Alexander L'Estrange &
Joanna Forbes L'Estrange

We will remember them

S/A/Men & Piano

andagio

We will remember them
as sung by the Military Wives Choirs on their 2018 album *'Remember'*

We were delighted to receive a commission from the Military Wives Choirs for their WW1 centenary album *'Remember'*. In order to ensure that our lyrics were personal to the singers, we read many accounts from MWC members up and down the country, detailing what particular significance the WW1 centenary has for them. The theme that came through most strongly was a desire for people to understand what huge sacrifices were made by those who fought in the wars and that, by continuing to remember, we are honouring that sacrifice. But it was also clear that being part of a Military Wives Choir is as much to do with mutual support of one another and the strength and sense of belonging which comes from singing together regularly as it is about the music-making itself. The act of getting together for a good old sing-song helped people through hard times during the world wars and still does today. As our song says, *Through our singing we unite, as it was then and still is now.*

It has been very moving to coach many of the Military Wives Choirs on our song, to witness such an emotional response to the words and such heart-felt singing. *We will remember them* is ultimately an uplifting song, affirming our determination never to forget those who fought for our country; it's also about unity, pulling together in adversity and the healing power of communal singing. It is our hope that many choirs will want to sing *We will remember them* each Remembrance Sunday. By incorporating segments of *The Last Post* (there is an optional bugle/trumpet part available), the song places us in the right context from the first note until the last.

Alexander L'Estrange & Joanna Forbes L'Estrange, March 2018

Commissioned by the Military Wives Choirs
First performed by the Military Wives Choirs, the Orion Orchestra
and the Band of the Household Cavalry
22 October 2017 at Cadogan Hall, London UK

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Scoring:

S/A/Men (or any baritone-range singers) & piano
optional bugle/piccolo trumpet, strings & rhythm section
(instrumental parts available on request)

Versions for SSA and SATB choir are also available: visit **www.alexanderlestrange.com/shop**

We will remember them

Commissioned by the Military Wives Choirs to commemorate the centenary of 1918, the end of the First World War

Lyrics by Joanna Forbes L'Estrange

Music by Alexander L'Estrange
& Joanna Forbes L'Estrange

Steady tempo ♩ = 68

S./A.

VERSE 1

p

She did-n't

Steady tempo ♩ = 68

[Bugle]

VERSE 1

mp

7 S./A.

know, as she watched him go, if she would ev er hold him in her arms a-gain.

p

10

Waved good-bye, try-ing hard not to cry, won-d'ring

13

when this dread-ful war would ev er end. And ev-'ry day, in the know

mp espress.

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16 S./A.

cresc.

- ledge that he could get un - luc - ky in the fight, and

cresc.

18 S./A.

più f

make the big-gest sa - cri - fice of all. So sing it out: We will re -

Men

più f

We will re -

CHORUS 1 & 2

21 S.

mem - ber them un-til the seas run dry, Come each No-vem - ber when we hear our

A.

mem - ber them un-til the seas run dry, Come each No-vem - ber when we hear our

Men

mem - ber them un-til the seas run dry, Come each No-vem - ber when we hear our

CHORUS 1 & 2

f

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24

mf

poco rit.

A tempo

mp

chil-dren ask us, why, in two mi-nutes of si - lence, all the world stands still? We will re

mp

chil-dren ask us, why, *ooh*

mp

chil-dren ask us, why, *ooh*

poco rit.

A tempo

mp

28

(on to b. 46 for 2nd time bar)

1.

mem-ber them, and for-ev - er and ev - er, we will.

p

ooh *ah* *ooh*

p

ooh *ah* *ooh*

(on to b. 46 for 2nd time bar)

1.

p

mf

VERSE 2

31 Men *mf*

Some sur - vived, stand-ing tall with pride, as the

VERSE 2 *p*

34

pop-py pe-tals fall be-fore our eyes. It's to them and to those

37 S./A. *mp*

Men

For

who died we owe our free-dom; for us they paid the price.

