

The Community Choir Sings Opera



**Opera Choruses and Arias arranged
for
Community Choirs**

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**Arranged and Edited by
Duncan Brown**

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In compiling this selection of opera choruses and arias, I have chosen the ones that my SAB choirs most enjoyed singing and found most approachable, i.e. those with lots of unison singing as in Nessun Dorma and the Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves and with simple harmonies as in La Donna e Mobile. Some parts require preparation, most obviously in the alto parts, and in sections such as letter B in the Toreador's song but none of my singers found this too challenging since most of the repertoire in the book is familiar. The last two Offenbach choruses, The Gendarmes' Duet and the Barcarolle are respectively for the basses and the upper voices, allowing them to shine. The final song, Funiculi Funicula is not from opera, but a famous Neapolitan song. It is, though, sufficiently opera like and so enjoyable to sing as an encore that I included it.

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Published by: Duncan Brown

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1. Sweet Scented Oranges

Mascagni

Gli aranci olezzano from Cavalliera Rusticana

SOPRANO

$\text{J}=144$

Soprano, Alto, Bass, and Piano parts. The vocal parts enter at measure 144. The piano part consists of eighth-note chords.

Soprano lyrics: Sweet scen ted or - an ges per fume the morn ing air,

Alto lyrics: Sweet scen ted or - an ges per fume the morn ing air,

Bass lyrics: Sweet scen ted or - an ges per fume the morn ing air,

ALTO

Sweet scen ted or - an ges per fume the morn ing air,

BASS

Sweet scen ted or - an ges per fume the morn ing air,

pp

SAMPLE

Soprano, Alto, Bass, and Piano parts. The vocal parts enter at measure 9. The piano part consists of eighth-note chords.

Soprano lyrics: while larks are sing ing their song midst the flo - w'rs

Alto lyrics: while larks are sing ing their song midst the flo - w'rs

Bass lyrics: while larks are sing ing their song midst the flo³ - w'rs

17

S. Sweet scen ted or - an ges per fume the morn ing air, while larks are sing ing their song midst the flo -

A. Sweet scen ted or - an ges per fume the morn ing air, while larks are sing ing their song midst the flo -

B. Sweet scen ted or - an ges per fume the morn ing air, while larks are sing ing their song midst the flo -

25

S. w'rs Morn - ing is brea - king,

A. w'rs Morn - ing is brea - king,

B. w'rs Morn - ing is brea - king,

31

S. All lo - vers wa - king Sing this ten - der song, _____

A. All lo - vers wa - wa - king Sing this ten - der song, _____

B. All lo - vers wa - king Sing this ten - der song, _____

35

S. Fill - ing their hearts with joy.

A. Fill - ing their hearts with joy.

B. Fill - ing their hearts with joy.

41

S. Lay all your la-bours be - fore you, the bless - ed Vir gin Ma -

A. Lay all your la-bours be - fore you, the bless - ed Vir gin Ma -

B. Lay all your la-bours be - fore you, the bless - ed Vir gin Ma -

48

S. ry re - joi - ces in our sal - va - tion

A. ry re - joi - ces in our sal - va - tion

B. ry re - joi - ces in our sal - va - tion

55

S. Morn - ing is brea - king, All lo - vers

A. Morn - ing is brea - king, All lo - vers

B. Morn - ing is brea - king, All lo - vers

S. wa - king Sing this ten - der song, _____

A. wa - wa - king Sing this ten - der song, _____

B. wa - king Sing this ten - der song, _____

60

Slower **A Tempo** **Poco Meno** **Lontano (from afar)**

S. Fill-ing their hearts with joy. Ah!

A. Fill-ing their hearts with joy. Ah!

B. Fill-ing their hearts with joy. Ah!

63

67

S. Dim.

A. Dim.

B. Ah!

Ah!

Ah!

Ah!

Dim.

S.

A.

B.

Piano

2. La Donna e Mobile

Rigoletto

Verdi

1 *d.=62*

S.

