

A SINGLE DROP OF THE OCEAN
for mixed choir a cappella

HENRIK DAHL GREN
(2020)

PERUSAL SCORE

PROGRAMME NOTES

As a composer I often work with poetry, and to collaborate with contemporary writers has been something that I have specifically enjoyed. This text was written by Louise Alexandra Erskine from the UK whom I stumbled upon on Instagram and we have since become friends. These types of unknown friendships are something that really inspires my creativity.

I wrote this piece while living in Aberdeen, Scotland, only minutes away from the North Sea and I really think you can hear that influencing the music. Both the ravaging storm and the calmer waves at the end.

This piece was written for the University of Aberdeen Chamber Choir, Scotland and their conductor Sam Paul.

Henrik Dahlgren

TEXT

*He was
all of the ocean
and she was
drowning
in a single drop.*

Louise Alexandra Erskine

PERFORMANCE NOTES

- The 'aa' in m. 33-37 should be the same vowel as in the beginning of the word 'drown'. The idea is that the repetition of the word 'drowning' culminates in an 'draa', or in other words, the first part of the word.
 - The imitation of waves from m. 42 should be a very subtle sound. Like waves rolling slowly in and out on the beach. The number of singers doing this is up to the discretion of the conductor.
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Composed 2020

Duration 2. 4-5 minutes

First performance University of Aberdeen Chamber Choir | conducted by Sam Paul
12 March 2020 | King's College Chapel, Aberdeen, UK

For more information www.henrikdahlgren.com

Dedicated with love to Sam Paul and the University of Aberdeen Chamber Choir

A SINGLE DROP OF THE OCEAN

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LOUISE ALEXANDRA ERSKINE

HENRIK DAHLGREN (2020)

Espressivo e poco rubato ♩ = c. 60

SOPRANO SOLO *p* He

SOPRANO *mp* He was, was, he

MEZZO-SOPRANO *mp* He wa, he was, he

ALTO *mp* He was, he was, he

TENOR

BARITONE

BASS

for rehearsal only

6 *mp* *pp*

S. Solo was all

S. was all

M-S. was all

A. was all

T. *mp* She was, she was, of the

Bar. She was, she was,

B. She was, she was,

for rehearsal only

11 *mp* *p*

S. of the o - cean. He was

M-S. of the o - cean He was

A. o - cean. He was

T. *p* she was all she was

Bar. she was all she was

B. she was all she was

for rehearsal only

rit. a tempo

16 *mp* *p* *p cresc. poco a poco*

S. all of the o - cean. And she was

M-S. all of the o - cean. And she was drow - ning,

A. all of the o - cean. And she was drow - ning, and

T. all of the o - cean. he was drow - ning, he was

B. all. And he was drow - ning, he was

for rehearsal only

22 *mf cresc. poco a poco* *mf cresc. poco a poco*

S. drow - ning, and she was drow - ning, she

M-S. and she was drow - ning, she was

A. she was drow - ning, she was drow - ning,

T. ning, he was drow - ning, he was

B. drow - ning, he was drow - ning, was

for rehearsal only

27 *mf cresc. poco a poco*

S. *mf cresc. poco a poco*
 was drow - ning, was drow - ning,

M-S. *mf cresc. poco a poco*
 drow - ning, was drow - ning was

A. *mf cresc. poco a poco*
 she was drow - - ning, was

T. *mf cresc. poco a poco*
 drow - ning, he was drow - ning, he

B. *mf cresc. poco a poco*
 drow - ning, he was drow - ning, he

for rehearsal only

poco rit. *a tempo, but very dramatic* *poco rit.*

S. *f*
 drow - ning, drow - (aa) (aa) (aa)

M-S. *f*
 -ning, drow - ning, drow (aa) (aa) (aa)

A. *f*
 drow - ning, drow (aa) (aa) (aa) (aa)

T. *f*
 was drow - ning drow - (aa) (aa) (aa)

Bar. *f*
 was drow - ning, drow - (aa) (aa) (aa) (aa)

B. *f*
 was drow - ning, drow - (aa)

for rehearsal



poco meno mosso (♩ = c. 54)

37

S. Solo *mp*
In a sing - le drop...

S. *ff* *mf* *pp*
Oo

M-S. *ff* *mf*

A. *ff* *mf*

T. Solo *mp*
In a sing - le drop...

T. *ff* *mf*

Bar. *ff* *mf*

B. *ff* *mf*

for
sal

Imitate rolling waves
Rhythm doesn't have to be exact,
but all the singers should do it together.

niente *pp* niente

ssh _____



44 *p*

S. Solo

Oo

S.

M-S.

mp dolce

Oo

A.

pp dolce

Oo

T. Solo

p

Oo

T.

pp dolce

Oo

Bar.

pp dolce

Oo

B.

pp dolce

Oo

for
sal

Repeat 3-5 times, poco a poco diminuendo

tempo primo (♩ = c. 60)

51

S. Solo *niente* *p non dim.*

S. *pp sempre* *1st sopranos sings small notes the last time*

M-S. *mf dolce* *pp >*

A. *mf dolce* *pp >*

T. Solo *p non dim.*

T. *mf dolce* *pp >*

Bar. *Repeat two more swells before complete silence*

B. *mf dolce* *pp >*

for cel