

Commissioned by Opus Ensemble for the 2021-2022 Louisiana ACDA Conference
Winner of the 2022 Cantus Composition Prize

Time

For SATB* a cappella

Duration: ca. 3:00

Words and Music by
JENNIFER LUCY COOK

Nonrubato, metronomic ♩ = ca. 80

Soprano *p*

Time, you can spend it, when you spend it then you're run - ning out of

Alto *p*

Time, you can spend it, when you spend it then you're run - ning out of

Tenor *p*

Time, you can spend it, when you spend it then you're run - ning out of

Bass *p*

Time, you can spend it, when you spend it then you're run - ning out of

Nonrubato, metronomic ♩ = ca. 80

Piano
(for
rehearsal
only)

* Available for SATB (HL# 01157658) and TTBB (HL# 01157659)
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2

Time, you can save it but to save it is to take a lit - tle

Time, you can save it but to save it is to take a lit - tle

Time, you can save it but to save it is to take a lit - tle

Time, you can save it but to save it is to take a lit - tle

3

Time, in a min - ute, when you're in it, can you feel the pass - ing

Time, in a min - ute, when you're in it, can you feel the pass - ing

Time, in a min - ute, when you're in it, can you feel the pass - ing

Time, in a min - ute, when you're in it, can you feel the pass - ing

TIME — SATB



4

Time is an il - lu - sion, there's con - fu - sion when they tell you now it's

Time is an il - lu - sion, there's con - fu - sion when they tell you now it's

Time is an il - lu - sion, there's con - fu - sion when they tell you now it's

Time is an il - lu - sion, there's con - fu - sion when they tell you now it's

5

mp Time to get old - er, time to work and time to waste and there's no

mp Time to get old - er, time to work and time to waste and there's no

mp Time to get old - er, time to work and time to waste and there's no

mp Time to get old - er, time to work and time to waste and there's no

TIME — SATB



6

Time left to hold her, time to tell him how you feel while there's still

Time left to hold her, time to tell him how you feel while there's still

Time left to hold her, time to tell him how you feel while there's still

Time left to hold her, time to tell him how you feel while there's still

7

Time, three two one e - lev - en thir - ty, two A - M, then din - ner

Time, three two one e - lev - en thir - ty, two A - M, then din - ner

Time, three two one e - lev - en thir - ty, two A - M, then din - ner

Time, three two one e - lev - en thir - ty, two A - M, then din - ner

TIME — SATB



8

p *mf*

Time now to kill, I said I will and still it flies and flies, oh

p *mf*

Time now to kill, I said I will and still it flies and flies, oh

p *mf*

Time now to kill, I said I will and still it flies and flies, oh

p *mf*

Time now to kill, I said I will and still it flies and flies, oh

9

sub. p

Time Nn nn na na na na

sub. p

Time Nn nn na na na na

sub. p

Time Nn nn na na

sub. p

Time Nn nn na na

ALL VOICES
*tongue click**

* Tongue clicks are simultaneous with the pitches;
it may be helpful to think of the consonant as "ng"