40 S./A. *cresc.*

ev - er more it is our du - ty to help to heal the hu-man race, to

Men *cresc.*

to help to heal the hu-man race, to

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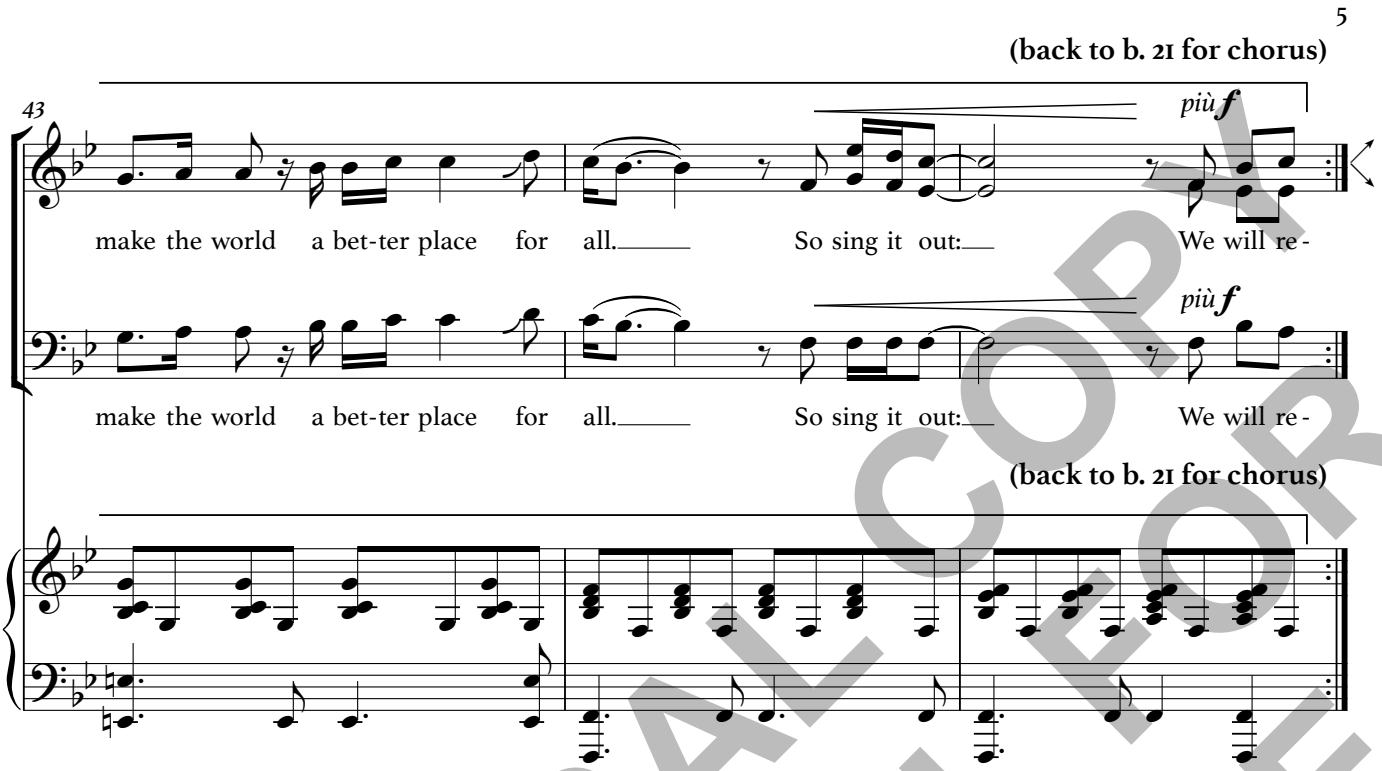

