

HEARTSONGS

FOREWORD

“Heartsongs” is a song cycle inspired by the life and words of the amazing young poet, Mattie J.T. Stepanek. (See biography on page 3.) Through his poetry and personal appearances, Mattie impacted the world with an authenticity of spirit rarely seen.

There are eight choral songs in the cycle, and they represent some of the important elements of Mattie’s writing. Six of the movements are based on actual poems written by Mattie. Two of the movements are my personal “Heartsongs,” with original texts that connect to specific aspects of Mattie’s message. In his first book Mattie left blank pages for people to write their own “Heartsongs.” These songs may be sung as a complete cycle or may be performed individually. An optional narration is also included.

In between the songs you can read Mattie’s poems as he wrote them. Simple, and yet profound in their insights, these lines are treasured testimonies of the human spirit, and gentle admonitions for us to listen and learn.

It is essential to have young voices sing this music. It is their “Heartsongs” that can truly change the world and bring Mattie’s dreams for a better world to glorious reality.

JOSEPH M. MARTIN

HEARTSONG

Words based on the poem
"Heartsong" by
MATTIE J.T. STEPANEK

March, 1996

in "Journey Through Heartsongs" (Hyperion, 2002)

Music by
JOSEPH M. MARTIN (BMI)

1 33 Joyfully (♩. = ca. 60-63)

ACCOMP. *mf*

PART I *mf*

PART II *mf*

I have a song that's deep in my heart.

I have a song that's deep in my heart.

It's my own spe - cial song. I close my eyes and

It's my own spe - cial song. I close my eyes and

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11
sit ver - y still. The mu - sic comes clear — and strong.

12
sit ver - y still. The mu - sic comes clear — and strong.

14
I have a song that's liv - ing in me,

15
I have a song liv - ing in

15

17
more than words and a tune. It's a song with such

18
me, more than words and a tune. — such

17

BUTTERFLY SUMMER

29

Words based on the poem
"Butterfly Summer" by
MATTIE J.T. STEPANEK
August, 1998
in "Celebrate Through Heartsongs" (Hyperion, 2002)

Music by
JOSEPH M. MARTIN (BMI)

9 41 Quickly, with joy ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 126$)

ACCOMP.

4 PART I 5 *mf*
This was a sum - mer, _____ a

PART II *mf*
This was a sum - mer, _____

7 *mf* 5
but-ter-fly sum - mer, _____ This was a sum - mer, _____

_____ O this was a sea - son to fly, _____ a

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10

— a rea-son to look to the sky. O

won-der-ful time, a rea-son to look to the sky.

13

this was a sum - mer, a

This was a sum - mer,

13

15

but - ter - fly sum - mer, a

O beau - ti - ful but - ter - fly, a

15

SONGS OF THE WIND

Words based on the poem
"Songs of the Wind" by
MATTIE J.T. STEPANEK

July, 1998

in "Hope Through Heartsongs" (Hyperion, 2002)

Words and music by
JOSEPH M. MARTIN (BMI)

13 45 Gently rhythmic ($\downarrow = \text{ca. } 132$)

ACCOMP. *mp*

7 PART I 9 *mf*

Lis - ten to the wind, lis -

7 PART II 9

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