

## Stonesong: Notes

This song is built up of different 'stones' of songs. Each section is very simple, and the tricky thing is layering them all up together, as they overlap at different times, like stones. Hopefully the lyric bridge will give you a solid sense of the structure of the piece to go alongside the score and recordings.

I've put together a master score, and because it looks a little more complex than it in fact is in SATB form, I've made separate scores for each part that just show the number of repetitions of each part. Hopefully this will give the singers who use dots a sense of the simplicity of their part without worrying about how the other parts layer over the top.

I've done a lyric sheet for each part as well, and it might be nice for the singers to have a copy of the lyric bridge to see the full structure as well. Feel free to use it for concert programme too.

I think the trickiest bit to teach will likely be the sunrise/moonrise (opening and closing sections) so I'd advise to teach this part last, or at least not first. I would also suggest teaching the parts in small sections before putting it all together.

I'd suggest order of part learning:

*Green and gold (all – mother score b. )*

*Water and stone (S/B – mother score b.)*

*Land and People (T/A - mother score b. )*

*I was here/Conriaght, Konrick, Conrig, Cairnhead. (all - mother score b. )*

*Sunrise (all - mother score b. )*

Then start layering them up in their various sections and build the song together. Obviously it's up to you, whatever works for your group, but hopefully some of these ideas will be helpful! Re warm ups, something with triads in it will help, as will delayed entries – something like the 1, 121, 12321, warm up sung as a round would probably work well. I'm sure you know it, just shout if that explanation doesn't trigger a memory!

For the 'I was here' section, I've doubled the octaves in the bass and alto just so that people can choose the most comfortable pitch for them as it's quite high for both parts, and they're just doubling what the tenor and sops are doing anyway.

One of the most important things to give the song it's shape is the speeding up when alto comes in with 'land and people' happens gradually and together, and then the gradual slowing down again at the sister 'stone and lichen' section.

If the song needs to be shorter for any performance, it works without the sunrise and moonrise at either end. The draft learning recording is a wee bit slower than the suggested speed, and with the speed up towards the middle and slow down again at the other end, the song will be between about 7-7.5mins long altogether.

Any other queries, just get in touch.

Thanks, Penny