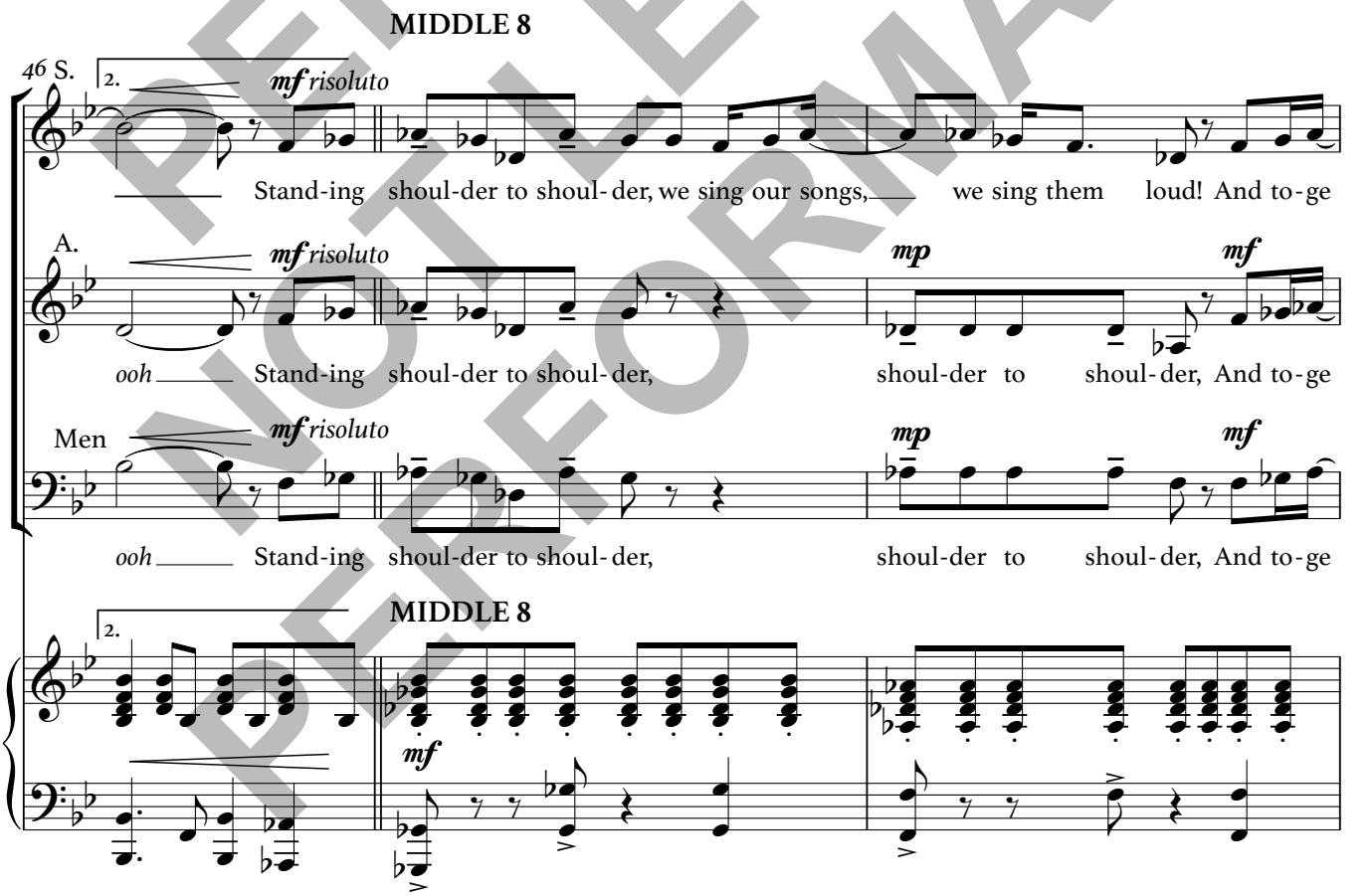