Moon light and me - lo dy, Blen ding so plea sant ly, Sweet are your charms to me
Here where I idl - y float, Rock'd in my gen - tle boat As I in - tent - ly dote,

A.

Moon light and me - lo dy, Blen ding so plea sant ly, Sweet are your charms to me
Here where I idl - y float, Rock'd in my gen - tle boat As I in - tent - ly dote,

B.

Moon light and me - lo dy, Blen ding so plea sant ly, Sweet are your charms to me
Here where I idl - y float, Rock'd in my gen - tle boat As I in - tent - ly dote,

17

S.

Borne o'er the sil - ver sea, Clear in the star - ry sky, Soft bree - zes sigh ing,
On each en - chan ted note, I am being led a stray By some en - tic - ing strain,

A.

Borne o'er the sil - ver sea, Clear in the star - ry sky, Soft bree - zes sigh ing,
On each en - chan ted note, I am being led a stray By some en - tic - ing strain,

B.

Borne o'er the sil - ver sea, Clear in the star - ry sky, Soft bree - zes sigh ing,
On each en - chan ted note, I am being led a stray By some en - tic - ing strain,

23 ***pp***

S. While faint - est ech oes die, Mu - sic drifts fain tly by Morn has its light - ness,
From ca - verns far a way, Ne'er heard in glare of day

A. While faint - est ech oes die, Mu - sic drifts fain tly by Morn has its light - ness,
From ca - verns far a way, Ne'er heard in glare of day

B. While faint - est ech oes die, Mu - sic drifts fain tly by Morn has its light - ness,
From ca - verns far a way, Ne'er heard in glare of day

mf

29

S. Noon tide its bright - ness, To - night be - longs To moon _ light and song

A. Noon tide its bright - ness, To -night be - longs To moon - light and song

B. Noon tide its bright - ness, To -night be - longs To moon - light and song

f

35

S. moon — light and song Ah! **p**

A. moon - light and song Ah!

B. moon - light and song Ah!

SAMPLE

40

S. To Moon light_ and _ song! **f**

A. To moon - light and song! **f**

B. To moon - light and song!

SAMPLE

3. Nessun Dorma

Turandot

Puccini

1 =69

SOPRANO

ALTO

BASS

None shall sleep now
Not even you O

None shall sleep now
Not even you O

None shall sleep now
Not even you O

S. princ - ess watch ing the stars a - bove you Trem - bling and hope - ful a- lone with in your

A. princ - ess watch ing the stars a - bove you Trem - bling and hope - ful a- lone with in your

B. princ - ess watch ³ing the stars a - bove you Trem - bling and hope - ful a- lone with in your

S. cha - mber know ing how I love you No one shall sleep be fore the dawn,

A. cha - mber know ing how I love you No one shall sleep be fore the dawn,

B. cha - mber know ing how I love you No one shall sleep be fore the dawn,

rit.....

12

S. No - one shall speak or hear my name, No no 'til on thy heart I con

A. No - one shall speak or hear my name, No no 'til on thy heart I con

B. No - one shall speak or hear my name, No no No one shall sleep be - fore the

15

S. fess, As soon as mor - ing light shall dawn

A. fess, As soon as mor - ing light shall dawn

B. dawn, no one shall speak or hear my name 'til I con fess when light shall dawn

18

S. - y n d
Prin cess then shall my kis-ses break
the si - lence___ that makes thee

A. - Oh - - - - -
A. - Oh - - - - -
B. - Oh - - - - -
B. - Oh - - - - -

21

S. - - - - -
mine Ah what his name is none shall know,
A. - - - - -
A. - - - - -
B. - o - - - - -
B. - o - - - - -

24

S. - - - - -
And all of us al - as shall pass shall pass Oh night de -
A. - - - - -
A. - - - - -
B. - - - - -
B. - - - - -

And all of us al - as shall pass shall pass
And all of us al - as shall pass shall pass

