

Mark Kilstofte

Enfold Us

for SATB Chorus



## Notes

*Enfold Us* was commissioned by Alexander Einarsson and the Petri Sångare in celebration of the ensemble's 10th anniversary season. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic the premiere was presented 'virtually' on October 3, 2020.

The text is by composer Leslie Bassett, with whom I studied at the University of Michigan. I admired Leslie. He was like a second father to me and he helped me imagine and navigate much of my professional and artistic life. Even these words provided guidance and after several rough-and-tumble years reawakened something in me that had been dormant for too long. Leslie grew up around animals and I recall him saying that he was allergic to their dander. Still, I can't help picturing the Holy Spirit leaning against us the way horses sometimes do. Powerful, yet gentle (and perceptive) creatures.

In the midst of the global pandemic, when all of humanity is subject to forces beyond our collective control, Leslie's prayer makes clear that we are surrounded by something even more powerful, more universal, more enduring.

## Text

Maker of our being, Source of the cosmos,  
Enfold us, restless, within your hands;  
Direct our words and deeds to your will;  
Alert us, awaken us, to your miraculous  
Creation, its needs, its dangers, its glories;  
Then lean your Holy Spirit against us,  
Your everlasting presence, your love,  
Your wisdom, your peace. Amen.

Leslie Bassett (1923-2016)

The text of "Maker of Our Being" is used with the permission of Wendy Bassett Baker and Noel Bassett. Copyright © 1995.

## Performance Notes

*Enfold Us* should be performed with a sense of expansiveness and rubato, with rich, full sonorities, especially on words like 'cosmos,' 'enfold' and 'lean.' The middle section can be taken a bit faster, but together with the shift in tonality even a slight change in intensity or tone might be sufficient in and of itself. The parenthetical *fermati* are intended to provide freedom and flexibility, but should not disrupt the overall sense of phrase.

Pulsations of notes within individual sonorities (e.g., measures 7, 10, 24-25, etc.) should be audible and emphasized. Enunciation of the sibilant 'S' should always be minimized.

## Acknowledgments

This work was first performed publicly by the Petri Sångare on October 14, 2020 during the Lund Choral Festival in Lund, Sweden, under the direction of Alexander Einarsson. I've had the pleasure of knowing and working with them for nearly a decade now, and I consider them all dear friends.



**Mark Kilstofte** is admired as a composer of lyrical line, expert text setting, and keen sensitivity to sound, shape and event, qualities stemming in part from his many years of vocal study. Winner of the Rome Prize, Kilstofte's honors also include ASCAP's Rudolf Nissim Award, several Copland House Awards, and fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation and the American Academy of Arts and Letters. His choral works have been featured by the Santa Fe Desert Chorale, the New York Virtuoso Singers and the Dale Warland Singers.

# Enfold Us

for SATB choir

Leslie Bassett

Mark Kilstofte

*vast, boundless, unfathomable* ♩ = 68-72 *p*

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Piano

Source of the

Mak - er of our be - ing, Source of the

Maker of our be - ing, Source of the

of our be - ing, Source of the

*vast, boundless, unfathomable* ♩ = 68-72 *p*

5

S

A

T

B

P

più

cos mos, En - fold us, rest -

cos mos, fold us,

cos mos, fold us,

cos mos, fold us,

cos mos, fold us,

cos mos, fold us,

più

9 *ritard.*

S - - less, with - in your hands;

A rest - less, in your hands;

T rest - less, in your hands;

B rest - less, in your hands;

P 9 *ritard.*

13 *a tempo* *cresc.*

S be - - -

A of our be - ing, *cresc.*

T Mak - er of our be - ing, *cresc.*

B Mak - - - er of our be - ing, *cresc.*

P 13 *a tempo* *cresc.*

# THE NEWMATIC PRESS

[www.newmaticpress.com](http://www.newmaticpress.com)

Mark Kilstofte YouTube Channel



25 *ritard.*

S — with — in your hands;

A — in your hands;

T — in your hands;

B less, in your hands;

P 25 *ritard.*

29 *more resolute (a bit more animated)*

S *mf* Di - rect our words to your will;

A *mf* words to your will;

T *mf* and our deeds to your

B *mf* deeds to your

P 29 *more resolute (a bit more animated)*

**gathering strength***cresc.*

S A - lert us, a - wak - en us, to your mi - rac - u - lous Cre-

A A - lert us, a - wak - en us, to your mi - rac - u - lous Cre-

T will; A lert us, a - lert us, to your mi - rac - u - lous Cre-

B will; A - lert us, a - lert us, to your mi - rac - u - lous Cre-

**gathering strength***cresc.*

P

**broadening*****ff* rallentando**

S a - tion, its eds. its dan - gers, its glo - - -

A a - tion, its needs, its dan - gers, its glo - - -

T a - tion, its needs, its dan - gers, its glo - - -

B a - tion, its needs, its dan - gers, its glo - - -

**broadening*****ff* rallentando**

P

**41** *a reverberation*  
*mf*

S  
 ries; its glo - - - ries;

A  
 ries; glo - - - ries;

T  
 8 ries; glo - - - ries;

B  
 ries; glo - - - ries;

**41** *a reverberation*  
*mf*

P

**45** *tempo primo (but lingering)*  
*p*

S  
 Then lean, your Ho - ly Spir - -

A  
 lean, Spir - -

T  
 8 lean, Spir - -

B  
 lean, Spir - -

**45** *tempo primo (but lingering)*  
*p*

P



**new** \ 'n(y)ü\ adj : having recently  
come into existence : RECENT,  
MODERN

**neume** \ 'n(y)üm\ n : any of various  
symbols used in the notation of  
Gregorian chant – **neu·mat·ic**  
\n(y)ü- 'mat-ik\ adj

**New·mat·ic Press** \n(y)ü- 'mat-ik  
'pres\ n : publisher of music by  
Rome Prize-winning composer  
**Mark Kilstofte**

**pneu·ma** \ 'n(y)ü-mə\ n : SOUL,  
SPIRIT

**pneu·mat·ic** \n(y)ü- 'mat-ik\ adj : of  
or relating to the pneuma :  
SPIRITUAL

57

*quasi a tempo (a coda)*

S love, \_\_\_\_\_ Your wis - dom, \_\_\_\_\_ your

A your love, Your wis dom,

T your love, Your wis - dom,

B your love, Your wis - dom,

P

61

*enveloping**rallentando*

S peace. \_\_\_\_\_

A - men, a - men.

T A - men, a - men.

B A - men, a - men.

P

61

*enveloping**rallentando*