

CHORAL HYMNS

FROM THE

RIG VEDA

BY

GUSTAV VON HOLST.

OP. 26.

SECOND GROUP.

THREE HYMNS FOR FEMALE VOICES
WITH ACCOMPANIMENT FOR ORCHESTRA
OR PIANOFORTE WITH VIOLINS, *AD LIB.*

1. To Varuna.
2. To Agni.
3. Funeral Chant.

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These hymns are written for a chorus in three parts— 1st Trebles, 2nd Trebles and Altos.

In the first hymn there is an independent part for the first row of the whole choir. (see page 5.)

In the third hymn the choir is divided into three groups of two parts each (Trebles and Altos). The first group is to consist of the front half of the choir: the rest will be divided equally into the second group (behind the first) and the third at the back of all, so that these two latter groups will sound as echoes of the first group. Thus, if there are eight rows in the choir, the first four will form the first group, rows 5 and 6 the second group and rows 7 and 8 the third.

In the absence of the orchestra the piano accompaniment will be greatly improved by the addition of the specially-written *ad lib.* violin parts (price 3d each). These are quite different to the orchestral violin parts and the two must not be confused.

In the third hymn the long sustained bass notes may be played on the organ or harmonium instead of the piano.

Pronounce a in Varuna and Agni as u in sun. In both names the accent falls on the first syllable.

Choral Hymns from the Rig Veda.

Second Group.

GUSTAV VON HOLST.

I.

TO VARUNA. (GOD OF THE WATERS)

Adagio. $\text{♩} = 48$.

1st & 2nd
TREBLE.

ALTO.

PIANO.

Adagio. $\text{♩} = 48$.

pp

pp

0 Va - ru - na we of - fer up to thee a song

pp

0 Va - ru - na we of - fer up to thee a song

mf *pp*

cresc.

To bring thee earthward un-to us. 0 thou, the An-cient One,

cresc.

To bring thee earthward un-to us. 0 thou, the An-cient One,

The Mighty, the Ho-ly, la-den with trea-sure of sac-ri - fice, De - scend to

The Mighty, the Ho-ly, la-den with trea-sure of sac-ri - fice, De - scend to

I.
us.
us.
pp
Sua basso

pp parlando cresc.
But now having entered un to his pres - ence his face doth scorch as

pp parlando cresc.
But now having entered un to his pres - ence his face doth scorch as

ff
flames of an-gry fire.

ff
flames of an-gry fire.

II.

p O Va-ru-na if we have sinned a-against thee Yet we are thine own.

p O Va-ru-na if we have sinned a-against thee Yet we are thine own.

Give shel-ter to those that bring thee praise.

Give shel-ter to those that bring thee praise.

Moderato. $\text{♩} = 66$.

Moderato. $\text{♩} = 66$.

Moderato. $\text{♩} = 66$.

cresc.

p dolce

Hast thou for - got - ten How in the days gone by

p dolce

Hast thou for - got - ten How in the days gone by

p

cresc.

With thee O Va - ru - na Fear - less - ly walked we. In - to thy

With thee O Va - ru - na Fear - less - ly walked we. In - to thy

p

man - sion, loft - y and shin - ing, Built with a thou - sand doors,

man - sion, loft - y and shin - ing, Built with a thou - sand doors,

1st TREBLE. III.
Free-ly we en - tered. Then in thy boat we em - barked ____ with thee

2nd TREBLE.
Free-ly we en - tered.

ALTO.
Free-ly we en - tered. Then in thy boat we em -

1st & 2nd TREBLE. III.
Free-ly we en - tered. Then in thy boat we em -

ALTO.
Free-ly we en - tered. Then in thy boat we em -

III.

1st ROW ONLY.
Va - ru-na, Forth did we wend o'er the

Then in thy boat we em - barked ____ with thee Va - ru-na,

barked with thee Va - ru-na,

THE REMAINDER.
barked with thee Va - ru - na, Forth did we

barked with thee Va - ru - na, Forth did we

86769

1st ROW ONLY.

path — of the o - cean,

Forth did we wend o'er the path — of the o - cean, O-ver the surface of

THE REMAINDER.

wend o'er the path of the o - cean, O - ver the

wend o'er the path of the o - cean, O - ver the

This system contains the first three staves of the musical score. The top staff is for the first row, and the bottom two staves are for the remainder. The piano accompaniment is shown in the bottom two staves, with a treble and bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 8/8.

