

Gwyneth Walker

Sing On! (A Musical Toast)

for Mixed Chorus and Piano

Duration: 3 minutes

*commissioned by the Ellington High School Vocal Ensemble
Sal Cicciarella, Music Director*

premiered on May 18, 2003 – Ellington, CT

*The pleasures of music, food and love are 'toasted' in **Sing On!** Based on the familiar text by Col. Henry Heveningham ("If music be the food of love..."), this musical setting adds a few new touches: the clanking of knife-on-glass to set the tempo; a gesture of a toast-celebration as the final cut-off; and playful clusters (perhaps cream puffs!) in the piano accompaniment.*

A middle section delights in reordering the words:

If food be the music of love...

if music lovers love food...

if the love of food be music! (which may speak to the gourmets in the audience)

Delicacies, one and all!

This song was composed to honor Sal Cicciarella, Choral Director, and his students, who share in his love of music, food and life. Sal retired in June, 2003, after 36 years of teaching at the Ellington (CT) High School.

Sing On!

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Dr. Gwyneth Walker (b. 1947) is a graduate of Brown University and the Hartt School of Music. She holds B.A., M.M. and D.M.A. Degrees in Music Composition. A former faculty member of the Oberlin College Conservatory, Walker resigned from academic employment in 1982 in order to pursue a career as a full-time composer. She now lives on a dairy farm in Braintree, Vermont.

Walker's catalog includes over 130 commissioned works for orchestra, band, chorus and chamber ensembles. The music of Gwyneth Walker is published by E.C. Schirmer of Boston (choral & vocal music) and MMB Music of St. Louis (orchestral & instrumental music).

Gwyneth Walker is a proud resident of Vermont. She is the recipient of the Year 2000 "Lifetime Achievement Award" from the Vermont Arts Council. And, as part of a focus on local performances, Gwyneth Walker will be creating a new musical theater work to be premiered at Chandler Hall, Randolph, VT in June, 2003.

Commissioned by the Ellington High School Vocal Ensemble—Sal Cicciarella, Music Director
Premiere May 18, 2003—Ellington, CT

Sing On! (A Musical Toast)

SATB and Piano

Colonel Henry Heveningham, ca. 1690

Gwyneth Walker

* Joyfully ♩. = 72

f with joy

Mu - sic!

f with joy

Mu - sic!

f with joy

Mu - sic!

Mu - sic!

(Singers may toast one another, in tempo)

Joyfully ♩. = 72

f

** gliss.

sin.

** a glissando of delightful abandon

6

S. Food! Love!

A. Food! Love!

T. Food! Love!

B. Food! Love!

6

*Before starting the song, the tempo may be established by singer or conductor tapping a glass with a dinner knife— as a toast would be announced.

11 *(non-pitched sigh, descending from high to low)*
enraptured **(f)** **A**

S. If mu - sic be the food of love, sing on!

A. If mu - sic be the food of love, sing on!

T. If mu - sic be the food of love, sing on!

B. If mu - sic be the food of love, sing on!

11 **A** *(random white-note clusters)*
playfully

16

S. — Sing on 'till — I am filled with joy.

A. — Sing on 'till — I am filled with joy.

T. — For

B. — For

16

21 *p delicately*
S. to plea-sures that can ne-ver cloy. —
A. to plea-sures that can ne-ver cloy. —
T. then my - listen-ing soul you move — *p*
B. then my - listen-ing soul you move — *p*

21 *p*

26 *f*
S. If mu - sic be the food of
A. If mu - sic be the food of
T. If mu - sic be the food of
B. If mu - sic be the food of

(random white-note clusters)

26 *f*

(random white-note clusters)

More freely, quasi recitative

30 rit. **B** ♩ = 72

S. *p*
la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, love. Your eyes, your mien, your tongue de - clare that

A. *p*
la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, love. Your eyes, your mien, your tongue de - clare that

T. *p*
la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, love. Your eyes, your mien, your tongue de - clare that

B. *p*
la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, love. that

rit. **B** More freely, quasi recitative ♩ = 72

33 *mf*

S. you are mu - sic ev - 'ry - where. Plea - sures in - vade both eye and ear, so fierce the trans - ports are, they wound.