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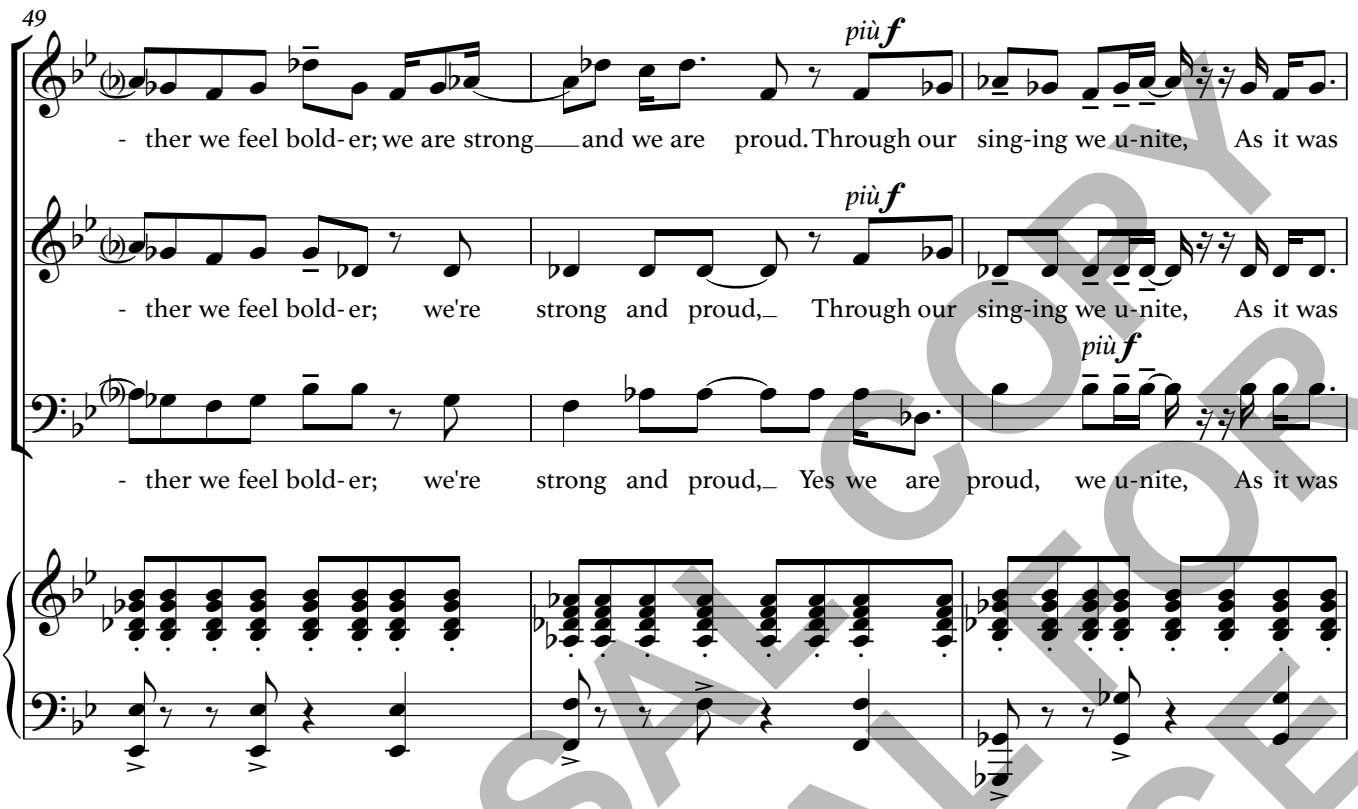