1st ROW ONLY.

O - ver the sur-face of bil - low - y wa -

bil - low - y wa - ters,

O - ver the sur-face of bil - low - y wa-ters, Sway-ing so gent - ly,

THE REMAINDER.

sur - face of bil - low - y wa - ters,

sur - face of bil - low - y wa - ters,

This system contains the next three staves of the musical score. The top staff is for the first row, and the bottom two staves are for the remainder. The piano accompaniment continues in the bottom two staves, maintaining the 8/8 time signature and one sharp key signature.

1st ROW ONLY.

cresc.

- - ters Sway-ing so gent - ly, Glid-ing so smooth - ly,

Sway-ing so gent - ly, Glid-ing so smooth - ly,

Glid-ing so smooth - ly,

THE REMAINDER.

Sway - ing so gent - ly, *cresc.* Glid - ing so smooth - ly,

Sway - ing so gent - ly, *cresc.* Glid - ing so smooth - ly,

IV.

pp

Yea in those hap - py days Thou didst in - spire us,

pp

Yea in those hap - py days Thou didst in - spire us,

pp

Yea in those hap - py days Thou didst in - spire us,

IV.

1st ROW ONLY.

Gav - est us wis - dom, Mad'st us thy sing - ers.

Gav - est us wis - dom, Mad'st us thy sing - ers.

Gav - est us wis - dom, Mad'st us thy sing - ers.

TUTTI. *p cresc. e accel.*

Yea in those hap - py days Thou didst in - spire_ us Gav - est us

Yea in those hap - py days Thou didst in - spire_ us Gav - est us

p cresc. e accel.

V. Più mosso.

wis - dom Mad'st us thy sing - ers.

wis - dom Mad'st us thy sing - ers.

V. Più mosso.

ff

Ah! In those hap - py days Broad were the

Ah! In those hap - py days Broad were the

heav'n's, — Long were the

heav'n's, — Long were the

Adagio.

days *rall.* ————

days *rall.* ————

days ————

O Va - ru - na *p*

O Va - ru - na *p*

rall. *dim.*

if we have sinned a-against thee Yet we are thine

if we have sinned a-against thee Yet we are thine

p

own. Give shel - ter to those that bring thee praise.

own. Give shel - ter to those that bring thee praise.

pp

II.

TO AGNI. (GOD OF FIRE.)

Note. In the following hymn the bars are divided into 3 beats followed by 2 and 2 followed by 3 alternately with few exceptions. The figure at the beginning of each bar denotes which of the two comes first.

Allegro. ♩ = 200.

1st & 2nd TREBLE.

ALTO.

PIANO.

Burn up our sin fierce flam - ing Ag - ni,
Burn up our sin fierce flam - ing Ag - ni,

Allegro. ♩ = 200.

Thou with thy face that shin - eth bright - ly, Flame for us O Ag - ni,
Thou with thy face that shin - eth bright - ly, Flame for us O Ag - ni,

Flame! Flame for us O Ag - ni!

Flame!

3 2 I. 3 *mf* 2

Grant un - to those that call up - on thee,

Flame for us O Ag - ni! Grant un - to those that call up - on thee,

I. 3 *mf* 2

Praising thee for e - ver.

That we may live on in our chil - dren, Praising thee for

That we may live on in our chil - dren,

3 *cresc.* Flame for us O Ag - ni! 3 *cresc.* Flame for us O Ag - ni O

e - ver. Flame for us O

Praising thee for e - ver. Flame for us O

3 *cresc.* 3 3

2 3 2 3

Ag - ni! Flame for us O Ag - ni! Flame for us O

Ag - ni! Flame for us O

8 2 *f* 3 2 3

Flame for us O Ag - nil

Ag - nil

II. 3 2 3

II. *sempre marc.*

ff 3 2 3 *dim.*

Thy glow - ing tongues of flame leap up - ward,

Thy glow - ing tongues of flame leap up - ward,

Reach - ing the heav - ens, E - ver vic - to - ri - ous.

Reach - ing the heav - ens, E - ver vic - to - ri - ous.

Thy face doth gleam on ev - 'ry side.

