

Ancient Souls

Commissioned by the American Guild of Organists
for the Biennial National Convention
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Poem by
Molly McGee

Music by
Karen P. Thomas

♩ = 84

Organ



The organ introduction consists of three staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a common time signature (C). The middle and bottom staves are in bass clef. The music begins with a forte (f) dynamic. The top staff features a melodic line with several slurs and a fermata. The middle staff has a complex texture with many beamed notes and slurs, including a section marked with a '7'. The bottom staff has a simpler bass line with a few notes and a fermata.

S

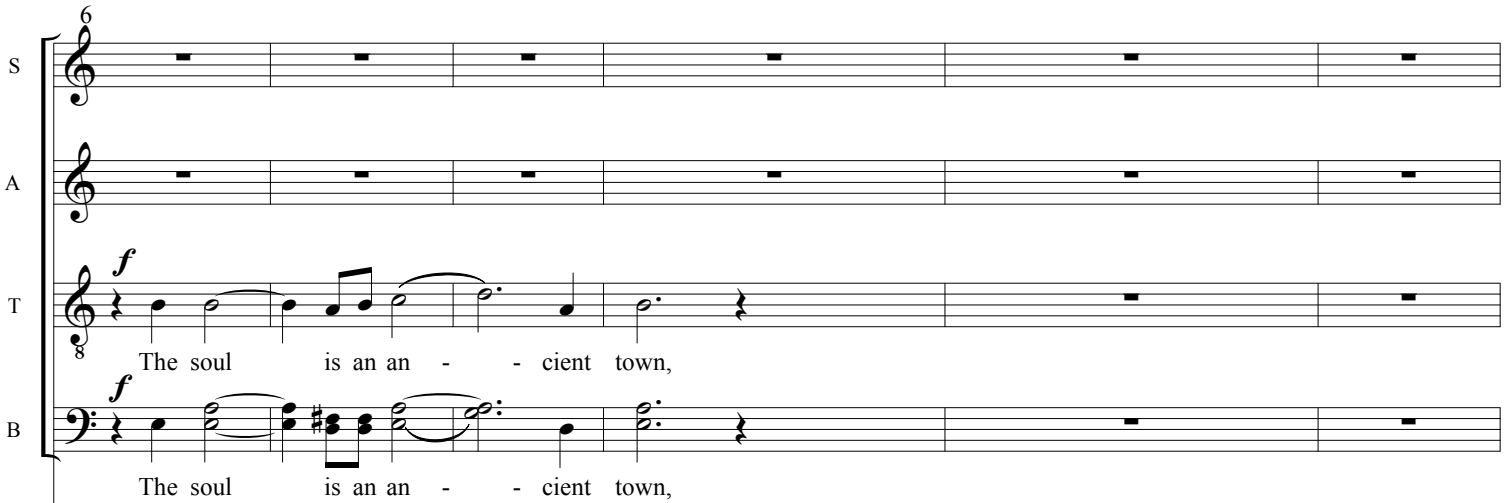
A

T

B

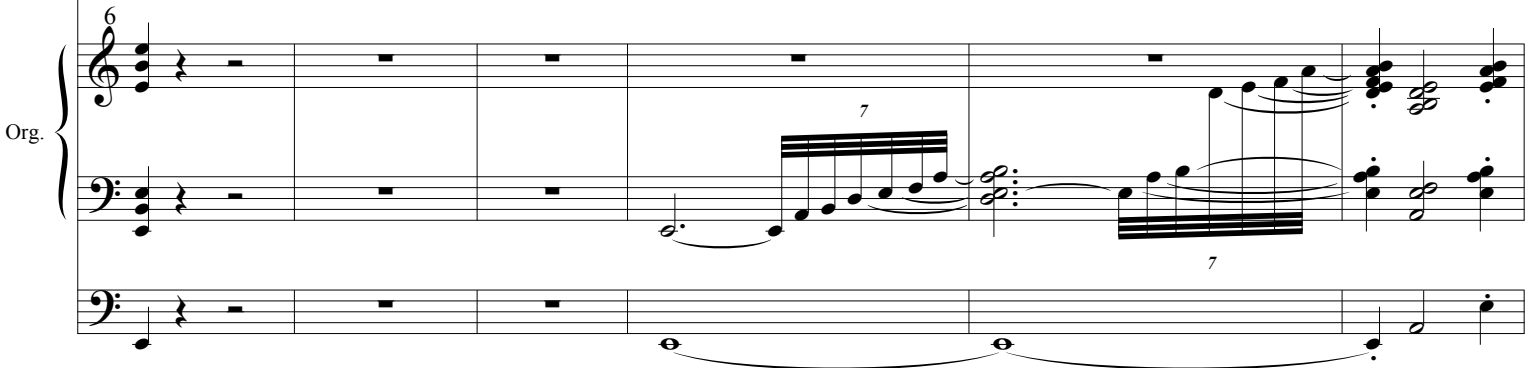
The soul is an an - - cient town,

The soul is an an - - cient town,



This section contains the vocal parts and organ accompaniment for the first line of the poem. It features four vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and three organ staves. The vocal parts enter with the lyrics 'The soul is an an - - cient town,'. The organ accompaniment continues from the previous section, with the top staff in treble clef and the middle and bottom staves in bass clef. The organ part includes a section marked with a '7'.

Org.



This section contains the organ accompaniment for the second line of the poem. It features three organ staves. The top staff is in treble clef, and the middle and bottom staves are in bass clef. The organ part continues from the previous section, with the top staff in treble clef and the middle and bottom staves in bass clef. The organ part includes a section marked with a '7'.

12 *f*

S The soul is an an - cient town,

A The soul is an an - cient town,

T The soul is an an - cient town,

B The soul is an an - cient town,

Org. 7

18 *mf*

S an an - cient town where saints once walk'd,

