

Adon Olam

for SATB Chorus and Piano

Music by Joshua Fishbein

Words attributed to Solomon ibn Gabirol (1021-1058)

Winner, Delaware Valley Chorale 2013 Competition for Young Choral Composers

Hebrew Transliteration

*Adon olam asher malach b'terem kol y'tzir nivra,
L'eit na'asah b'cheftzo kol, azai Melech sh'mo nikra.*

*V'acharei kichlot ha-kol l'vado yimloch nora,
V'hu hayah v'hu hoveh, v'hu yih'yeh b'tif'arah.*

*V'hu echad v'ein sheini l'hamshil lo l'hachbirah,
B'li rei-shit b'li tachlit, v'lo ha-oz v'hamisrah.*

*V'hu ei-li v'chai go'ali v'tzur chevli b'eit tzarah,
V'hu nisi u-manos li, m'nat kosi b'yom ekra.*

*B'yado afkid ruchi b'eit ishan v'a-irah,
V'im ruchi g'viyati Adonai li v'lo ira.*

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Pronunciation guide for Hebrew Transliteration

Vowels

a as in father
ai as in *aisle* (= long *i* as in *ice*)
e = short *e* as in *bed*
ei as in *eight* (= long *a* as in *ace*)
i as in *pizza* (= long *e* as in *be*)
o = long *o* as in *go*
u = long *u* as in *lunar*
' = unstressed vowel close to or unstressed short *e*

Consonants

ch as in German *Bach* or Scottish *loch* (not as in *cheese*)
g = hard *g* as in *get* (not soft *g* as in *gem*)
tz = as in *boats*
h after a vowel is silent

Poetic Translation

Lord of the world who reigned before the universe was formed,
When by his will all things were created, then he was proclaimed King.

And after all shall cease, alone shall reign the Awesome one;
He was, He is, and He shall remain in glory.

He is one and there is no second to compare or share -
Without beginning, without end - His strength and His dominion.

He is my God - my living helper - my rock in times of trouble -
He is my banner, my refuge, and my cup's portion for all.

Within his hands I trust my soul, before I sleep and when I wake,
And with my soul, my body, too: The Lord is with me; I shall not fear.

English translation adapted by the composer
from the Standard Book of Jewish Verse (New York, 1917)

Adon Olam

Solomon ibn Gabirol (1021-1058)

Joshua Fishbein

Flowing, with intensity ♩=72

holding back

Piano

p *cresc.* *mf* *decresc.*

Con Ped.

Lord of the world who reigned before

rit.

Majestically, with wonder ♩=54

S
A
T
B

mp *mp* *mp* *mp*

A - don o - lam a - sher ma - lach b' - te - rem

A - don o - lam a - sher ma - lach

A - don o - lam a - sher ma - lach b' - te - rem

A - don o - lam a - sher ma - lach

p

movendo (♩ = 60)

8

S kol y' - tzir niv - ra, L' - eit na - a - sah b' - chef - tzo

A b' - te - rem kol y' - tzir niv - ra, L' - eit na - a - sah

T kol y' - tzir niv - ra, L' - eit na - a - sah b' - chef - tzo

B b' - te - rem kol y' - tzir niv - ra, L' - eit na - a - sah

8

mf *dolce* *covered*

mf *dolce*

mf *dolce*

mf *dolce*

mp

all things, then King He was proclaimed.

pressing forward (♩ = 72)

11

S kol, a - zai Me - lech sh' - mo ni - kra, sh' - mo ni -

A b' - chef - tzo kol, a - zai Me - lech sh' - mo ni - kra, sh' - mo ni -

T kol, a - zai Me - lech sh' - mo ni - kra,

B b' - chef - tzo kol, a - zai Me - lech sh' - mo ni - kra,

11

cresc. *f*

cresc. *f*

cresc. *f*

cresc. *f*

mf *cresc.* *f*

holding back, little by little

rit.

(decresc. poco a poco)

mf

mp

p

15

S kra.

A kra,

T sh'-mo ni - kra,

B sh'-mo ni - kra.

(decresc. poco a poco)

mf *mp* *p*

ni - kra.

ni - kra.

15

(decresc. poco a poco)

mf *mp* *p*

And after shall cease all alone shall reign the Awesome one; He was,

Majestically, with wonder ♩ = 54

p

mp

19

S V'-a - cha-rei kich-lot ha - kol I' - va - do yim-loch no - ra, V' - hu ha-

A V'-a - cha-rei kich-lot ha - kol I' - va - do yim-loch no - ra, V' - hu ha-

p *mp*

dark

19

pp delicately *p* cresc.

pressing forward, gradually (♩ = 62)

23 *cresc. poco a poco* *mf*

S yah _____ v' - hu ho - veh, v' - hu yi - h' - yeh, v' - hu yi - h' -

A yah _____ v' - hu ho - veh, v' - hu yi - h' - yeh, v' - hu yi - h' -

T V' - hu ha - yah v' - hu ho - veh, v' - hu yi - h'yeh, *mf cresc.*

B V' - hu ha - yah v' - hu ho - veh, v' - hu yi - h' - yeh, *mf*

mp cresc. poco a poco *mf*

23 *mp* *mf*

*in glory.**(♩ = 72) triumphantly poco rit. Leisurely, but strong* (♩ = 60)

