

Nico Muhly

**A SONG OF EPHREM
THE SYRIAN**

for Tr SATB choir unaccompanied

Chester Music

Commissioned by the Reed Foundation for the Choirs of Merton College, Oxford.

First performed by the Choirs of Merton College, Oxford, directed by Benjamin Nicholas, on 19th January 2020.

Duration: c. 4 ½ minutes

A Song of Ephrem the Syrian

Behold: Fire and Spirit in the womb that bore you;
Behold: Fire and Spirit in the river where you were baptized.
Fire and Spirit in our baptism;
In the Bread and the Cup, Fire and Holy Spirit.
In your Bread is hidden a Spirit not to be eaten,
In your Wine dwells a Fire not to be drunk.
Spirit in your Bread, Fire in your Wine,
A wonder set apart, yet received by our lips.

Saint Ephrem

for Benjamin Nicholas and the choir of Merton College, Oxford
A SONG OF EPHREM THE SYRIAN

SAINT EPHREM
 (c. 306 - 373)

Nico Muhly
 (2019)

$\text{♩} = 48$

Trebles
 Be - hold: Fire

Soprano
 Be - hold: Fire and Spir - it in the womb that bore you: Be - hold:

Alto
 Be - hold: Fire and Spir - it in the womb that bore you: Be - hold:

Tenor
 Be - hold: Fire and Spir - it in the womb that bore you: Be - hold:

Bass
 Be - hold: Fire and Spir - it in the womb that bore you: Be - hold:

6

Tr.
 and Spir - it in the womb that bore you: Fire and Spir - it

S
 Fire and Spir - it in the womb that bore you: Be - hold: Fire and Spir - it

A
 Fire and Spir - it in the womb that bore you: Be - hold: Fire and Spir - it

T
 Fire and Spir - it in the womb that bore you: Be - hold: Fire and Spir - it

B
 Fire and Spir - it in the womb that bore you: Be - hold: Fire and Spir - it