

Here We Stand

SSAA, piano

in memoriam Anne Saunier

Lyrics and music by Sheena Phillips

Commissioned anonymously

This piece is dedicated to Anne Marshall Saunier (1946 – 2013), a woman who inspired all who knew her with her humor, her dynamism, her commitment to the cause of women's rights, her political savvy and administrative skills, her friendship and generosity, and her great personal courage in the face of illness. The themes of love, fear, and the saving power of a passion for work are drawn from a conversation that I had with her a few weeks before she died. My hope is that the piece will serve as a voice for any women's chorus standing up to be counted on the big issues of our own day, whether gay marriage, access to abortion, or other important rights or freedoms.

Anne loved jazz so this is a jazzy number. Anne was a big woman, so swing it strong!

A word about whirligigs: Anne sang in the Columbus Women's Chorus, of which she was also President for a short time before her diagnosis with ovarian cancer. One of the songs that we did in the Fall of 2008 was *Honor the Earth as Your Mother*, a great piece by Australian composer Sarah Hopkins, and it called for the use of whirligigs, basically hollow corrugated plastic tubes that produce a wacky series of overtones when you whirl them about your head. Anne, as you can imagine, immediately volunteered to be one of the whirligiggers at the concert.

The piece ends with an *a cappella* section. Please bring the audience in with finger snaps or handclaps and the very simple repeating phrase introduced in bar 62. Anne loved participatory music.

Duration c. 4:00

Perusal score - not for rehearsal or performance

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Here We Stand

Love
Burns bright.
It sparkles
And fires us up.
Here we stand.
Feel the
Glow!

Life
Calls us.
We struggle,
We take a stand.
We stand for
Rights, for
Change.

Love
Brings us
Together.
Together we
Can be our
Very
Best.

Fear
Cheats us.
Time and fate
Can steal our dreams.
But while we
Breathe we
Sing.

Love
Feeds us.
“Here’s what we
Stand for,” we say.
“Stand for love,
And speak
Out.”

Journey in love.
Feel the fear but journey in love.
Feel the fear but let love be your guide.
Love conquers fear; it brings us together.

Here We Stand

commissioned in memoriam Anne Saunier

Sheena Phillips

♩ = 96 with a strong swing

Soprano 1
Soprano 2
Alto 1
Alto 2
Piano
Pno.

mp
1. Love burns bright.

mf
It spark-les and fires us up.

mp dolce
Here we stand. Feel

mf
It spark-les and fires us up.

mp dolce
Here we stand. Feel

mf
It spark-les and fires us up.

mp dolce
Here we stand. Feel

mf
It spark-les and fires us up.

mp dolce
Here we stand. Feel

Here We Stand

whirligigs on D F A

9

mf

the glow, Feel the glow!

Pno.

mf

f

14

mf

f

2. Life calls us. We strug-ple, we

mf

f

2. Life calls us. We strug-ple, we

mf

f

2. Life calls us. We strug-ple, we

mf

f

2. Life calls us. We strug-ple, we

Pno.

mf

f

3

3

19

take a stand. We stand for rights, for change, For rights, for change, For

take a stand. We stand for rights, for change, For rights, for change, For

take a stand. We stand for rights, for change, For rights, for change, For

take a stand. We stand for rights, for change, For rights, for change, For

Pno.

whirligigs on D F G A

23

rights, for change.

rights, for change.

rights, for change.

rights, for change.

Pno.

Here We Stand

28 *mf*
 Love brings us to - geth - er. To -
mf
 Love brings us to - geth - er. To -
mf
 Love brings us to - geth - er. To -
mf
 Love brings us to - geth - er. To -

Pno. *mf*

31
 geth-er we can be our ve - ry best. To - geth - er we can be our
 geth-er we can be our ve - ry best. To - geth - er we can be our
 geth-er we can be our ve - ry best. To - geth - er we can be our
 geth-er we can be our ve - ry best. To - geth - er we can be our

Pno. *f*

whirligigs on B D F

35

ve-ry best, our ve-ry best.

Pno.

p

39

p

Fear cheats us.

Fear cheats us.

Fear cheats us.

Fear cheats us.

Pno.

Here We Stand

6

43

mf

f

Time and fate can steal our dreams. But while we breathe, we

mf

f

Time and fate can steal our dreams. But while we breathe, we

mf

f

Time and fate can steal our dreams. But while we breathe, we

mf

f

Time and fate can steal our dreams. But while we breathe, we

43

mf

f

Pno.

46

mf

sing. We stand and sing, We sing and stand.

mf

sing. We stand and sing, We sing and stand.

mf

sing. We stand and sing, We sing and stand.

mf

sing. We stand and sing, We sing and stand.

46

mf

Pno.

any and all whirligigs

Four empty musical staves for vocalists, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat).

Pno.

50 *pesante* *f*

Piano accompaniment for measures 50-53. The right hand features chords and a glissando from the top note in measure 53. The left hand has a steady eighth-note accompaniment.

54 *f*

Love feeds us. "Here's what we stand for!" we say: "Stand for

Love feeds us. "Here's what we stand for!" we say: "Stand for

Love feeds us. "Here's what we stand for!" we say: "Stand for

Love feeds us. "Here's what we stand for!" we say: "Stand for

Vocal staves with lyrics and piano accompaniment for measures 54-57. The vocal parts are in a homophonic setting. The piano accompaniment includes triplets in the right hand.

