The Vocalize! Canon Collection

55 Rounds for Choral and Classroom Singing

Compiled and Arranged by Andy Beck

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Introduction

Canon singing is one of the most effective and enjoyable ways to build musicianship at any age. Layering the tuneful melodies at staggered entrances not only encourages musical independence and develops aural skills, but it also offers the opportunity to introduce or reinforce healthy vocal habits. The rounds in this book span the centuries and represent many world cultures. Some appear exactly as you remember them, while others have been edited for accessibility. All include optional accompaniments, numbered entrance points, helpful reminders about technique, and a list of correlated warm-ups from Alfred's *Vocalize! 45 Accompanied Exercises that Teach Technique*. The varied melodies and creative accompaniments presented in this collection are meant to inspire canon singing in music classes, choral rehearsals, and performances throughout the year.

About the Accompaniments

Canons sing beautifully a cappella, so accompaniments are optional.

Notated piano parts offer brief introductions (which can double as interludes), supportive accompaniments (designed to be repeated as needed, depending on the number of entrances desired), and final endings (to be played after the last notes are sung).

Recorded accompaniments are included on the enclosed CD. They are arranged in the following musical form: introduction, unison (once through), interlude, two-part canon (once through), interlude, three-part canon (once through), etc. For canons in more parts than desired, simply fade or stop the recording when you are done.

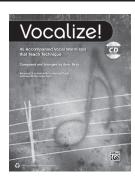
About the Author



Andy Beck received a bachelor's degree in Music Education from Ithaca College and a master's degree in Music Education from Northwest Missouri State University. Following his nine-year appointment as Vocal Music Director at Johnson City High School in New York State, Andy joined the editorial team of Alfred Music where he serves as Director of Choral Publications.

A successful composer and arranger, he has authored several top-selling chorals and children's musicals for Alfred, as well as co-written the highly regarded method book *Sing at First Sight, Foundations in Choral Sight-Singing*. Andy is in demand as a guest conductor and clinician for music educators and students throughout the country.

Recommended Companion Book



Vocalize

45 Accompanied Vocal Warm-Ups that Teach Technique Composed and Arranged by Andy Beck Book(00-40024)

Each exercise in this invaluable resource is designed to reinforce fundamental vocal concepts for choral and solo singers of any age. Organized in 11 focused categories, the purpose of every warm-up is evident, and clearly stated directions optimize growth. Supportive piano accompaniments, including progressive modulations, are lightly orchestrated on the enclosed recording—perfect for ensemble rehearsals, studio lessons, or at-home practice. As an added bonus, PDF files on the enhanced CD provide extracted vocal lines on Reproducible Singer Pages. An instructional book you will use again and again! Topics include: beginning warm-ups, posture, vowels, breath support, tone quality, diction, dynamics, articulations, diphthongs, blend, scales, intervals, harmony, and more.

Ah, Poor Bird





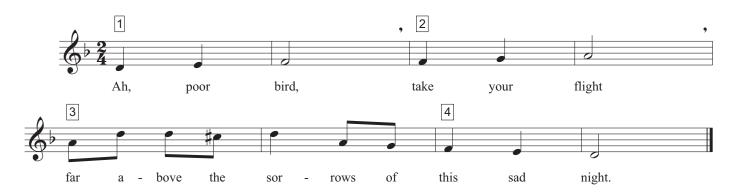
Pair with the following Vocalize! exercises:

Breath Support Resist Caving In Never Louder Than Lovely

Experiment with phrase lengths. Start with two-bar phrases, then try four, and eventually challenge yourself to sing the entire melody in one breath. Don't allow the air to escape too soon. Instead, resist caving in to improve breath capacity.

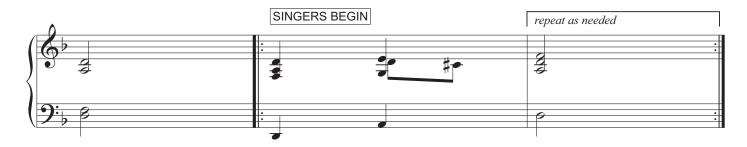
Hint: Sing softly to conserve air.

Deuteromelia, 1609



Accompaniment







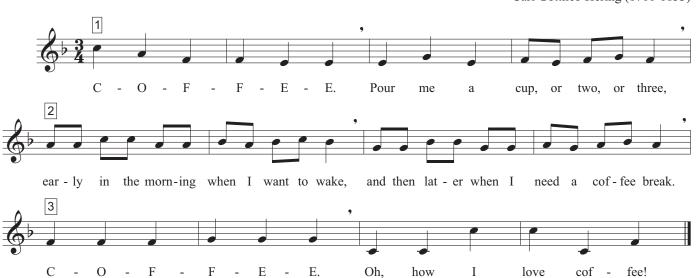


Pair with the following Vocalize! exercises:

Warming Up Our Voices Music in the Morning Zing-a Zing-a Zah

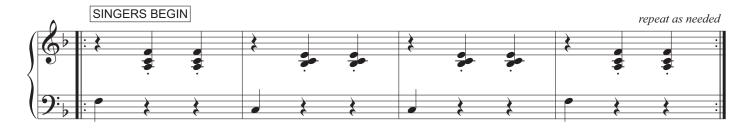
Wake up! It's time to sing! Bright eyes and expressive faces are required. Performing with emotion adds so much. For fun, experiment with different moods each time you sing this playful round.

Carl Gottlieb Hering (1766-1853)











How to Join the Choir



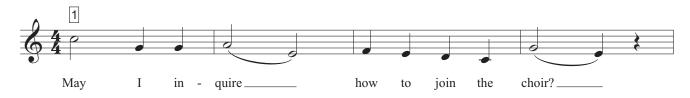


Pair with the following *Vocalize!* exercises:

Do Is Like a Rock One, Five, Four, Five Zing-a Zing-a Zah

Try this round as a sight-singing exercise. The second half perfectly outlines a major scale, while the beginning includes some commonly used intervals. Practice with solfège syllables (or numbers) to drill diatonic 2nds, 3rds, 4ths, and 5ths. Note the contrary motion when sung in canon.

Traditional Canon Words by Andy Beck





Accompaniment



