

Commissioned for the Fort Wayne Children's Choir 50th Anniversary by family and friends
in memory of Dr James D. Ator (1938–2022)

Take This Gift

Tracy Wong (b. 1983) and
Cherie Chai (b. 1988)

TRACY WONG

Joyfully ♩ = 120

DRUM*

SOPRANO 1

Joyfully ♩ = 120
mf

My feet are root-ed to the ground *oh*

SOPRANO 2

mf

My feet are root-ed to the ground *oh*

ALTO

mf

My feet are root-ed to the ground *oh*

PIANO

Joyfully ♩ = 120
mp

*The drum part may be performed by cajón, djembe, or any similar hand percussion instrument. Drum patterns have been notated, but percussionists are encouraged to add embellishments or to improvise around them.

The work features a particular light-hearted vocal play motif—‘la la li la lay’—that is usually heard in ‘Canggung’, a Malay folk song. In this piece the ‘la la li la lay’ is often sung as ‘l-la la l-la la li la lay’, wherein the first ‘l’ in ‘l-la’ is a sung consonant. A demonstration of this may be found on the rehearsal/learning tracks available from the composer’s website <www.tracywongmusic.com>.

Duration: 3 mins

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4

l - la la l - la la li la lay ah

l - la la l - la la li la lay My voice is soar-ing in the skies

l - la la l - la la li la lay My voice is soar-ing in the skies

7

l - la la l - la la li la I am

l - la la l - la la li la I am

l - la la l - la la li la I am



10

tied to the past, beau-ti-ful-ly tan-gled with you

mf

13

Hand in hand we look to the



16

f

stars, to the stars. — Here, take this gift It's not

f

to the stars. — Here, take this gift It's not

f

stars. — Here, take this gift It's not

20

mine to — keep. — Here, take this gift Share it

mine to — keep. — Here, take this gift Share it

mine to — keep. — Here, take this gift Share it



24

far so all may know, Let our love for sing - ing grow.

27

p
la la li la lay

p



31

p *cresc.*
la la li la lay la la li la

p *cresc.*
la la li la lay la la li la

cresc.
la la li la lay la la li la

35

DRUM

mf

S. 1 *mf*
lay la li la lay My feet are root-ed to the ground oh

S. 2 *mf*
lay la li la lay My feet are root-ed to the ground oh

A. *mf*
lay la li la lay My feet are root-ed to the ground oh

mf



l - la la l - la la li la____ lay____ ah____

l - la la l - la la li la____ lay____ My voice is soar-ing in the skies____

l - la la l - la la li la____ lay____ My voice is soar-ing in the skies____

The musical score for measures 39-41 features three vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The vocal parts enter with a melodic line of eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics are: 'l - la la l - la la li la____ lay____ ah____' for the first staff, 'l - la la l - la la li la____ lay____ My voice is soar-ing in the skies____' for the second, and 'l - la la l - la la li la____ lay____ My voice is soar-ing in the skies____' for the third. The piano accompaniment provides a harmonic foundation with chords and moving lines in both hands.

l - la la l - la la li la____ I am

l - la la l - la la li la____ I am

l - la la l - la la li la____ I am

The musical score for measures 42-44 continues the vocal and piano parts. The lyrics are: 'l - la la l - la la li la____ I am' for the first staff, 'l - la la l - la la li la____ I am' for the second, and 'l - la la l - la la li la____ I am' for the third. The piano accompaniment includes a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand in measure 42. The score concludes with a final chord in measure 44.



45

tied to the past, beau-ti-ful-ly tan-gled with you.

48

Hand in hand we look to the



51 *drum solo (improvised)*

mf

stars, to the stars. —

to the stars. —

stars. —

p

55

p

p

We are branch-es, — in - ter - twined.

p

In - de-pend-ent, in - ter - twined.

p

lay la la — li la — lay la la — li la — lay la la — li la — lay la la — li la —



59

mp

mp

We are sun - light _____ Spread-ing warmth, daz - zling bright. _____

mp

ah _____ Spread-ing warmth, daz - zling bright.

mp

lay la la li la lay la la li la Spread-ing warmth, daz - zling bright.

mp

63

f

f

Here, take this gift It's not mine to keep. _____

f

la la li la lay la la li la lay la la li la lay oh _____

f

la la li la lay la la li la lay la la li la lay oh _____

f



Here, take this gift Share it far so all may know,
 la la li la lay Share it far so all may know,
 la la li la lay Share it far so all may know,

Let our love for sing - ing grow.
 Let our love for sing - ing grow.
 Let our love for sing - ing grow.



74

clap on beats 2 and 4 until bar 91

Here, take this gift It's not mine to keep.

clap on beats 2 and 4 until bar 91

la la li la lay la la li la lay la la li la lay oh

clap on beats 2 and 4 until bar 91

la la li la lay la la li la lay la la li la lay oh

78

Here, take this gift Share it far so all may know,

la la li la lay Share it far so all may know,

la la li la lay Share it far so all may know,



81

Let our love... for sing - ing grow.

Let our love... for sing - ing grow.

Let our love... for sing - ing grow.

84

ff *sub. p*

We are branch-es,

ff *sub. p*

We are branch-es,

ff *p*

In - de - pend - ent,



87

mp *mf* *cresc.*

mp *mf* *cresc.*

mp *mf* *cresc.*

mp *mf* *cresc.*

we are branch-es, Let our love for

we are branch-es, Let our love for

in - ter - twined, Let our love for

mp *mf*

90

f *f* *ff*

(clapping ends) *f* *ff*

(clapping ends) *f* *ff*

(clapping ends) *f* *ff*

sing - ing grow!

sing - ing grow!

sing - ing grow!

f



PERCUSSION

Take This Gift

Tracy Wong (b. 1983) and
Cherie Chai (b. 1988)

TRACY WONG

Joyfully ♩ = 120

S. 'I am tied to the past' S. 'Here, take this gift' S. lay My feet are

9 8 18

37 *mf* 4

45 4

53 *mf* *p* *drum solo (improvised)*

59 *mp* *f* 4

67 8 11

75 4

83 *ff* *sub. p* *mp*

88 *mf cresc.* *f*

SB55 Take This Gift WONG

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