

Songs
of
Heaven

Words of the Báb
and
Bahá'u'lláh

music by
John Thomas Higgins

2022

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Performance Notes

In the *Song Of The Immortal Youth* parts one and two, the music found herein is an attempt to set texts which are inherently mystical into melody. The text describes the efflorescence of a new Manifestation of God - The Báb - in the world of the Spirit, and the opportunity for mankind to believe in Him. A new Revelation from God is proclaimed by the inhabitants of heaven.

A Song Cycle From The Writings Of The Báb announces the advent of the Báb, the “Remembrance of God”, and then proclaims the imminent advent of “Him Whom God shall make manifest”, the “Remnant of God”, Bahá’u’lláh. It ends with the promise of the Báb to be, in Spirit, with those who visit His shrine.

Song of the Immortal Youth

Bahá'u'lláh

Part One, with text from the *Tablet of the Immortal Youth**
SSAATB

John Thomas Higgins

$\text{♩} = 120$
Tutti *mf*

Choir
Lo, the gates of Par - a - dise were un locked, and the hal - lowed Youth came forth. bear - ing

Piano
Lo, the gates of Par - a - dise were un locked, and the hal - lowed Youth came forth bear - ing.
(The piano accompaniment is provided to be used at the choir director's discretion.)

8

Choir
— a ser - pent plain. Re - joice! This is the im - mor - tal Youth,

Pno.
— a ser - pent plain. Re - joice! This is the im - mor - tal Youth,

12

Choir
come with crys - tal wat - ers.
come with

Pno.
come with crys - tal wat - ers.

Song of the Immortal Youth Part One

15
Choir *SA mf* *3*
U-pon His face was a veil wov-en by the fing - ers of might and pow - er.

22
Choir *Tutti f <* *mf* *SA* *3*
Re-joyce! This is the im-mor - tal Youth, come___ with a might-y name.___ U-pon His
come___ with a might-y name.___
Pno.
Re-joyce This is the im-mor - tal Youth, come___ with a might-y name.___

28
Choir
brow there shone a beau - teous crown, which cast its splen - dour u - pon all

33
Choir
who are in heav - en and all who are on earth.---

37
Choir *Tutti* *SA* *3*
Re-joyce! This is the im-mor - tal Youth, come___ with a might-y cause.___ U pon His
come___ with a might-y cause.___
Pno.
Re-joyce! This is the im-mor - tal Youth, come___ with a might-y cause.---

Song of the Immortal Youth Part One

43

Choir

should - ers there fell the locks_____ of the spir - it, like un - to

47

Choir

black musk u - pon_____ white_____ and lus - trous pearls.

51 *Tutti*

Choir

Re-joice! This is the im-mor-tal Youth, come with a tran-scend-ent cause.____

Re-joice! This is the im-mor-tal Youth, come with a tran scend-ent cause.____

Pno.

57 SA

Choir

On His right hand was a ring a - dorned_____ with a pure_____ and bless-ed gem.

63 *Tutti*

Choir

Re-joice! This is the im-mor-tal Youth, come with a might-y spir - it.

Re-joice! This is the im - mor-tal Youth, come with a might-y spir - it.

Pno.

69 SA *f*

U-pon it was grav-en, in a sec-ret and an-cient script: "By God! A most no-ble An-

75

gel is— this."—

And the hearts of the in - mates of the e-ter-nal realm cried out:

80 Tutti

"Re-joice! This is the im-mor-tal Youth, come with an an-cient light."

"Re - joice!— This is the im-mor-tal Youth, come with an an-cient light."

Pno.

86 SA

U - pon His right— cheek was a mark whose sight— caused ev - ry man

91 Tutti

of un-der-stand-ing to wa - ver in his— faith. And they that dwell

And they that dwell

Song of the Immortal Youth Part One

94

Choir

be - hind the veil of the un - seen ex - claimed:

be - hind the veil of the un - seen ex - claimed:

97 *Tutti*

Choir

"Re- joice! This is the im- mor - tal Youth, come ___ with a might- y sec - ret."

"Re - joice! This is the im- mor - tal Youth, come ___ with a might- y sec - ret."

Pno.

103 *SA mf*

Choir

This is the Point from which the know- ledge of the for- mer and the lat - ter gen - er -

107

Choir

a - tions hath been un - fold - ed.

And the den- i- zens of the King - dom in - toned:

112 *f* Tutti

Choir
 "Re - joice! This is the im - mor - tal Youth, come with a might - y know - ledge."
 come with_

Pno.