26 *rit.....*

S. *f* part, Oh ye stars grow pal - er Oh ye stars grow pal - er at day break she'll be *p*

A. *f* part, Oh ye stars grow pal - er Oh ye stars grow pal - er at day break she'll be *p*

B. *f* Ah what his name is none shall know, and all of us a - las shall pass and then at day break she'll be *p*

29 *cresc. molto*

S. mine mine at last mine at last *ff*

A. mine mine at last mine at last *ff*

B. mine mine at last Aah - - -

32

S. Aah - - - mine at last!

A. Aah - - - mine at last!

B. Aah - - - mine at last!

4. Evensong

Ombre mai fu from Xerxes

George Frederic Handel

SOPRANO

♩=84

p

Now - day light dies, Far in the wes - tern skies Sets the sun Red and

ALTO

Now - day light dies, Far in the wes - tern skies Sets the sun Red and

BASS

Now - day light dies, Far in the wes - tern skies Sets the sun Red and

9

mf

p

gold, All na ture sinks to rest All in their fold, Sing

mf

gold, All na ture sinks to rest All in their fold, All in their nest,

mf

gold, All na ture sinks to rest All in their fold, All in their nest,

mf

p

17

— we good night

Brightan gels guard thy bed,

Sing — we good night

Brightan - gels

Sing we a soft good night

Brightan - gels

3

25

S. *Til mor ning light* No e - vildreams dis turb thy peace

A. guard thy bed til morn ing _ light May all your trou - ble cease,

B. guard thy bed til morn ing _ light

{

33

S. all care and trou ble cease No dreams dis - turb thy peace til day - lightdawns,

A. all care and trou ble cease No dreams dis - turb thy peace til day - lightdawns,

B. til day light dawns all care and trou ble cease No dreams dis - turb thy peace til day - lightdawns,

{

41

S. Til day lightdawns, All care and trou ble cease No dreams dis - turb thy peace, Til day - light dawns.

A. Til day lightdawns, All care and trou ble cease No dreams dis - turb thy peace, Til day light dawns.

B. Til day lightdawns, All care and trou ble cease No dreams dis - turb thy peace, Til day light dawns.

{



5. The Toreador's Song

from Carmen

15

Bizet

SOPRANO 1

ALTO

p

To - re - a dor Make

p

To - re - a dor Make

pp

This section of the musical score consists of two staves. The soprano staff begins with a rest followed by a melodic line. The alto staff has a continuous eighth-note pattern. The bassoon staff provides harmonic support with sustained notes. Measure numbers 1 and 2 are indicated above the staves.

S. 4

A.

B.

rea - dy!

To - re - a dor And dream a way yes

rea - dy!

To - re - a dor And dream a way yes

To - re - a dor And dream a way yes

This section features three staves: soprano, alto, and bassoon. The soprano and alto sing the lyrics "rea - dy!" and "To - re - a dor And dream a way yes". The bassoon provides harmonic support. Measure number 4 is indicated above the staves.

S. 8

A.

B.

cresc.

dream in the fray Dark eyes look at thee, Now love a waits for thee

dim.

3

cresc.

dream in the fray Dark eyes look at thee, Now love a waits for thee

dim.

3

cresc.

dream in the fray Dark eyes look at thee,

cresc.

dim.

This section continues with three staves. The soprano and alto sing the lyrics "dream in the fray", "Dark eyes look at thee", and "Now love a waits for thee". The bassoon provides harmonic support. Measure number 8 is indicated above the staves. Dynamic markings include crescendo and decrescendo (diminuendo) with measure numbers 3 and 4.