A an an - cient town where saints once walk'd,

T an an - cient town where saints once walk'd,

B an an - cient town where saints once walk'd,

Org. *mf*

23 *mp* *mf* *poco rit.*

S the vault - ed roofs re -

A the vault - ed roofs

T the vault - ed roofs

B the vault - ed roofs

Org. *mp* *cresc.* *mf* *poco rit.*

7

29

S sound re - sound re -

A re - sound re - sound

T re - sound re - sound

B re - sound - - ed, re - sound - - ed,

Org.

S
A
T
B

33

cresc. *f* *f* *f*

sound, resound - - - ed with mer-cy's
re-sound - - - ed with mer-cy's
re-sound - - - ed with mer-cy's
re - - sound - - ed, re-sound - - ed with mer-cy's

Org.

S
A
T
B

37

mf *mp* *p* *rit.* *A Tempo*

al - che-my, with mer-cy's al - che - my, God's in - clu - sive voice.
al - che-my, with mer-cy's al - che - my, God's in - clu - sive voice.
al - che - my, with mer-cy's al - che - my, God's in - clu - sive voice.
al - che-my, with mer-cy's al - che - my, God's in - clu - sive voice.

Org.

mf *mp* *p* *rit.* *A Tempo* (strings)

molto rit.

Org. (+4')
(reeds)

44 *mp cresc. f*

(reeds) (+16')

Org. $\bullet = 66$ *accel. poco a poco*

50 *ff dim. mf*

S $\bullet = 112$ *f*

A *f* Then the walls be-came

T *f* Then the walls be-came

B *f* Then the walls be-came

Org. $\bullet = 112$ *sim. cresc. sim. f*

55 *sim. cresc. sim. f*

59

S high with in - di - frence. Then the

A high with in - di - frence. Then the

T high with in - di - frence. Then the

B high with in - di - frence. Then the

Org. *mf*

63

S walls, then the walls be - came high with in - di - frence.

A walls, then the walls be - came high with in - di - frence.

T walls, then the walls be - came high with in - di - frence.

B walls, then the walls be - came high with in - di - frence.

Org. *f sim.*

sim.

68

S We were com - plex, con - cor-dance in pan - to - mime.

A We were com - plex, con - cor-dance in pan - to - mime.