118 SA

Choir
 This, ver - i - ly, is the Horse - man of the Spir - it_ Who circ - leth round the fount of ev - er - last - ing life.

123

Choir
 And they that lie con - cealed in the re - treats of the high - est heav - en_ cried out:___

Pno.

127 *f* Re - joice!___

Choir
 "Re - joice!___ This is the im - mor - tal Youth,___ come with___ a might - y un - veil - ing."
 Youth,___ come with___ a

Pno.

Song of the Immortal Youth Part One

133 *SA mf*

Choir

He de-scend-ed from the ta-ber-na - cle of beaut-y till He stood, e-ven as the sun in the

138

Choir

mid-most heav - en, ar - rayed with a beaut - y at once peer - less and tran-scen-dent

143 *Tutti*

Choir

Re - joi-ce! This is the im - mor - tal Youth, come with the most joy - ful tid - ings.

Re - joi-ce! This is the im - mor - tal Youth, come with the most joy - ful tid - ings.

im - mor - tal Youth, come with the most joy - ful tid - ings.

Re - joi-ce! This is the im - mor - tal Youth, come with the most joy - ful tid - ings.

Pno.

149 *Tutti*

Choir

Stand - ing in the mid-most heav-en, He shone forth like un-to the sun in its mer-i - di-

Stand - ing in the mid-most heav-en, He shone forth like un-to the sun in its mer-i - di-

156

Choir

an splen - dour, il - lum - in - ing the seat of di-vine beaut - y with His

an splen - dour, il - lum - in - ing the seat of di-vine beaut - y with His

160

Choir

might - y Name. Where - u - pon the Cri - er cried out:_____

might - y Name. Where - u - pon the Cri - er cried out:_____

164

Choir

mf "Re - jice!_____ This is the Beaut - y of the un - seen,_____

"Re - jice!_____ This is the Beaut - y of the un - seen,_____

Pno.

168

Choir

come_

come with a might - y spir - it."

come_

come with a might - y spir - it."

Pno.

172

Choir

[A] SA

And the Maids of heav-en cried out from their cel-es-tial cham-bers: "Hal-losed be the Lord

Song of the Immortal Youth Part One

181

Choir

the most ex - cel - lent of all cre - a - tors!" And the night - in - gale sang sweet - ly:

AT

190

Choir

"Re - joice! This is the im - mor - tal Youth, Whose like the eyes of the fa - vour'd ones of

"Re - joice! This is the im - mor - tal Youth, Whose like the eyes of the fa - vour'd ones of

Tutti

Pno.

199

Choir

Heav - en have ne - ver be - held." And lo, the gates of Par - a - dise were un -

Heav - en have ne - ver be - held." And lo, the gates of Par - a - dise were un -

Pno.

209

Choir

locked a sec - ond time with the key of His Great Name. "Re -

locked a sec - ond time with the key of His Great Name. "Re -

Pno.

216

Choir

joice! This is the im - mor - tal Youth, Come with a might - y name."

Pno.

223

Choir

Altos only

And the Maid of beaut - y shone forth ev - en as the dawn - ing

229

Choir

Sopranos only

sun a - bove the hor - i - zon of a re - splend - ent

234

Choir

SSAA

morn. Re-joice! This is the di - vine Maid-en, come with sur - pass - ing beaut-y.

Pno.

the di - vine Maid-en

242

Choir

SA

She came forth with such a - dorn - ing as to seize with long - ing de -

249

Choir

sire the minds of them that are nigh un - to God.

Song of the Immortal Youth Part One

255 *Tutti*

Choir

Re-joyce! This is the Maid of Heav-en, come with al-lur-ing charm.

Pno.

264 *Alto Solo*

Choir

De-scend-ing from the cham-bers of e-ter-ni-ty, she sang in ac-cents that en-tranced the

271 *Tutti*

Choir

hearts of the sin-cere. Re-joyce! This is the im-mor-tal

Pno.

Re-joyce! This is the im-mor-tal


276 *SA*


Choir

Beaut-y, come with a might-y sec-ret. Sus-

Pno.

Beaut-y, come with a might-y sec-ret.


