John D. Horman





INTRODUCTION

These twelve canons were written to provide teaching material to children's choir directors which will not only encourage good singing, but add to existing repertoire suitable for introits, calls to worship, prayer responses, benedictions and anthems for the church year. They range in vocal difficulty from very simple limited canons to more expansive changing meter composition.

A variety of accompaniments, teaching suggestions and performance possibilities are included for your consideration. Feel free to transpose any or all of these canons to a higher key if you feel a better tone will result. Above all else, be creative and tailor the canons to fit the needs of your young singers. These canons were written for flexible use - you know your children better than anyone, so don't hesitate to mold the music to your best use.

PERFORMANCE SUGGESTIONS

There are a multitude of performance possibilities for these canons. My only word of caution might be to keep them simple. I've included many more ostinati than are necessary to adequately support the singing. Choose two or three which match the ability level of your instrumentalists. Try not to create more musical activity vocal and instrumental lines than you need to create an effective text, tune and accompaniment combination. Above all else, have fun with the canons - play with them, sing them in as many ways as your musical imagination can devise, and enjoy the sound.

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