

Many Faces, One Song

Paul Caldwell and Sean Ivory: Notes

Many Faces, One Song continues our interest (established with our early piece, *Hope for Resolution*) in creating music that fuses elements from different cultures. In this case, three songs are presented independently then later combined to point singers and audiences toward a path of peaceful co-existence.

Shalom Chaverim is a well-known Hebrew song of peace. Sadly, as this work is completed Israel remains gridlocked in war. During the writing process, newspapers were filled with accounts of violent conflict in Gaza.

Pronunciation: shah-LOHM chah-vay-REEM. Be sure that the Hebrew *CH* is guttural, created by momentarily closing the throat with the back of the tongue.

E-hung-a is a peace chant from the Ojibwa nation. Often referred to as Chippewas in the United States, the Ojibwa represent one of the largest native cultures in North America. Originally, they occupied the northern Midwest in the United States (Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan) and Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan in southern Canada. We have not found a literal translation of the text, only vague information claiming that the song was used during peace ceremonies.

Pronounce vowels as you would in Latin. The consonant G should be hard as in the English word, *go*.

Children, Don't Get Weary is often sung in various choral arrangements under the title *Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning*. We have chosen to retain the form and title traditionally used on the sea islands located off the coast of South Carolina and Georgia.

We cannot present this work without offering gratitude to Nick Page. He first taught us the potential of partner songs to teach peace in a powerful way.

Many Faces, One Song was commissioned by Laramie County School District #1, Music Coordinator Sean Ambrose. It is dedicated to Cheyenne choral musicians past, present and future.

Thank you for your interest in our work.

Paul Caldwell and Sean Ivory
January 19, 2009

Paul Caldwell and Sean Ivory began arranging music together spontaneously in the early 1990s when they were both working with a community-based youth choir in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Their musical partnership was further cultivated from 1993-1997 during summers spent together at the American Boychoir School in Princeton, New Jersey. In 1998, Paul became the founding Artistic Director of the North American Choral Company and named Sean his Associate Conductor. They shared directorship of the company's touring choirs until Paul moved to Chicago in 2001.

Today, Sean is the conductor of the Grand Rapids Symphony Youth Chorus. He is also the choral director at Forest Hills Central High School. He lives in Grand Rapids with his wife, Leah, and their Children, Emma, Samuel, and Meredith. Paul is Artistic Director of the Youth Choral Theater of Chicago. In recognition of his work in this capacity, he was awarded the 2006 Chorus America/ASCAP prize for Adventurous Programming. He is a member of the Board of Directors of Chorus America.

Caldwell and Ivory works have been performed at Carnegie Hall, at the Sydney Opera House, throughout Europe and South Africa. They have recently completed commissions for premieres by Judith Willoughby, Anton Armstrong, Pearl Shangkuan and Barbara Tagg.