12

colla voce *a tempo*

A

S. Now love a waits for thee To - re - a - dor make
 A. Now love a waits for thee. To - re - a - dor, make
 B. To - re - a - dor Now love a waits for thee To - re - a - dor make

S. *p* *3* *3* *ff*
 A. *3* *3* *ff*
 B. *p* *3* *3* *ff*

16

S. rea - dy! To - re - a dor To - re - a dor And dream a way yes
 A. rea - dy! To - re - a dor To - re - a dor And dream a way yes
 B. rea - dy! To - re - a dor To - re - a dor Dream of her who

S. *pp*
 A. *pp*
 B. *pp*

20

S. dream in the fray Dark eyes look at thee, *cresc.*
 A. dream in the fray Darl eyes look at thee, *cresc.*
 B. all can see, whose dark eyes look at thee *cresc.*

S. *cresc.*
 A. *cresc.*
 B. *cresc.*

23

S. *f*
Now love a waits for thee To - re - a - dor Now love a waits for
dim.

A. *3*
Now love a waits for thee To - re - a - dor Now love a waits for

B. *pp*
To - re - a - dor Now love a waits for

B *Slowly*
26 *p* *espr.*
thee For _ thee For _ thee For _
p *espr.* *p* *espr.*
thee For _ thee For _ thee For _
p *espr.*
thee For _ thee For _ thee For _

A Tempo

S. *f*

thee To - re - a - dor! To - re - a - dor!

A. *f*

thee To - re - a - dor! To - re - a - dor!

B. *f*

thee To - re - a - dor! To - re - a - dor!

S. *ff*

Love waits— for thee!

A. *ff*

Love waits— for thee!

B. *ff*

Love waits— for thee!

6. Chorus of the Hebrew slaves

19

Va, Pensiero from Nabucco

Verdi

1

p

3

p

6

tr

3

6

6

ff

3

3

9

p

6

6

6

12

p sotto voce

S.

Speed your jour - ney, My thoughts and my

A.

Speed your jour - ney, My thoughts and my

B.

Speed your jour - ney, My thoughts and my

p sotto voce

6

6

6

6

6

6

6

14

S. long - ings Speed your jour - ney through moun - tain and
A. long - ings Speed your jour - ney through moun - tain and
B. long - ings Speed your jour - ney through moun - tain and

S. vall - ey Where the sweet scen - ted air breathes a
A. vall - ey Where the sweet scen - ted air breathes a
B. vall - ey Where the sweet scen - ted air breathes a

S. fra - grance, o'er the vall-eys and hills we knew long a -
A. fra - grance, o'er the vall-eys and hills we knew long a -
B. fra - grance, o'er the vall-eys and hills we knew long a -

SAMPLE

20

S. go, To the wa - ters *3* of Jor - dan - bear *3*
A. go, To the wa - ters - of Jor - dan - bear
B. go, To the wa - ters *3* of Jor - dan - bear *3*

S. gree - ting, the down - fall - en tem - ples of *3* *3*
A. gree - ting, To the down - fall - en tem - ples of *3* *3*
B. gree - ting, To the down - fall - en tem - ples of *3* *3*

S. Zi - on. Oh my coun - try so fair and so
A. Zi - on. Oh my coun - try so fair and so
B. Zi - on. Oh my coun - try so fair and so

26

S. wre - tched Oh re - mem - brance - of joy and - of
A. wre - tched Oh re - mem - brance - of joy and - of
B. wre - tched Oh re - mem - brance - of joy and - of

S. woe, Gol - den harps of the pro - phets O
A. woe, Gol - den harps of the pro - phets O
B. woe, Gol - den harps of the pro - phets O

S. tell - me, - Why so si - lent ye hang from the
A. tell - me, - Why so si - lent ye hang from the
B. tell - me, - Why so si - lent ye hang from the

28 > ff > > >
S. woe, Gol - den harps of the pro - phets O
A. woe, Gol - den harps of the pro - phets O
B. woe, Gol - den harps of the pro - phets O

30 > > > pp 3
S. tell - me, - Why so si - lent ye hang from the
A. tell - me, - Why so si - lent ye hang from the
B. tell - me, - Why so si - lent ye hang from the

