

Repertoire Suggestions for Rehearsing in Small Groups or Sections

Submitted by Barbara Sletto

Choir rehearsals will likely be different when we resume in the fall. One of the scenarios being considered is meeting in smaller groups for shorter periods of time. This could be advantageous or not, depending upon the skills of your singers. If a group is advanced in singing in harmony, rehearsing with two or three voice parts in smaller groups would further improve their independence. Younger singers may have less experience, making part-singing more difficult with 15 or less in the room. I would like to suggest some songs that offer the option for rehearsing by section in unison. When combined, the sections create a pleasing song in parts. These suggestions range from easy to medium difficulty. Most of these songs are folksong based and lend themselves well to solfege instruction! Several pieces have been around for decades and have stood the test of time while other arrangements are relatively new. I hope this list is helpful!

I Let Her Go, Go – arr. Douglas Beam, SA, Hal Leonard, 00114512

Al Shlosha D'Varim – arr. Allan Naplan, two part, Boosey & Hawkes, OCTB6783 (Treble but mixed voicing also works)

I've Got Peace Like a River – arr. Shawn Berry, SSA, Santa Barbara SBMP1419

Mango Walk! – arr. Ken Berg, SSA, Hal Leonard, 00139986

Plenty Good Room – arr. John Horman, three part treble, Hope Publishing Co., SP815

Chatter with the Angels – arr. Lana Walter, two or three part, Jubilate Music Group, BSC00209

Yonder Come Day – arr. Judith Cook Tucker, two or three part, World Music Press, WMP-0101

Shake the Papaya Down – arr. Ruth Dwyer and Judith Waller, three part, Colla Voce, 21-20222

Gaudeamus Hodie – Natalie Sleeth, arr. Carl Strommen, three part SSA or SAB, Carl Fischer, CM7776

Suggestions for Christmas:

Sing Alleluia, Allelu – Mary Goetze, three part, Boosey & Hawkes, OCTB6126

(These two songs incorporate Silent Night, also available in different voicings)

Peace, Peace – Rick Powell & Sylvia Powell, arr. Fred Bock, two part, Fred Bock Music, 08738148

This Peaceful Night – arr. Dog Besig and Nancy Price, multiple voicings, Jubilate Music Group 7788