PAUL WINCHESTER

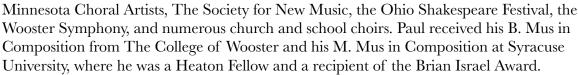
CELEBRATE TODAY!

SATB with Piano and optional Guitar, Bass, and Drums

About the Composer

Paul Winchester is an award-winning composer, performer, educator, and music director in Minneapolis, MN.

Praised for "beautiful harmonic and melodic language," Paul's work has been commissioned and performed by the The Singers:



As a performer, Paul performs regularly throughout the Twin Cities in both studio and live settings as a singer and multi-instrumentalist. Paul has served as the Music Director for the Unitarian Universalist Church of Minnetonka since 2014.

In addition to his music career, Paul is also a professional game developer, notably serving as lead designer and producer for most of the product line of Star Wars: Imperial Assault, winner of the 2015 Board Game of the Year Origin Award.

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More Music

A Holy Night – SATB Unaccompanied – 6'30"

If It Was Your Son – SATB Unaccompanied – 6'

Lux Benedictum – SATB, Piano, and Percussion – 3'

Magnificat – SATB, Violin, Cello, and Piano – 5'45"

Mourning Poem – SATB and Piano – 4'45"

Stabat Mater – SATB with soloists, Piano, Timpani, and 2 Percussionists – 9'

Stillness Meditation – SATB and Piano – 5'

Remember Love – SATB and Piano – 3'45"

Where You're Meant To Be – SATB and Piano – 4'15"

5 Pillars – Tenor, Percussion, and Piano – 27'30" At Sunset – Voice and Piano – 5'45" I Am Not There – Voice and Piano – 4'30"

Dialogue for Clarinet and Piano – 6'30" Syncophony – Clarinet, Cello, Piano, Electric Guitar, and 2 Percussionists – 20'

These pieces and more available for purchase at <u>paulwinchester.com</u>.

Text

It's not a festival or holy feast.
There's no occasion of renown.
And yet today we're gonna celebrate the simple glories that abound.

The love of a child or a deer running wild or a time just to stop and breathe; forming a bond, or growing beyond what we conceive. I can barely believe the gifts we receive.

In quiet worship or in loud acclaim we come to mark this sacred time when what might be ignored as commonplace gives us a taste of the sublime. Every today and each one on the way is a cause for us to celebrate. How can we start to perceive in our hearts the joys that await if we just integrate what life can create?

See what an ordinary day can bring. Small joys of a heart that's free; moving with our spirits we can't help but shout and sing as we say:

Celebrate today!

Composer's Note

While there are countless choral pieces honoring and celebrating specific holidays and occasions, when I was set to write a piece on the topic of celebration, I wanted to instead elevate the everyday and how worth celebrating it is. One of the hallmarks of Unitarian Universalism is that it lifts up as sacred or holy things what might otherwise be regarded as mundane or profane. But, even as we lift it up in our hearts, we need to be sure that we take the time not just to recognize these wonders, but to actively celebrate them as well.

This piece combines a text honoring the small miracles of the everyday with a musical setting featuring heavy use of jazz chords and syncopation to create a fun, exuberant, and vivacious feeling in the both the singers and the audience.

For extra fun and enjoyment, a rock band can be added to the musical ensemble as well, with parts available at www.paulwinchester.com/celebrate-today.

Celebrate Today!