TIME — SATB



13 *mf*

Time, you can spend when you spend you're run - ning out of

Time, you can spend when you spend you're run - ning out of

Time, you can spend when you spend you're run - ning out of

Time, you can spend when you spend you're run - ning out of

14

Time, you can save but to save it takes some

Time, you can save but to save it takes some

Time, you can save but to save it takes some

Time, you can save but to save it takes some

TIME — SATB



15

Time, in a min - ute, you're in it, feel pass - ing

Time, in a min - ute, you're in it, feel pass - ing

Time, in a min - ute, you're in it, feel pass - ing

Time, in a min - ute, you're in it, feel pass - ing

16

Time is an il - lu - sion, con - fu - sion, they tell you now it's

Time is an il - lu - sion, con - fu - sion, they tell you now it's

Time is an il - lu - sion, con - fu - sion, they tell you now it's

Time is an il - lu - sion, con - fu - sion, they tell you now it's

TIME — SATB



17

Time to get old - er, to work, time to waste, there's no

Time to get old - er, to work, time to waste, there's no

Time to get old - er, to work, time to waste, there's no

Time to get old - er, to work, time to waste, there's no

18

Time left to hold, time to tell him, while there's still

Time left to hold, time to tell him, while there's still

Time left to hold, time to tell him, while there's still

Time left to hold, time to tell him, while there's still

TIME — SATB



19

Time, three two e - lev - en two A - M, din - ner

Time, three two e - lev - en two A - M, din - ner

Time, three two e - lev - en two A - M, din - ner

Time, three two e - lev - en two A - M, din - ner

20

Time now to kill, said I will, still it flies oh

Time now to kill, said I will, still it flies oh

Time now to kill, said I will, still it flies oh

Time now to kill, said I will, still it flies oh

TIME — SATB



ALL VOICES - tongue click

21

Time Nn nn nn nn

Time Nn nn nn nn

Time Nn nn nn nn

Time Nn nn nn nn

25

nn nn nn

nn nn nn

nn nn nn

nn nn nn

TIME — SATB



SOP. only - tongue click

29 *dim.* *dim.* *dim.* *dim.*

nn nn nn nn na Na na na na

na na na na na

na na na na na

na na na na na

33 *f* *f* *f* *f*

Time, you can when you you're run-ning out of save it take a lit - tle

Time, you can when you you're run-ning out of save it take a lit - tle

Time, you can when you you're run-ning out of save it take a lit - tle

Time, you can when you you're run-ning out of save it take a lit - tle

TIME — SATB



35

Time min-ute can you feel pass-ing is an il-lu-sion they tell you

Time min-ute can you feel pass-ing is an il-lu-sion they tell you

Time min-ute can you feel pass-ing is an il-lu-sion they tell you

Time min-ute can you feel pass-ing is an il-lu-sion they tell you

37

to get old-er work waste there's no hold her tell him feel there's

to get old-er work waste there's no hold her tell him feel there's

to get old-er work waste there's no hold her tell him feel there's

to get old-er work waste there's no hold her tell him feel there's

TIME — SATB



39

Time one thir - ty din - ner Time kill will still fly oh

Time one thir - ty din - ner Time kill will still fly oh

Time one thir - ty din - ner Time kill will still fly oh

Time one thir - ty din - ner Time kill will still fly oh

41

ff Time, you can spend it, when you spend it then you're run - ning out of

ff Time, you can spend it, when you spend it then you're run - ning out of

ff Time, you can spend it, when you spend it then you're run - ning out of

ff Time, you can spend it, when you spend it then you're run - ning out of

TIME — SATB



42

Time, you can save it but to save it is to take a lit - tle

Time, you can save it but to save it is to take a lit - tle

Time, you can save it but to save it is to take a lit - tle

Time, you can save it but to save it is to take a lit - tle

43

Time, in a min-ute, when you're in it, can you feel the pass-ing time_____ they say

Time, in a min-ute, when you're in it, can you feel the pass-ing time_____ they say

Time, in a min-ute, when you're in it, can you feel the pass-ing time_____ they say

Time, in a min-ute, when you're in it, can you feel the pass-ing time_____ they say

TIME — SATB



45 *p*

Time to get old - er, time to work and time to waste and there's no

p

Time to get old - er, time to work and time to waste and there's no

p

Time to get old - er, time to work and time to waste and there's no

p

Time to get old - er, time to work and time to waste and there's no



46 *mp*

Time left to hold her, time to tell him how you feel while there's still

mp

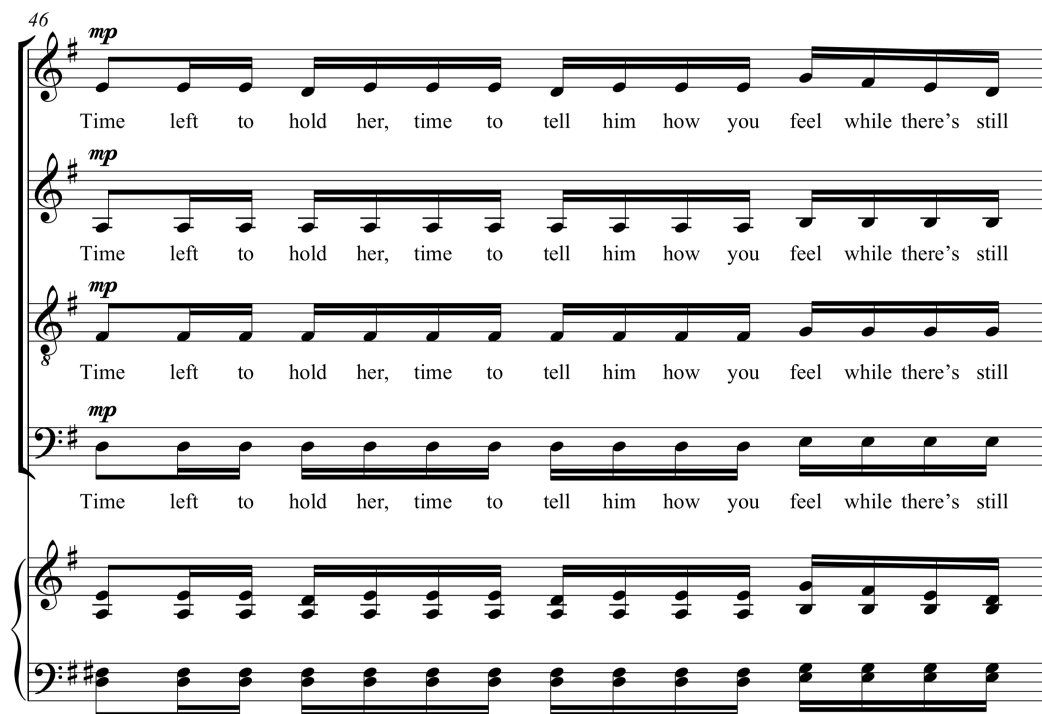
Time left to hold her, time to tell him how you feel while there's still