T We were com - plex, con - cor-dance in pan - to - mime.

B We were com - plex, con - cor-dance in pan - to - mime.

Org.

72

S *mf* The squa - lid cur - ren - cy of fear, the cur - ren - cy of fear was

A *mf* The squa - lid cur - ren - cy of fear, the cur - ren - cy of fear was

T *mf* the cur - ren - cy of fear, the cur - ren - cy of fear

B *mf* the cur - ren - cy of fear, the cur - ren - cy of fear

Org. *sim. mf*

76

S
pass'd from mind to mind, pass'd from mind to mind,

A
pass'd from mind to mind, pass'd from mind to

T
was pass'd from mind to mind, pass'd from mind to mind,

B
was pass'd from mind to mind,

Org.

79

dim. *rit.*

S
pass'd from mind to mind,

A
mind, *dim.* *mp* pass'd from mind to mind,

T
pass'd from mind to mind,

B
dim. *mp* pass'd from mind to mind, pass'd from mind to mind, *rit.*

Org.

dim. *mp*

rit. *molto rit.* $\bullet = 82$ *mp*

S
A
T
B

and our re - grets, noc -
and our re - grets, noc -
and our re - grets, noc -
and our re - grets, noc -

rit. *molto rit.* $\bullet = 82$ *dim.* *p*

Org. (8' only)

87

S
A
T
B

tur - nal,
tur - nal,
tur - nal,
tur - nal,

dim. *p* *pp*
as - sem - bled in si - - - - lence. *pp*
as - sem - bled in si - - - - lence. *pp*
as - sem - bled in si - - - - lence. *pp*

Org. 87

(+32')

92 *molto rit.* ♩ = 72

Org.

pp *ppp (+16')* *legato*

99

Org.

(8' only) *cresc. poco a poco*

p

Broadly

107 *mp*

S

Broadly Now, O God, let your to - w'ring song be re - leased.

Org.

(16') (-32') *mp* *p*

S
113
Let com - pas - sion's hymn wake the town; li - be - rate

Org.

S
119
the sim - ple foun - tains and the lu - - - - - mj - nous

Org.

S
125
bells of grace.

Org.

poco rit. **A Tempo**
mf warm

131

S
Now, oh God, let your to - w'ring song be re - leased.

A
mf
Now, oh God, let your to - w'ring song be re - leased.

T
mf
Now, oh God, let your to - w'ring song be re - leased.

B
mf
Now, oh God, let your to - w'ring song be re - leased.

Org.
poco rit. **A Tempo**
mf

136

S
Let com - pas - sion's hymn wake the town;

A
Let com - pas - sion's hymn wake the town;

T
Let com - pas - sion's hymn wake the town;

B
Let com - pas - sion's hymn wake the town;

Org.
136

141

S
li - be-rate the sim - ple foun - tains and the lu - - -

A
li - be-rate the sim - ple foun - tains and the lu - - -

T
li - be-rate the sim - ple foun - tains and the lu - - -

B
li - be-rate the sim - ple foun - tains and the lu - - -

Org. *mp* *mf*

147

S
mi - nous bells of grace,
SI SII

A
mi - nous bells of grace,
AI AII

T
mi - nous bells of grace,
bells

B
mi - nous bells of grace,
bells

Org.

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Thank you for your understanding.**

153

S

A

T

B

Org.

6/4

6/4

6/4

6/4

6/4

6/4

6/4

160

S

A

T

B

Org.

6/4

6/4

6/4

6/4

6/4

6/4

6/4

164 *cresc. poco a poco* *mp*

S

A

T

B

Org.

nous bells,

bells,

oh

p *cresc. poco a poco* *mp*

p (+16') *cresc. poco a poco* *mp*

171 *dim.* *p* *molto rit.* *ppp*

S

A

T

B

Org.

bells, lu - mi - nous bells of grace.

lu - mi - nous bells of grace.

bells, lu - mi - nous bells of grace.

dim. *p* *ppp*

dim. *p* *ppp*

dim. *p* *ppp*

dim. *p* *ppp*

dim. *p* *ppp*

(+16')