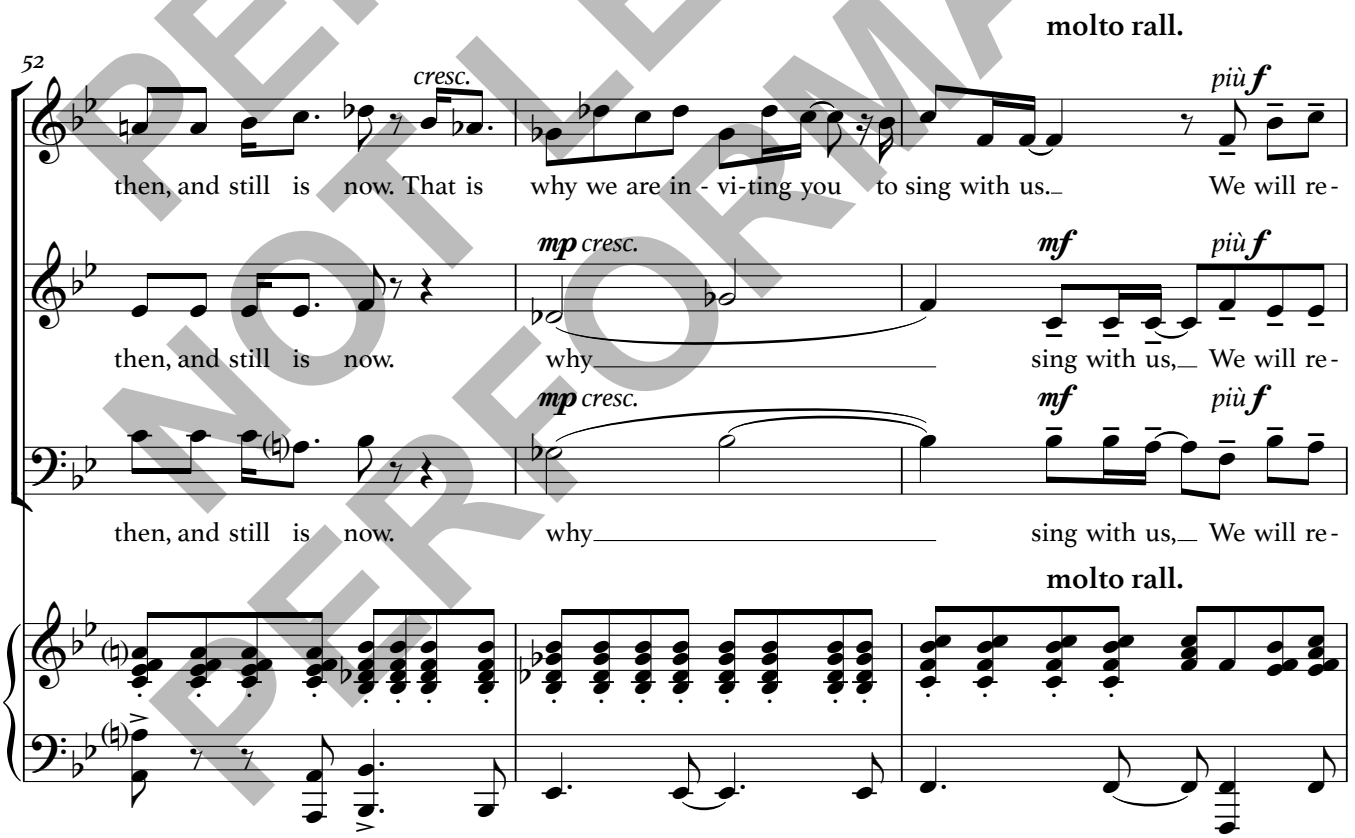

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