32

S. *ff*
will - ows, Speak a - gain of the days of - our
ff

A. will - ows, Speak a - gain of the days of - our

B. *ff*
will - ows, Speak a - gain of the days of - our
ff

34

S. *pp*
ho - - me - land, - speak a - gain of the days that - are
pp

A. ho - - me - land, - speak a - gain of the days that - are
pp

B. ho - - me - land, - speak a - gain of the days that - are
pp

36

pp

S. past, We have drunk from the cup of a-

A. past, We have drunk from the cup of a-

B. past, We have drunk from the cup of a-

S. ffli - - - - ction, And have shed bittt - er tears of re-

A. ffli - - - - ction, And have shed bittt - er tears of re-

B. ffli - - - - ction, And have shed bittt - er tears of re-

38

S. ffli - - - - ction, And have shed bittt - er tears of re-

A. ffli - - - - ction, And have shed bittt - er tears of re-

B. ffli - - - - ction, And have shed bittt - er tears of re-

40

S. pen - tance, O ins - pire us Je ho - vah with

A. pen - tance, O ins - pire us Je ho - vah with

B. pen - tance, O ins - pire us Je ho - vah with

S. cou - rage, So that we - may 3 en-dure to - 3 the

A. cou - rage, So that we - may 3 en-dure to - the

B. cou - rage, So that we - may 3 en-dure to - the

S. last, So that we may en - dure to - the

A. last, so that we may en - dure to - the

B. last, so that we may en - dure to - the

46

S. last, So that we may en - dure - - to - the

A. last, So that we may en - dure - - to - the

B. last, So that we may en - dure - - to - the

48

pp

S. last, may en - dure to the last

dim.

A. last, may en - dure to the last

B. last, may en - dure to the last

pp

dim.

SAMPLE

7. The Gendarmes' Duet

from Geneviève de Brabant

Music: Jacques Offenbach

Text: H. B. Farnie

mf

BASS 1

We're pub - lic
Some times our
If gen - tle

f

mf

6

B.

And of ourselves, we take good care,
Then lit - tle bat - toes flies we chase
And punch each o - ther's heads at night,

B.

guar dians, bold but wa - -
du - ty's ex - tra mu - - ral,
men will make a ri - -
mf

To risk our
We like to
We're quite dis

mf

10

B.

When dan - gerlooms, we're ne - ver there
Co mmune with na - ture, face to face,
Pro - vi - ded that they make it right,

B.

pre - cious lives, we're cha - - ry,
gam - bol in things ru - - ral,
posed to keep it qui - - et,
mf

But when we
Un - to our
But if they

mf

14

B. - - - - - γ. ♯. ♯. ♯. ♯.

Or lit - tle boys that do no harm
Re freshed by na - ture's ho - ly charm,
And give to us our pro - per terms,

B. ♯. ♯. ♯. ♯. ♯. ♯.

meet some help - less wo - man,
beat then back re - tur - ning,
do not seem to see it

We run them

18

B. γ. ♯. ♯. ♯. ♯. ♯. ♯.

We run them in, We run them in, We show them we're the bold gen - darmes,

B. ♯. ♯. ♯. ♯. ♯. ♯.

in, We run them in, We run them in, We run them

22

B. γ. ♯. ♯. ♯. ♯. ♯. ♯.

We run them in, We run them in, We show them we're the bold gen -

B. ♯. ♯. ♯. ♯. ♯. ♯.

in, We run them in, We run them in, We show them we're the bold gen -

cresc.

dim.