mp

Time left to hold her, time to tell him how you feel while there's still

mp

Time left to hold her, time to tell him how you feel while there's still



TIME — SATB



47 *mf*

Time, three two one, e - lev - en thir - ty, two A - M, then din - ner

mf

Time, three two one, e - lev - en thir - ty, two A - M, then din - ner

mf

Time, three two one, e - lev - en thir - ty, two A - M, then din - ner

mf

Time, three two one, e - lev - en thir - ty, two A - M, then din - ner

48 *f*

Time now to kill, I said I will and still it flies and flies, oh fly fly fly on

f

Time now to kill, I said I will and still it flies and flies, oh fly fly fly on

f

Time now to kill, I said I will and still it flies and flies, oh fly fly fly on

f

Time now to kill, I said I will and still it flies and flies, oh fly fly fly on

TIME — SATB



ALL VOICES - tongue click

50 *ff* *diminuendo poco a poco*

Time Nn _____ nn _____ nn _____ nn _____ nn _____

ff *diminuendo poco a poco*

Time Nn _____ nn _____ nn _____ nn _____ nn _____

ff *diminuendo poco a poco*

Time Nn _____ nn _____ nn _____ nn _____ nn _____

ff *diminuendo poco a poco*

Time Nn _____ nn _____ nn _____ nn _____ nn _____

55 *perdendosi quasi al niente*

nn _____ nn _____

perdendosi quasi al niente

nn _____ nn _____

perdendosi quasi al niente

nn _____ nn _____

perdendosi quasi al niente

nn _____ nn _____

TIME — SATB



NOTES FROM THE COMPOSER

Time, like money or borders between one country and another, is one of those funny human-made concepts that dictate our lives but are fundamentally meaningless if we didn't all agree to go along with it. And yet, we experience aging, the changing of seasons, and growth, undeniably. The line between time's reality and its invention is blurry, and there was no better way I could think of to depict that than by writing a repeating lyric that erodes as the piece unfolds. As lyrics disappear, phrases take on new meaning, like the way a 30th birthday differs from a fifth birthday, or how old memories can appear sharper than yesterday's. We lose time when we try to keep it, we spend time as we try to save it – and since it insists upon eluding us, we can only notice the fact that time has been winking at us all along. This wit, this relentlessness, and this freedom is the spirit behind Time, and this piece is my way of winking back.

— Jennifer

TEXT

<i>You can spend it</i>	<i>Time</i>
<i>When you spend it</i>	<i>To work and</i>
<i>Then you're running out of</i>	<i>Time to waste and there's no</i>
<i>Time</i>	<i>Time</i>
<i>You can save it</i>	<i>Left to hold her</i>
<i>But to save it is to take a little</i>	<i>Time</i>
<i>Time</i>	<i>To tell him how you feel</i>
<i>In a minute</i>	<i>While there's still</i>
<i>When you're in it</i>	<i>Time</i>
<i>Can you feel the passing</i>	<i>Three two one, eleven thirty</i>
<i>Time</i>	<i>Two AM, then dinner</i>
<i>Is an illusion</i>	<i>Time</i>
<i>There's confusion</i>	<i>Now to kill</i>
<i>When they tell you now it's</i>	<i>I said I will, and still</i>
<i>Time</i>	<i>It flies and flies, oh</i>
<i>To get older</i>	<i>Time</i>

Jennifer Lucy Cook (she/her) is a composer and lyricist based in Los Angeles. Jen specializes in music for the stage and screen, choral music, and pop songwriting. Recent choral commissions include Cantorum Chamber Choir, Choral Arts Ensemble in Minnesota, and the Utah Valley University Chamber Choir. She is the recipient of the Edwin Fissinger Composition Award, the Chorus Austin Composition Prize, and the Cantus Emerging Composer Award. She is an alumni of the Johnny Mercer Foundation Writer's Grove with Goodspeed Musicals, and her theater commissions include Full House Theatre Co., British Youth Musical Theatre, and Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London. Her musical recaps of the Bachelor recently went viral on TikTok. She earned a Master's degree in Musical Theater Writing from Goldsmiths University in London and a Bachelor's in Media Music from Brigham Young University.

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