282
 Choir

 pend - ed in the air, she let fall a sin - gle lock

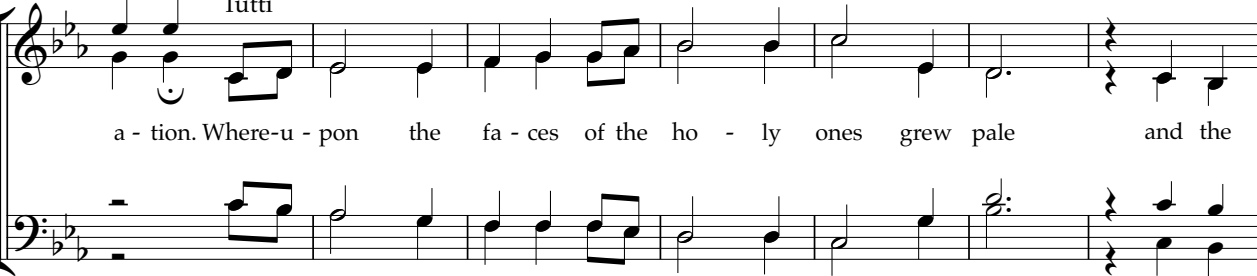
286
 Choir

 of her hair from be - neath her lu - min - ous veil.

290 *Tutti*
 Choir

 Re-joice! This is the Maid of Heav-en, come with a wond - rous spir - it.
 come with a wond - rous spir - it.
 Re-joice! This is the Maid of Heav-en, come with a wond - rous spir - it.

Pno.


296 *SA*
 Choir

 Shed - ding the frag - rance of that lock u - pon all cre -

300 *Tutti*
 Choir

 a - tion. Where-u - pon the fa - ces of the ho - ly ones grew pale and the
 Where-u - pon the fa - ces of the ho - ly ones grew pale and the

Song of the Immortal Youth Part One

307 *rit.* *mp* SA *A tempo*

Choir hearts of the ar - dent lov - ers were filled with the blood of an - guish. Re -

hearts of the ar - dent lov - ers were filled with the blood of an - guish

313 Maid of Alto

Choir joyce! This is the Maid of Heav-en, come with the sweet - est frag - rance. — By

322 *mf*

Choir God! Who - so - ev - er clos - eth his eyes to her beaut - y

326

Choir hath fall - en prey to grave de - cep - tion and man - i - fest err - or. —

331 *Tutti* *f*

Choir Re-joyce! This is the im - mor - tal Beaut-y, come with a shin - ing light. —

Re-joyce! This is the im - mor - tal Beaut-y, come with a shin - ing light. —

Pno. *f*

340 SA *mf*

Choir She turned, and round — her cir - cled the in -

345

Choir

ha - bi - tants of both this world and the world to come.

351 *Tutti*

Choir

Re - joice! This is the Maid of Heav-en, come with a might - y dis-pen-
Heav-en come with a
Re - joice! This is the Maid of Heav - en, - come - with a might - y dis-pen-

Pno.

359 *SA*

Choir

sa - tion. She ad - vanced, ar - rayed with a rare and glor - ious a -
sa - tion.

Pno.

365

Choir

dorn - ing, till she stood face to face be - fore the Youth.

Song of the Immortal Youth Part One

371 *Tutti* the im - mor - tal_

Choir
Re - joice! This is the im - mor - tal_ Beaut - y, come with en - chant - ing grace.
come come with with

Pno.

Re joice! This is the im - mor - tal Beaut - y, come_ with en - chant - ing grace.

380 *SA mf*

Choir
From be - neath her veil she drew forth her hand, gold - en

386

Choir
tinged as a sun - beam fall - ing u - pon the face of a stain - less

392 *Tutti*

Choir
mir - ror. Re - joice! This is the im - mor - tal Beau - ty,
Re - joice! This is the im - mor - tal Beau - ty,

Pno.

397

Choir
come come with a re - splen - dent a - dorn - ing.
a re - splen - dent a - dorn - ing.

Pno.

come with a re - splen - dent a - dorn - ing.

401 SA
 Choir Her in-com-par-a-ble ru - by fing - ers seized the hem of the veil that hid the face of the

410 Soprano Solo
 Choir Youth. "Re joice! This is the im - mor - tal Beaut-y, come with a might - y glance."

419 SA
 Choir And drew it back, where-u-pon the pil-lars of the Throne on high were made to trem-ble.

428 Tutti
 Choir Re - joice! This is the im - mor-tal Youth, come with a might - y cause.
 come_ with_
 Re - joice! This is the im - mor-tal Youth, come_ with_ a might - y cause.