B. 25 

darmes,

darmes,

* Last time only

8. Barcarolle

Offenbach

Moderato

The Tales of Hoffmann

ALTO 1

(et sim.) Love - ly night, Oh night of love Smile up on our

pp

2ed. * 6

A. joy! Night much sweet - er than the day Oh beau ti- ful night of love!

S. 11 Time flies by and bears a way It bears on wings our drea - ming. Far a-way where we may yearn For

A. Time flies by and bears a way It bears on wings our drea - ming. Far a-way where we may yearn For

S. 17 time does not re - turn. Sweet ze - phrys a - glow, _____ Shed on us your ca - re - sses, Sweet

A. time does not re - turn. Sweet Ze - phrys a - glow, your ca - ress.

23

S. ze - phrys a - glow, Your soft kiss es be stow. Kiss - es be

A. Sweet Ze - phrys a - glow, Soft kiss es be stow Your soft Kiss -

28

S. stow, Kiss - es be - stow. Ah! Love ly night, Oh night of love

A. es Your soft Kiss - es be - stow. Ah! Love ly night, Oh night of love

pp

34

S. Smile up on our joy! Night much sweet - er than the day Oh beau ti- ful night of

A. Smile up on our joy! Night much sweet - er than the day Oh beau ti- ful night of

39

S. *sf* ——————

A. love! *sf* —————— Ah! Smile on our en - chant - ment, *f*

Beau teous night of love. Smile on our en

cresc. —————— *f*

44

S. *dim.* —————— *pp*

A. Beau teous night of love of love, of love. Ah — Ah — *pp*

chant - ment. Beau teous night of love, Oh Beau-teous night! Ah —

49

S. Ah — *ppp*

A. Ah — *ppp*

dim.

55

The musical score consists of three staves. The top two staves are vocal parts: Soprano (S.) and Alto (A.), both in treble clef and major key, indicated by a G-sharp symbol. The vocal parts sing "Ah" on a single note. The bottom staff is the piano accompaniment, in bass clef, providing harmonic support with sustained notes and chords. The measure number 55 is at the top left.

9. Funiculi, Funicula

Luigi Denza

1

SOPRANO

Sopranos *loud*

Some think the world is
Some think it wrong to

7

S.

All

made for fun and frolic, — And so do I!
set the feet a-danc-ing, — But not so I!
And so do I!
But not so I!

13

S.

Bass

Some think it well to be all mel-an-chol-ic,
Some think that eyes should keep from coy-gly glan-cing,
To pine and up on the

19

S.

All

Altos

sigh; Topine and sigh But I, I love to
sly U pon the sly But oh! to me the

25

All

S. spend my time in sing - ing Some joy - ous song,
cr - azy dance is char - ming, Di - vi - nely sweet, Some joy - ous song:

31

S. To set the air with mu - sic bravely ring - ing Is far from
And sure ly there is nought that is al - ar - ming In nim - ble

A. To set the air with mu - sic bravely ring - ing Is far from
And sure ly there is nought that is al - ar - ming In nim - ble

B. To set the air with mu - sic bravely ring - ing Is far from
And sure ly there is nought that is al - ar - ming In nim - ble

37

S. wrong! Is far from wrong! List - en! List - en!
feet? f In nim - ble feet **p**

A. wrong! Is far from wrong! List - en! List - en!
feet? In nim - ble feet **p**

B. wrong! Is far from wrong! List - en! List - en!
feet? In nim - ble feet **p**

43

S. Music sounds a - far! — List - en! List - en! Music sounds a - far! Fun ic - u-

A. Music sounds a - far! — List - en! List - en! Music sounds a - far! Fun ic - u-

B. Music sounds a - far! — List - en! List - en! Music sounds a - far! Fun ic - u-

S. li, Fun ic - u - la, Fun ic - u - li, Fun ic - u la, Mu - sic sounds a - far, Fun ic - u-

A. li, Fun ic - u - la, Fun ic - u - li, Fun ic - u la, Mu - sic sounds a - far, Fun ic - u-

B. li, Fun ic - u - la, Fun ic - u - li, Fun ic - u la, Mu - sic sounds a - far, Fun ic - u-

S. li, Fun ic - u - la List - en! List - en! Music sounds a - far! —

A. li, Fun ic - u - la List - en! List - en! Music sounds a - far! —

B. li, Fun ic - u - la List - en! List - en! Music sounds a - far! —

61

S. List - en! List - en! Music sounds a - far! Fun ic - u - li, Fun ic - u - la, Fun ic - u -

A. List - en! List - en! Music sounds a - far! Fun ic - u - li, Fun ic - u - la, Fun ic - u -

B. List - en! List - en! Music sounds a - far! Fun ic - u - li, Fun ic - u - la, Fun ic - u -

p cresc.

p cresc.

p cresc.

cresc.