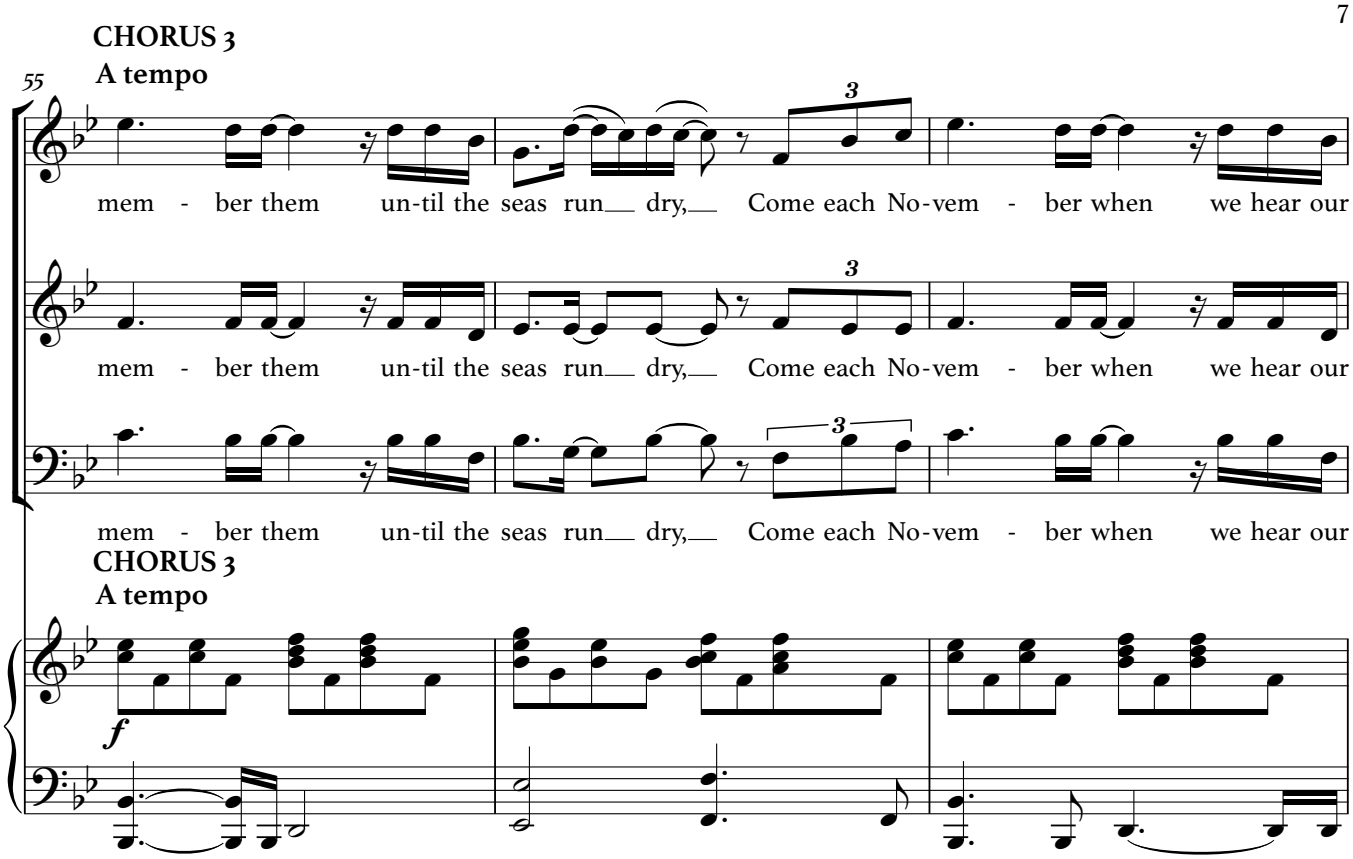
