the year's first blossom blows, Come when the summer gleams and glows, Come when the year's first blossom blows, Come when the summer gleams and glows, Come when the year's first blossom blows, Come when the summer gleams and glows." Dynamics include *p* and *mp*. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines in both hands.

59

Musical score for measures 59-62. The score is in F major and 4/4 time. It features three vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, Bass) and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Come with the winter's drifting snows, And you are welcome, welcome. Come with the winter's drifting snows, And you are welcome, welcome." Dynamics include *mf*. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines in both hands.

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63

Come with the win-ter's drift - ing snows, and you are wel- come, wel - come.

Come with the win-ter's drift - ing snows, and you are wel- come, wel - come.

Come with the win - ter's drift - ing snows, and you are wel - come.

Come with the win - ter's drift - ing snows, and you are wel - come.

Piano accompaniment for measures 63-66.

67

f Come with the win - ter's drift - ing snows,

mf And you are wel - come, wel - come.

f Come with the win - ter's drift - ing snows,

mf And you are wel - come, wel - come.

Piano accompaniment for measures 67-70.

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71 *f* *rit.* *mf*

Come with the win - ter's drift - ing snows. Wel - come.

mp *mf*

Come with the snows, and you are wel - come.

f *mp* *mf*

Come with the snows, and you are wel - come.

f *mp* *mf*

Come with the snows, and you are wel - come.

The musical score consists of five systems. The first system shows the vocal line starting with a forte (f) dynamic and a ritardando (rit.) marking. The lyrics are 'Come with the win - ter's drift - ing snows. Wel - come.' The second system shows the vocal line with a mezzo-piano (mp) dynamic, followed by a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic. The lyrics are 'Come with the snows, and you are wel - come.' The third system shows the vocal line with a forte (f) dynamic, followed by mezzo-piano (mp) and mezzo-forte (mf) dynamics. The lyrics are 'Come with the snows, and you are wel - come.' The fourth system shows the vocal line with a forte (f) dynamic, followed by mezzo-piano (mp) and mezzo-forte (mf) dynamics. The lyrics are 'Come with the snows, and you are wel - come.' The fifth system shows the piano accompaniment, which includes both the right and left hands.