

**RSCM** CAROLS

CODE: RCA458 SATB Choir and Keyboard

## BEN PONNIAH

### A tender shoot



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Tel: +44 (0)1722 424848 E-mail: press@rscm.com Website: www.rscmshop.com

#### A tender shoot

by

#### BEN PONNIAH

Ben Ponniah has asserted the right to be identified as the composer of this composition.

A performance by the Chapel Choir of Trinity Hall, Cambridge can be found on YouTube:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wNaG3qHgXa4

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## A tender shoot

German 15th Century Versified by Otto Goldschmidt Translated by William Bartholomew

Music: BEN PONNIAH (b. 1984)

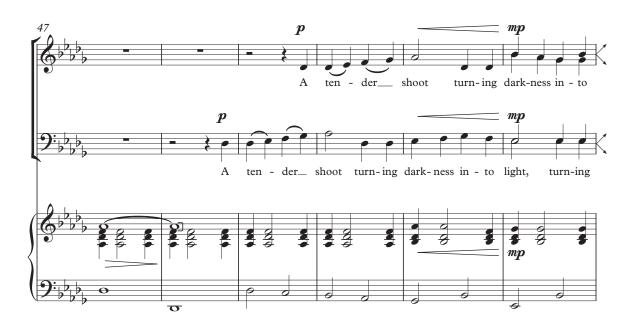


(Ped.)











Gawcott September 2024



## BEN PONNIAH

I'm a British composer with a love of minimalism, jazz harmony, and film music. In 2023 I completed my PhD in Composition at the University of Aberdeen. In the same year my setting of *Ave verum corpus* won the New Music for St Paul's (Cathedral) Composition Competition out of a field of nearly 90 applicants. I have collaborated

with the BBC Singers and Anna Lapwood: her recording of my carol *Seeing the Star* has had over 300,000 plays on Spotify. I am currently writing the music for a film and musical.

During 2006, I started to write choral music. My first two anthems were *O Lorde, the maker of al thinge* and *O sacrum convivium* and I have not stopped composing since.

#### **COMPOSER'S NOTE:**

Commissioned by Andrew Arthur for the Chapel Choir of Trinity Hall, Cambridge. *A tender shoot* sets a well-known Advent text that reflects on Christ as the 'tender shoot' rising from the root of Jesse – a potent image of promise, renewal, and light emerging from darkness. This setting responds to that symbolism with a warm and lyrical melodic line, gently unfolding over a harmonically rich and expressive backdrop. Subtle chromatic inflections and moments of dissonance serve to highlight the emotional turning points in the text. Written with liturgical and concert use in mind.