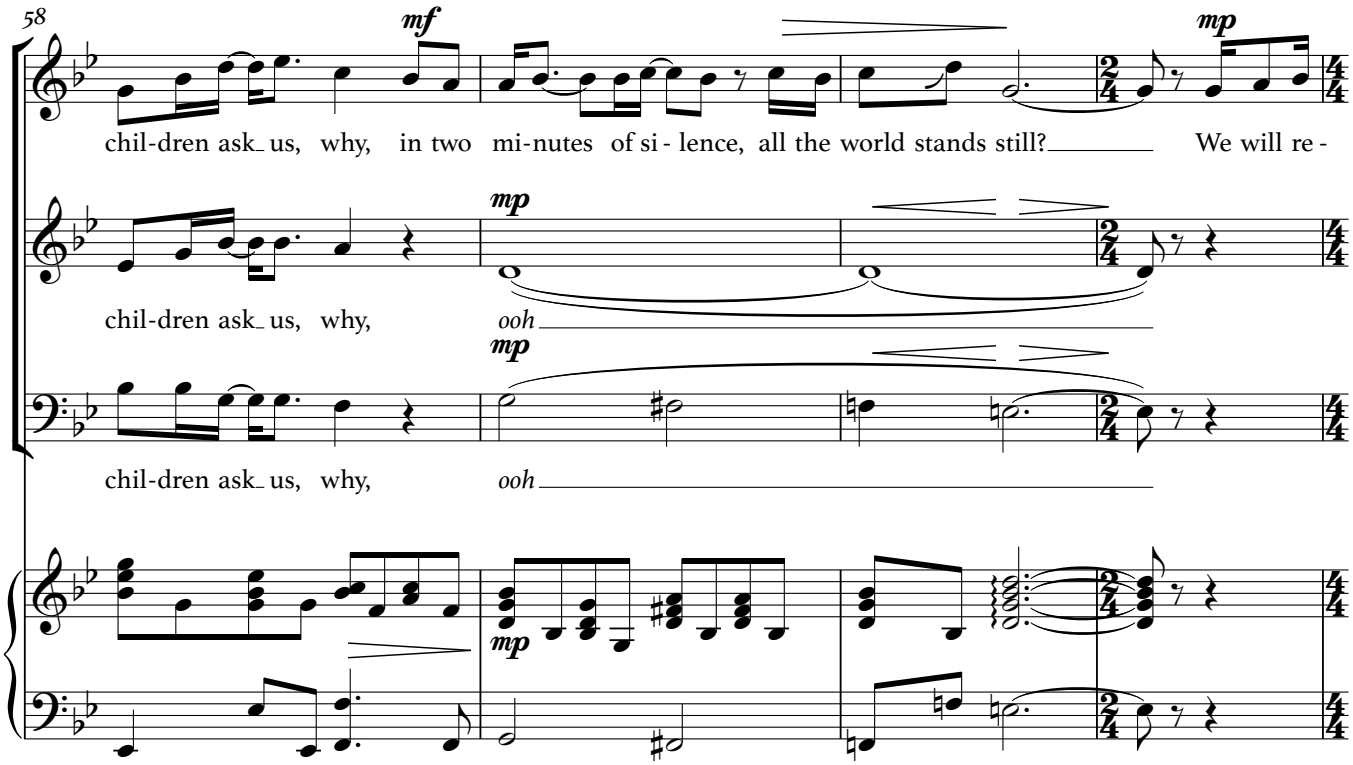
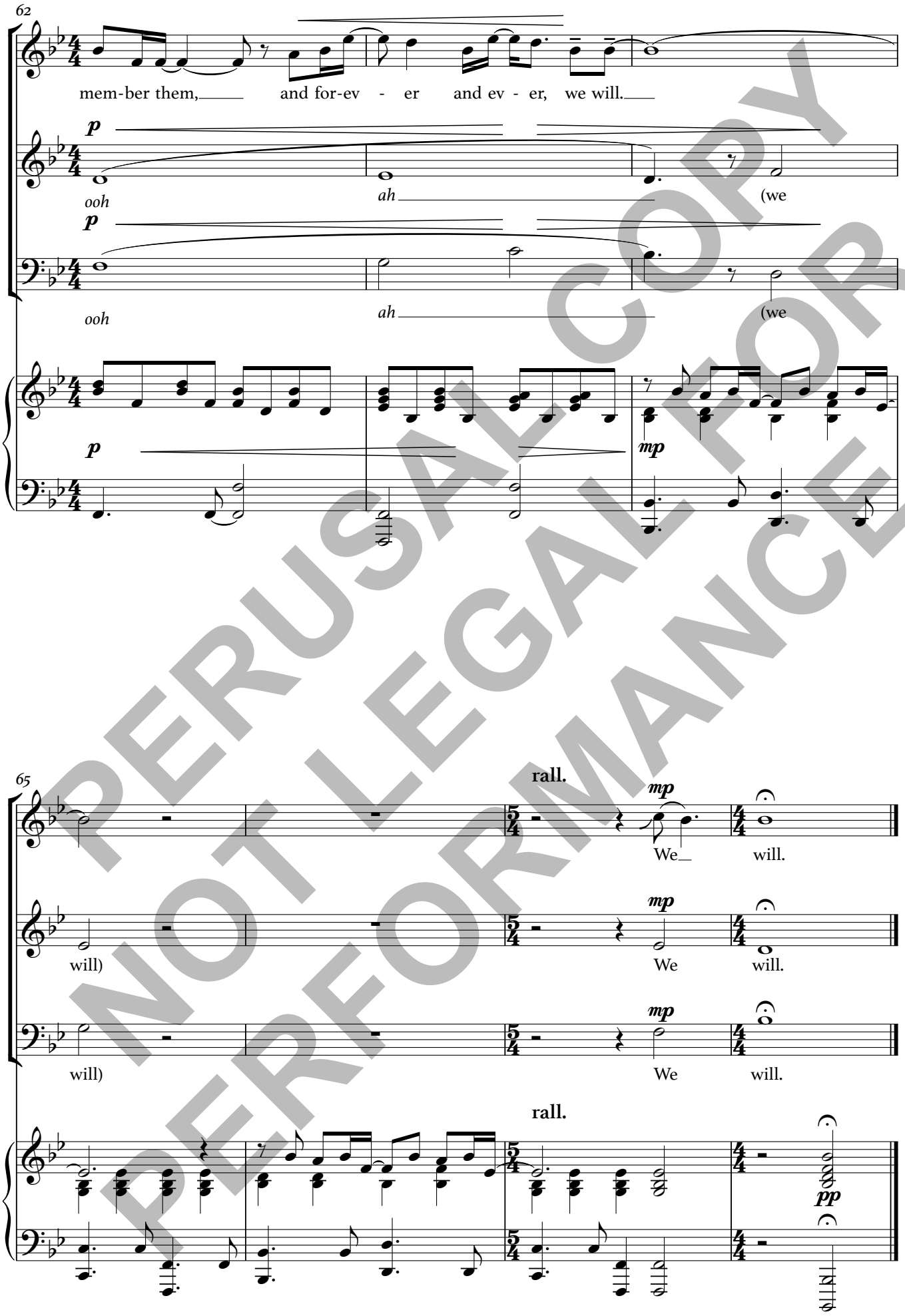

