Peace

Saraí Hillman

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About the Piece

This piece of music is based on the verses of Biblical text that read:

"Don't worry about anything; instead pray about everything. Tell God what you need and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus."

*Philippians 4:6-7 (NLT)

"Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you."

1 Peter 5:7(NLT)

Written as a commissioned work for Chicago *a cappella*, this piece of music is meant to act as a prayer that one may not know needs to be said. As we all encounter life's darkest valleys and brightest heights, it is important to remember peace. Many times, the main avenue for peace is the knowledge of love, knowing that someone is there to share your journey and everything that comes with it.



About the Composer

Sarai Hillman is a Riverdale-based composer who began her musical journey singing in the Baptist church, where she gained most of her influence from Gospel music. Losing both of her parents in her immediate life before her senior year of high school created the need for an expressive outlet for Hillman, and this pushed her into the world of music composition. Hillman's music seeks to tell the story of the listener. Through rhythmic qualities reminiscent of J.S. Bach's Cello Suite No. 1: Prelude and the Israeli Folk Song, "Zum Gali- Dance the Hora!", arranged by Maurice Goldman to chordal harmony influenced by Eric Whitacre's "A Boy and A Girl", "Something in My Heart" by Michel'le, Caroline Shaw's *To The Hands*, and countless others, Hillman's pieces use the remnants of her life's soundtrack to animate the story that she and the listener have in common.

Hillman attended Tri-Cities High School (TCHS) in East Point, Georgia where she studied in choral singing in the Visual and Performing Arts (VPA) Magnet Program. After graduation from this program in May 2016, Hillman went on to attend Georgia State University where she earned her Bachelor of Music with a concentration in Music Composition in May 2021. During her time at Georgia State University, Hillman studied mezzo-soprano voice with W. Dwight Coleman and composition with Brent Milam. She also performed at the 2019 National Collegiate Choral Organization (NCCO) Conference in College Park, Maryland and recorded the album entitled *Heavenly Display* with the Georgia State University Singers.

While attending these institutions, Hillman has received outstanding awards and accolades including the very first TCHS VPA Choral Magnet Program Director's Award (2015) created and given by Ms. Lori Ann Christian as well as being selected as a winner of the *HerVoice: the Emerging Women Composers Competition* (2021). Her works have been performed by the Tri-Cities High School Mastery Chorale, Georgia State University Choral Union, Georgia State University Master Singers, Georgia State University Singers, the Seraphim Singers, and Chicago *a cappella*.

When Hillman is not composing, she is using her studies in voice at Mt. Carmel Baptist Church – Atlanta, where she leads praise and worship.

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no - thing... I'm in need of your won-der-ful

peace.

But in thanks-

no - thing...

no - thing...



giv

- fore_____ your

ing!_

thank - ing You for all you'vedone!

throne!

For You have done

things..._

great things.

Sur

things...

great, great

great, great things...____

great

great

giv-ing,

things____ in__ thanks.

throne_

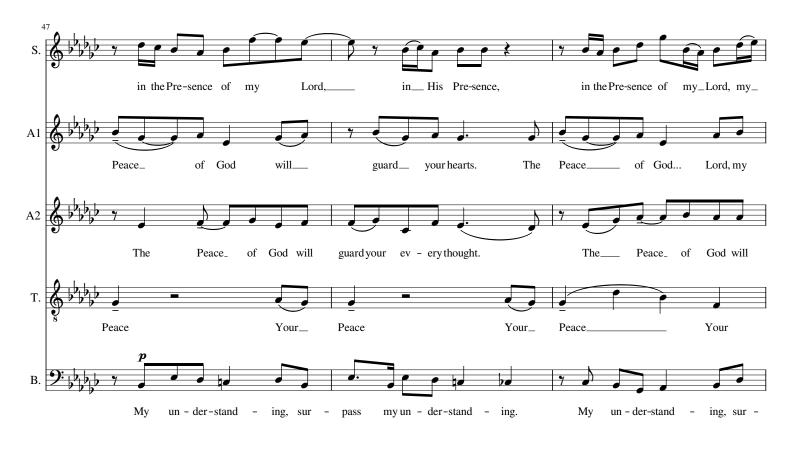
be

shall come be - fore your

I shall come











more peace

Your

Peace

for peace

ing...

all my cares