A. *mf*
you are mu - sic ev - 'ry - where. Plea - sures in - vade both eye and ear, so fierce the trans - ports are, they wound.

T. *mf p* Ah, _____ *mf* so fierce the trans - ports are, they wound.

B. *mf p* you are mu - sic ev - 'ry - where. Ah, _____ *p* And

33 *mf*

36 *p* *rit.* *div.* *sfp* **C** a tempo ♩. = 72 *f*

S. tho' yet the treat is on - ly sound

A. tho' yet the treat is on - ly sound

T. tho' yet the treat is on - ly sound

B. all my sen - ses feast - ed are, tho' yet the treat is on - ly sound

p *rit.* **C** a tempo ♩. = 72 *p* (random white-note clusters)

40 *f* I. Mu - sic, *f* II. food, — mu - sic, *f* food, —

A. *f* love, —

40 *f* *gliss.* *syn.*

D Playfully

(“savoring” the words)

(p)

45

S. if love be the food of mu - sic,

A. love, ——— (“savoring” the words) if love be the food of mu - sic,

T. *unis. p* If mu - sic be the food of love, if

B. *unis. p* If mu - sic be the food of love, if

D Playfully

45

p *gliss.*

50

S. if mu - sic lov - ers love food!

A. if mu - sic lov - ers love food!

T. *mf* food be the love of mu - sic, *mf* If food be the mu - sic of

B. *mf* food be the love of mu - sic, *mf* If food be the mu - sic of

50

mf *p* *mf*

55 *f* Λ 2 Λ Λ 2 Λ *div.* *unis. p*

S. if the love of food be mu - sic! and

A. if the love of food be mu - sic! and

T. *f* *div.* *unis. p*
la, la, la, love, mu - sic! and love be food, and

B. *f* *div.* *unis. p*
la, la, la, love, mu - sic! And love be mu - sic, and love be food, and

60 *rit.* **E** *Slower* *rit.*

S. *f* food and mu - sic and la, la, la, la, la, la, Sure I must per - ish by your charms, —

A. *f* food and mu - sic and la, la, la, la, la, la, Sure I must per - ish by your charms, —

T. *f* *div.* food and mu - sic and la, la, la, la, la, la, sure, — un - less you save me in your arms. —

B. *f* *div.* food and mu - sic and la, la, la, la, la, la, un - less you save me in your arms. —

60 *rit.* **E** *Slower* *rit.*

F a tempo ♩. = 72

S. *p* With plea-sures that can ne-ver cloy, *cresc.* - - -

A. *p* With plea-sures that can ne-ver cloy, *cresc.* - - -

T. *p* la, la, la, la, la, *cresc.* - - -

B. *p* la, la, la, la, la, *cresc.* - - -

F a tempo ♩. = 72

64 (random white-note clusters) *p* *cresc.* - - -

69 *(cresc.)* - - -

S. - sing on 'till I am filled with joy. For

A. *(cresc.)* - - - sing on 'till I am filled with joy. For

T. *(cresc.)* - - *unis.* la, la, sing on 'till I am filled with joy. For

B. *(cresc.)* *unis.* la, la, sing on la, la, la, la, la, la, For

69 *(cresc.)* - - -

74 *(cresc.)* - - - - - *f* **G** *div.*

S. then my listen - ing soul you move, ——— if mu - sic be the food,

A. then my listen - ing soul you move, ——— if mu - sic be the food,

T. then my listen - ing soul you move, ——— if

B. then my listen - ing soul you move, ——— if

74 **G** *f*

(cresc.) - - - - - *f*

80 *unis.* *div.* *rit. unis.* *(Conductor gives cut-off in toasting gesture.)*

S. if mu - sic be the food of la, la, la, love!

A. if mu - sic be the food of la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, love!

T. *div.* *unis.* mu - sic be the food, mu - sic be the food of la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, love!

B. mu - sic be the food, mu - sic be the food of la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, love!

80 *rit.* *8va*