CHORUS 3
A tempo
55
mem - ber them un-til the seas run dry, Come each No-vem - ber when we hear our
mem - ber them un-til the seas run dry, Come each No-vem - ber when we hear our
mem - ber them un-til the seas run dry, Come each No-vem - ber when we hear our
CHORUS 3
A tempo
f


58
mf
mp
chil-dren ask us, why, in two mi-nutes of si - lence, all the world stands still? We will re -
chil-dren ask us, why, ooh
chil-dren ask us, why, ooh



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Alexander L'Estrange (b.1974) and **Joanna Forbes L'Estrange** (b.1971) met and studied music at Oxford University and have achieved international recognition as performers, composers, arrangers and choral leaders. Alexander is an award-winning composer whose flagship work *Zimbe! Come*, *sing the songs of Africa!* received over one hundred and fifty performances world-wide in its first five years; Joanna is a soprano and jazz vocalist, formerly a member and Musical Director of the award-winning *a cappella* group *The Swingles.* Their music is accessible (with excellent learning resources) and often founded on jazz/pop harmonies and grooves. They receive commissions from professional ensembles including *Tenebrae* and *The King's Singers* as well as from organisations such as *The Military Wives Choirs,* the *National Youth Choirs of Great Britain*, choral societies, schools and children's choirs. With their popular workshop *You can sing...but can you swing?!* Alexander and Joanna coach choirs in the art of singing non-classical styles of music as well as teaching their own pieces with the infectious energy and enthusiasm which has become synonymous with the L'Estrange brand.

photographer: Susan Porter-Thomas

Visit **www.alexanderlestrange.com** and **www.joannaforbeslestrange.com** to

- browse sheet music and CDs
- download PDFs

Email **jane@alexanderlestrange.com** to

- enquire about commissioning a new piece
- book Alexander and/or Joanna to lead a choral workshop
- book The *Call Me Al Quintet* for your performance of *Zimbe!/Ahoy!/Song Cycle/Wassail!/Freedom!*
- book Alexander and Joanna's jazz duo *L'Estranges in the Night*

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