434 Tutti
 Choir Then did the spir - its of all cre - a - ted things part from their
 Then did the spir - its of all cre - a - ted things part from their

Song of the Immortal Youth Part One

438

Choir

bod-ies. Re-joice! This is the im-mor-tal Youth, come with a might-y cause.

Pno.

444

Choir

SA

And the in-mates of Par-a-dise rent their gar-ments a-

447

Choir

sun-der as they caught a light-ning glimpse of His an-cient and shin-ing count-en-

451

Choir

Tutti

ance. Re-joice! This is the im-mor-tal Youth, come with an ef-ful-gent light.

Re-joice! This is the im-mor-tal Youth, come with an ef-ful-gent light.

Pno.

457

Choir

Soprano

At that mo-ment the Voice of the E-ter-nal was heard from be-yond the veil of

461 *Alto*

Choir

clouds with a sweet and en - chant - ing call. _____

464 *Tutti*

Choir

Re-joyce! This is the im - mor - tal Youth, come with a might - y en - chant - ment.

Re-joyce! This is the im - mor - tal Youth, come with a might - y en - chant - ment.

Pno.

470 *Alto* *Soprano*

Choir

And from the source of God's ins - crut - a - ble de - cree the Tongue of the Un - seen pro - claimed: _____ "By

475

Choir

God! The like of this Youth the eyes of the for - mer gen - er - a - tions have nev - er be - held." _____

480 *Tutti* *mf* *SA*

Choir

Re-joyce! This is the im - mor - tal Youth, come _____ with a might - y cause. _____ And the

Re-joyce! This is the im - mor - tal Youth, come _____ with a might - y cause. _____

Pno. *mf*

Song of the Immortal Youth Part One

486

Choir

maids of ho-li-ness cried out from the cham-bers of ex-al-ted do-min-ion.

491 SA Youth, come—

Choir

Re-joice! This is the im-mor-tal Youth, come— with man-i-fest sov-reign-ty.

Pno.

497 Tutti

Choir

By God!.. This is that Youth Whose beau-ty is the ar-dent de-sire— of the ce-les-ti-

Pno.

502

Choir

al Con-course. Re-joice! This is the im-

Pno.

505

Choir

mor - tal Youth, come with a might - y cause.

Pno.

509

Choir

Then did the Youth lift up His head to the con-course of heav-en-ly an-gels

514

Choir

Re - joi-ce! This is the im-mor-tal Youth, come with a might-y spir - it

Pno.

Tutti

520

Choir

And gave voice to a sing - le word, where - u -

Song of the Immortal Youth Part One

523

Choir

pon the den - i - zens of heav - en a - rose, one and all, to a new life.

pon the den - i - zens of heav - en a - rose, one and all, to a new life._

527

Choir

Re-joyce! This is the im-mor - tal Youth, come_ with a might-y trum-pet blast.

Re-joyce! This is the im-mor - tal Youth, come_ with_ a might-y trum-pet blast.

Pno.

533

SA

Choir

He looked then u - pon the in - hab - i - tants of the earth with a won - drous

539

Tutti

Choir

glance Re-joyce! This is the im - mor - tal Youth, come with_ a might - y glance._ And Youth, _

Re-joyce! This is the im - mor - tal Youth, come with_ a might - y glance._

Pno.

548

SA

Choir

with_ that glance he gath - ered them to - ge - ther each and

553 **Tutti**

Choir
all. Re-joice! This is the im-mor-tal Youth, come with a might-y cause.
Re-joice! This is the im-mor-tal Youth, come with a might-y cause.

Pno.

561 **SA**

Choir
With a - no - ther look He sig - nalled to a cho - sen few,

565

Choir
then re - paired to His hab - i - ta - tion in the ev - er - last - ing Pa - ra -

568 **rit. - - - - - Tutti**

Choir
dise. And this, tru - ly is a might - y cause!... tru - ly, is a might - y cause!
And this, tru ly, is a might - y cause!... tru - ly, is a might - y cause!

Pno.

* The Text for this composition was taken verbatim from
Tablet Of The Immortal Youth, pages 131 to 135,
found in:

DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE

Selections from the Writings of Bahá'u'lláh for Bahá'í Holy Days
Bahá'í World Centre, 2016

It is part of a suite of compositions entitled Songs of Heaven, which includes:
Song of the Immortal Youth Part 1, Song of the Immortal Youth Part 2 and
A Song Cycle from the Writings of the Báb.

It is intended that all three pieces be performed together in the sequence
noted in the Table of Contents, however, they can be performed individually.