26 *f* *molto* *p*

S yeh _____ b' - tif - a - rah. *f* *mp*

A yeh _____ b' - tif - a - rah, b' - tif - a - rah. *f* *mp*

T b' - tif - a - rah, b' - tif - a - rah. *f* *mp*

B b' - tif - a - rah, b' - tif - a - rah. *f* *mp*

26 *f* *mf cantabile*

He is one and there is no second

poco rit. Majestically, but with rubato (♩ = 54)

30

molto *pp*

A

T

B

V' - hu e-chad v' - ein shei - ni

mp

mp

30

mp

p

to compare or share

- Without beginning, without end -

33

S

A

T

B

l' - ham - shil lo l' - hach - bi - rah,

l' - ham - shil lo l' - hach - bi - rah,

B' - li rei - shit b' - li tach -

B' - li rei - shit b' - li tach -

33

36

S *mf* *cresc. gaining power* *declamando*
lit, v' - lo ha-oz v' - ha - mis - rah, v' - ha - mis -

A *mf* *cresc. gaining power* *declamando*
lit, v' - lo ha-oz v' - ha - mis - rah, v' - ha - mis -

T *mf* *cresc. gaining power* *declamando*
v' - lo ha-oz v' - ha - mis - rah, v' - ha - mis -

B *mf* *cresc. gaining power* *declamando*
v' - lo ha-oz v' - ha - mis - rah, v' - ha - mis -

mp *mf* *declamando*

A little faster, flowing ♩ = 60

(poco decresc. gradualmente)

39

S *f* *mf*
rah, v' - ha - mis - rah. *(poco decresc. gradualmente)*

A *f* *mf*
rah, v' - ha - mis - rah. *(poco decresc. gradualmente)*

T *f* *mf*
rah, v' - ha - mis - rah. *(poco decresc. gradualmente)*

B *f* *mf*
rah, v' - ha - mis - rah.

39

f *mf*

Still faster ♩ = 64

poco rit.

43 *mp*

S

A

T

B

43

cantabile p

cresc.

mp

mf

fp

He is my God - my living helper - my rock in times of trouble; He is my

Heavy, deliberate ♩ = 68

48 *mp solo articulate*

A

mp solo articulate

B

v' - hu ni -

v' - hu ei - li v'-chai go-a - li v'-tzur chev - li b'-eit tza - rah,

48

banner, my refuge,

and my cup's portion for all.

Within His hands

Faster again, restless ♩ = 72

53

S *subito p dolce*

A *mf cresc. tutti subito p dolce*

si u-ma-nos li, m'-nat ko - si b'-yom e - kra. B' - ya - do

53 *p mp mf sub. pp*

I trust my soul, before I sleep

and when I wake, And with my soul,

(linger) *mf cresc.*

S af - kid ru - chi V' - im ru - chi

A af - kid ru - chi V' - im ru - chi

T *mp* b' - et i - shan v' - a i - rah, V' - im ru - chi

B *tutti mp* b' - et i - shan v' - a i - rah, V' - im ru - chi

58 *p mp cresc.*

my body, too:

The Lord

rit.

Freely (♩ = c.a. 50)

ff *fiercely bold*

S
g' - vi - ya - ti A - do - nai

A
g' - vi - ya - ti A - do - nai

T
g' - vi - ya - ti A - do - nai

B
g' - vi - ya - ti A - do - nai

62 *mf* *f* *ffz*

8^{vb}

is with me;

I shall not

Faster, with intensity ♩ = 72

molto rit.

fear.

S
li v' - lo i -

A
li v' - lo i -

T
li v' - lo i -

B
li v' - lo i -

66 *mp* *pp* *mf cresc.*

8^{vb}

(decresc. poco a poco)

S *f* ra, v' - lo i - ra, *mf*

A *f* ra, v' - lo i - ra, *mf*

T *f* ra, v' - lo i - ra, *mf*

B *f* ra, v' - lo i - ra, *mf*

70 *f* *mf*

S *mp* v' - lo i - ra, *mf* holding back, little by little *dolce*

A *mp* v' - lo i - ra, *mf* *dolce*

T *mp* v' - lo i - ra, *mf* *dolce*

B *mp* v' - lo i - ra, *mf* *dolce*

74 *mp* *f* *mp* *mf*

rit.

Steadily, resolved ♩ = 62

78

S *mp* warm i - ra,

A *mp* warm i - ra,

T *mp* warm i - ra,

B *mp* warm i - ra,

78

mp *p* *mp*

ritardando poco a poco

molto rit.

82

S *p* *pp* sotto voce v' - lo i - ra.

A *p* *pp* sotto voce v' - lo i - ra.

T *p* *pp* sotto voce v' - lo i - ra.

B *p* *pp* sotto voce v' - lo i - ra.

82

p *pp* *ppp*