Pno.

54

Piano accompaniment for measures 54-57, continuing from the previous system. It features triplets in both hands.

Here We Stand

8

58



love! Stand for love, And speak out, And speak out."

love! Stand for love, And speak out, And speak out."

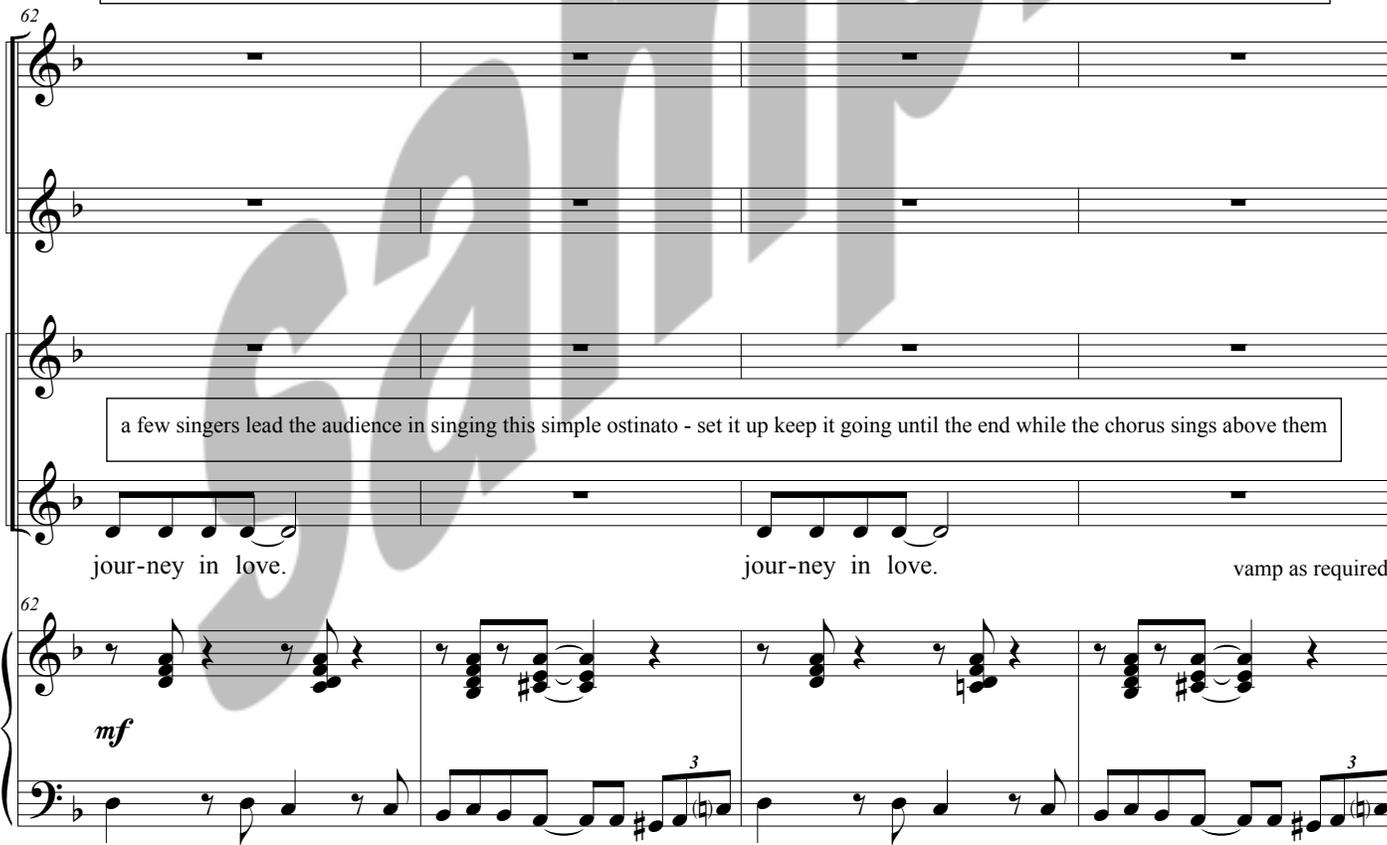
love! Stand for love, And speak out, And speak out."

love! Stand for love, And speak out, And speak out."

Pno.

a final burst of whirligigs and, at the same time, set up finger snaps (with audience) on beats 2 and 4. See below for audience vocals.

62



jour-ney in love. jour-ney in love. vamp as required...

Pno.

a few singers lead the audience in singing this simple ostinato - set it up keep it going until the end while the chorus sings above them

A little faster ad lib

in this a cappella section - start softly and build; S2 entry should be *mf*; S1 entry should be *f*

(sing about 8 repeats in total)

S1s enter here on 6th repeat

66

Love con - quers fear; it brings us to - geth - er.
 love be your guide. Feel the fear but may
 start here - A1s singing on their own
 Feel the fear but jour-ney in love, in love.
 A2s enter here on 4th repeat
 jour-ney in love. Feel the fear, but

Pno.

end finger snaps

optional final burst of whirligigs

70

Love!
 love!
 Love!
 jour - ney in love!

Pno.