Thy face doth gleam on ev - 'ry side.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of six systems of music. Each system has a vocal staff (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment (grand staff). The lyrics are written below the vocal staff. The piano accompaniment features various rhythmic patterns, including triplets and sixteenth notes. Dynamics such as *cresc.*, *ff*, *dim.*, *mf*, and *sempre marc.* are indicated throughout the score. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 3/4.

2 *cresc.* 2 3 2

Thou art tri - um - phant ev - 'ry-where.

cresc.

Thou art tri - um - phant ev - 'ry-where.

III. 3 *mp* 2 3 2

O - ver the rag - ing sea of foe - men As in a boat O bear us on - ward,

mp

O - ver the rag - ing sea of foe - men As in a boat O bear us on - ward,

III. 3 *mp* 3 2 3 2

Flame for us 0 Ag - ni!

cresc. *cresc.* *cresc.*

Flame for us 0 Ag - ni! 0 Ag - ni!

Flame for us 0 Ag - ni!

3 *cresc.* 3 3 3

3 2 3 2

Flame for us 0 Ag - ni!

Flame for us 0 Ag - ni!

3 2 3 2

This musical score is for the hymn "Flame for us O Ag-ni!". It is arranged for piano, organ, and vocal parts. The score is divided into four systems, each corresponding to a different organ registration: **IV.2**, **IV.**, **IV.**, and **IV.**. The piano part features complex textures with triplets, sixteenth-note runs, and chords. The organ part provides harmonic support with sustained chords and moving lines. The vocal part consists of two staves, likely for Soprano and Alto, with lyrics in Latin: "Flame for us O Ag-ni!". The tempo and dynamics markings include *mf*, *cresc.*, *fff*, and *accel.*. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor), and the time signature is 3/4.

III. FUNERAL CHANT.

Poco adagio. $\text{♩} = 56$.

ALTOS.

To those for whom the meath is poured, For whom the ho-ly wine doth flow,

Piano.

Poco adagio. $\text{♩} = 56$.

dim.

May he go forth!

mf

pp una corda

1st GROUP.
TREBLE.

ALTO.

2nd GROUP.
TREBLE.

ALTO.

3rd GROUP.
TREBLE.

ALTO.

To those for whom the meath is poured,

To

mf sempre dim. poco a poco al fine

ppp

mf sempre dim. poco a poco al fine

dim.

*

For whom the ho - ly wine doth flow, May he go
 those for whom the meath is poured, For whom the ho - ly wine doth
mf To those for whom the meath is poured, For whom the
 forth! Yea un-to them whose fie-ry zeal Hath burned a path to
 flow, May he go forth! Yea un-to them whose fie - ry
 ho - ly wine doth flow, May he go forth! Yea un - to
 par - a - dise, May he go forth! To those the heroes
 zeal Hath burned a path to par - a - dise, May he go forth!
 them whose fie-ry zeal Hath burned a path to par-a - dise, May he

of the fight, Whose lives were giv'n as sa - cri - fice,
To those the he - roes of the fight, Whose
go forth! To those the he - roes of the fight,

May he go forth! Un - to the faith - ful
lives were giv'n as sa - cri - fice, May he go forth!
Whose lives were giv'n as sa - cri - fice, May he

of the Law, Whose joy doth yield in - crease of truth,
Un - to the faith - ful of the Law, Whose
go forth! Un - to the faith - ful of the Law,

May he go forth! _____

joy doth yield in-crease of truth, May he go forth! _____

Whose joy doth yield in-crease of truth, May he go

Largo.

forth! _____

Largo.

ppp

To those whose souls are born of

To those whose souls are born of

To those whose souls are born of

fire,
fire,
fire,

The po - ets of a
The po - ets of a
The po - ets of a

thou - sand songs,
thou - sand songs,
thou - sand songs,

The musical score is written for three voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor) and Piano. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The piano accompaniment features a continuous eighth-note melody in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand, often with arpeggiated chords. The lyrics are: "fire," (repeated three times), "The po - ets of a", and "thou - sand songs," (repeated three times).

The

Ho-ly Ones who guard the Sun, un-to the Fa-thers, May he go forth! *ppp*

The Ho - ly Ones who guard the Sun, un - to the Fa-thers, May he go *ppp*

May he *ppp*

forth!

go forth!

pppp

8-----