



The Things of This World

SATB choir + piano

words by

Katharyn Howd Machan

music by

Nicholas Ryan Kelly

Love is a ship with its sails full-blown,
a cat confessing the moon,
a single footprint filling with rain
on the edge of an ocean dune.

Truth is a perfect silver bell,
a cow dusk-heavy with milk,
the hand of a woman reaching for thread
of cranberry-colored silk.

Beauty—ah! It's a goatskin drum,
a swan with only one wing,
a man who is just beginning to try
to use his mouth to sing.

Performance/rehearsal note

To give the music a sense of momentum and bring out the natural flow of the words, the first beat in every 3/4 measure should be slightly emphasized. The same goes for beats 1 and 3 of each 4/4 measure: the section at **B** should sound like cut time (i.e. only two emphasized beats per bar) even if conducted in 4.

For the Penticton TuneAgers in honour of their 50th season, and
Mosaic Vocal Ensemble in honour of their 25th season.

The Things of this World

words by
Katharyn Howd Machan

music by
Nicholas Ryan Kelly

Fast and flowing ♩ = 116 *p* unis.

Soprano
Alto

Tenor
Bass

Piano

p *f* *p sub.*

ped. *sim. (Ped. harmonically)*

6

S.
A.

T.
B.

Pno

ship with sails full - blown, a cat con - fess - ing the
sails full blown,

mf *mp* *p* *mf*

This score is licensed exclusively for use by the purchasing choir. If you purchased this score, you may freely distribute and copy it **within your own choir**. Any other duplication or sharing is prohibited.

A

11 *p*

S. A. moon, a sin - - gle foot - print fill - ing with

T. B. the moon, love fill - ing with

Pno *p*

16 *f* *mp sub.* *p*

S. A. rain on the edge of an o - cean dune.

T. B. *f* *fp* *pp*
rain with rain, with rain.

Pno *f* *mp sub.* *p*

The Things of this World

22 poco rit. (optional)

S. A.

T. B.

Pno

B A Tempo
Cut time feel, $\text{♩} = 58$

27 *mp*

S. *p*

A. *p*

T. B. *p*

Pno

resonant, floating
8^{va}

p sub.

loco

(gently!)

Red.

Truth is a per - fect sil - ver bell, a cow dusk - hea - vy with
 Truth is a per - fect sil - ver bell, truth is a per - fect sil - ver
 Truth is a per - fect sil - ver bell, truth is a per - fect sil - ver

32

S. milk, the hand of a wo - man reach - ing for thread

A. bell, truth is a per - fect sil - ver bell, for

T. B. bell, truth is a per - fect sil - ver bell, for

Pno

(Ped.) (Ped. harmonically)

36

S. thread, of cran - ber - ry col - oured silk.

A. thread, of cran - ber - ry col - oured silk.

T. B. thread,

Pno

mp *p* unis. *pp* *ff p sub.* *8va*

43

S. A.

T. B.

mp

Beau - ty... ah! It's a goat - skin

Pno

(8)

48

C *mf*

S. A.

T. B.

f *mf*

Beau - ty... ah! It's a goat - skin drum, a swan with on - ly one
 drum, ah!

drum, It's a goat - skin drum, a swan with

Pno

f *mf*

poco rit.....

54 *mp*

S. A. wing, a man who is just be - gin - ning to

T. B. on - ly one wing, man just be - gin - ning to

Pno *mp*

.....

59 **D** *Poco meno mosso*

S. *ff* try to use his mouth to

A. *ff* try, to try, try to

T. B. *ff* try, to try, try to

Pno *ff* *mp* *p*

The Things of this World

64 *(mp)* *poco rit.* *p*

S. sing, to use his mouth *pp* (*quasi echo*) to

A. sing, to use his mouth to

T. B. (opt. bass div.) *pp* (*quasi echo*) to use his mouth to

Pno *mp* *p*

69 *A Tempo* *pp* *rit.*..... *unis.* *p*

S. sing, to sing.

A. sing, to sing.

T. B. sing, to sing.

Pno *mp* *p*

(Opt. bass div. Only sing lowest part if both *p* notes are in range.)