67

S. li, Fun ic - u la, Mu - sic sounds a - far, Fun ic - u - li, Fun -

A. li, Fun ic - u la, Mu - sic sounds a - far, Fun ic - u - li, Fun -

B. li, Fun ic - u la, Mu - sic sounds a - far, Fun ic - u - li, Fun -

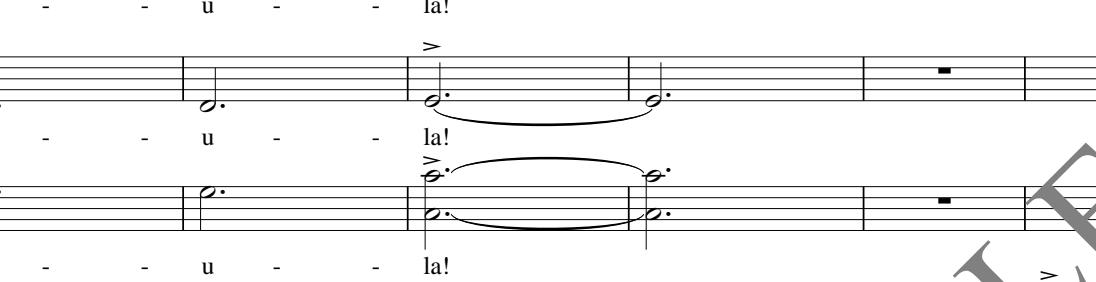
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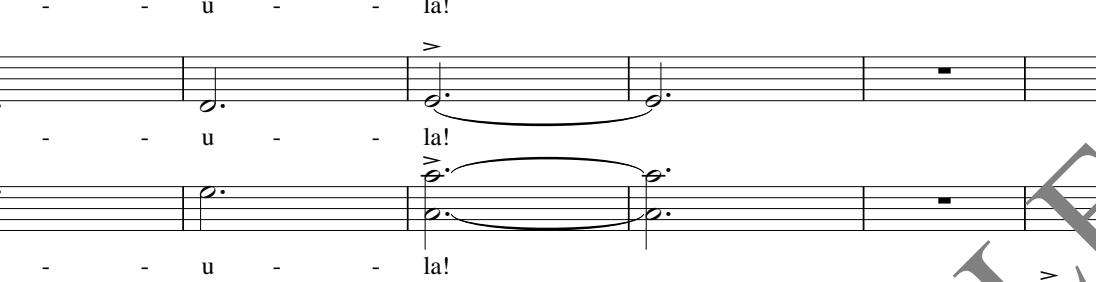
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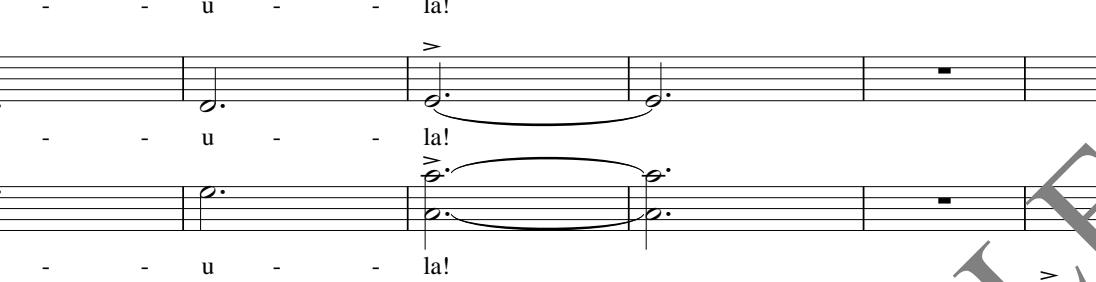
f

f

73

S. 

A. 

B. 

SAMPLE



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