

KUSIMAMA

WORDS AND MUSIC BY
JIM PAPOULIS

Sounds
— OF A —
BETTER
WORLD

BOOSEY & HAWKES

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PERFORMANCE NOTES

The text of "Kusimama" is in Swahili and English. It is written in the World music style that is accessible for choirs, both young and old, who are just beginning to be exposed to world rhythms and language—a sort of introduction to new languages, syllables, body percussion, and style. The text is about standing tall on the earth, not with anger or aggression, but with hope, strength, acceptance, and positivity.

Children are smaller so they stand closer to the earth.

The stomps and claps should be performed with strength, and could be accompanied by a "down-down-up" body movement—the "down" movement with the stomps, with feet alternating, and an "up" movement with the claps. When the spoken part is introduced at measure 46, it should be spoken with strength and vigor, each voice speaking with more and more strength to express the meaning of the words.

TEXT, TRANSLATION AND PRONUNCIATION

kusimama (stand tall)

koo-see-mah-mah

mimi kusimama (I stand tall)

mee-mee koo-see-mah-mah

na upendo (with love)

nah yoo-pen-doh

na tamaini (with hope)

nah tah-mai-nee

watoto ni karibu dunia (children are closer to the earth)

wa-toh-toh nee kah-ree-boo doo-nee-yah

DURATION

Ca. 3 minutes

Also Available for two-part treble (48021188) & SATB (48021235)

Jim Papoulis has a distinctive musical style that combines contemporary sounds with musical traditions from around the globe. Traveling worldwide, Jim works with international artists and ensembles in order to explore and create a sound for a global community. This multi-cultural sound has become the cornerstone for his works for choirs, orchestras, and ensembles.

Everywhere Jim travels, he actively immerses himself in the local music, instruments, and culture, gaining the ability to incorporate these diverse elements gracefully into his work. His choral compositions often seem to reflect the personal, inner perspectives of those who sing them, enabling his music to create a bridge of honest feeling and inspiration between singer and listener.

MP3's of individual parts can be found at:

www.foundationforsmallvoices.org or e-mail smallvoices@gmail.com

KUSIMAMA

(Stand Tall)

for SSA, Percussion* and Piano

Words & Music by
Jim Papoulis

Moderato ♩ = ca. 112

Descant

Soprano I

Soprano II

Alto

Piano

mp

ku - si - ma - ma

mp

ku - si - ma - ma

mp

ku - si - ma - ma

Moderato ♩ = ca. 112

mp

* Percussion part for Djembe and Shaker can be found on pages 14-15.