

voiceJunction

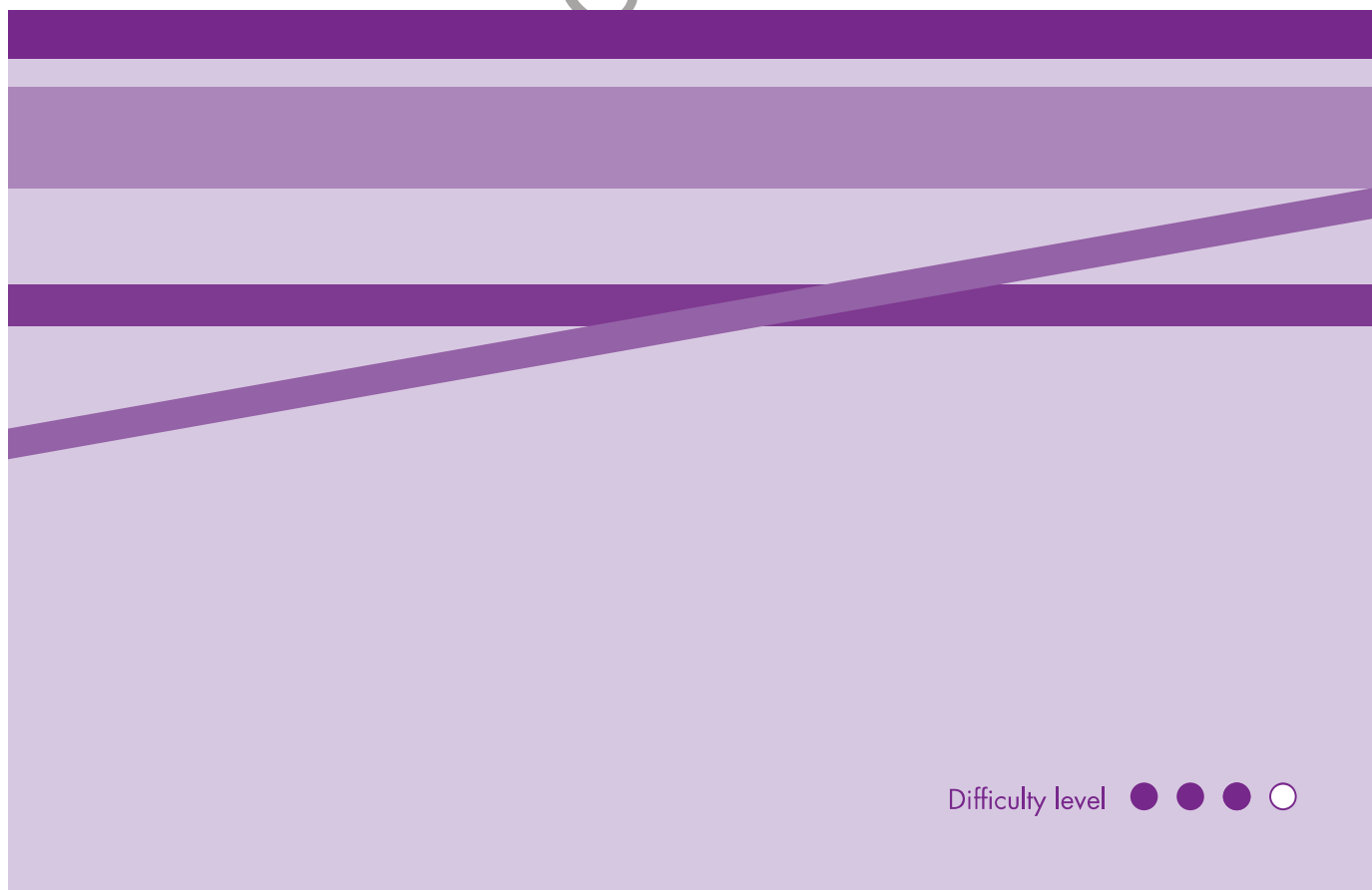
SATB unaccompanied

OXFORD

Cecilia McDowall

A Tree is a Song

Conference 2026



For ABCD Conference 2026

A Tree is a Song

CECILIA McDOWALL

mf sempre leggero

3

mp

na na na_ na na na na na_ na na na na na na na_ na na na na na_ The

na na_ na na_ na na na na_ na na na

na na_ na na_ na na na na_ na na na

na na_ na na_ na na na na_ na na na

na na_ na na_ na na na na_ na na na

mp

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4

5

trees, they bind their whole ho - ri - zon, re - cord - ing ring on ring_

p *mp*

na na na na_ re - cord - ing ring on ring,_

p *mp*

na na na na_ na na re - cord - ing ring_ on

p *mp*

_ na na na_ na na re - cord - ing ring_ on

7

sun-light, sha-dow, and wind and won - der, the au - tumn and_ the_ spring, the_

p

ring, na na na na_ na na na na_ na na na na_ na the

p

ring, na na na na_ na na na na_ na na na na_ na the

p

ring, na na na_ na na na na_ na na na na_ na the

9 *mf*

trees, they bind their whole ho - ri - zon, re - cord-ing ring_ on ring, oh_____ sun -

mp

trees bind, ho - ri - zon, re - cord - ing_____ ring on ring, on ring

mp

8 trees bind, ho - ri - zon, re - cord - ing_____ ring on ring, on ring

mp

trees bind, ho - ri - zon, re - cord - ing_____ ring on ring, on ring

mf

11

-light, sha-dow_ and wind and won - der. na na na na na_ na na na_____

mf

sun - light and won - der. na na na na na_ na na na na na_

mf

8 sun - light and won - der. na na na na na_ na na na na na_

mf

sun - light and won - der. na na na na na_ na na na na na_

15

[illegible]

17

mf

seeds, they gath - er their wis - dom, en-fold-ing all they know of__

mf

seeds, they gath - er their wis - dom, en-fold-ing all they know of__

8

seeds, they gath - er up their wis - dom, en - fold - ing all__ they know of

seeds, they gath - er up their wis - dom, en - fold - ing all__ they know of

19

mp

bird and breeze, the world ash tree, the sum-mer, and the snow,____ the__

mp

bird and breeze, the world ash tree, the sum-mer, and the snow,____ the

8

bird and breeze, the world ash tree, the sum - mer, and_ the__ snow,____ the

mp

bird and breeze, the world ash tree, the sum - mer, and_ the__ snow,____ the

mp

21

seeds, they ga - ther their wis - dom, en - fold - ing all they know, oh of

seeds, they ga - ther their wis - dom, en - fold - ing all they know, oh of

seeds, their wis - dom, en - fold - ing all they know of

seeds, their wis - dom, en - fold - ing all they know of

23

mf bird and breeze, the world ash tree. na na na na na na na na na

mf bird and breeze, the world ash tree. na na na na na na na na na

mf bird, world ash tree. na na na na na na na na na

mf bird, world ash tree. na na na na na na na na na

25 *mp*

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo_

mp

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo_ doo doo doo

(mf)

doo doo doo_ doo doo doo doo doo doo_ doo doo doo doo doo doo_

mp

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo

mp

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo

27 *mf*

doo doo doo na na na na na_ na na na la_ la_ la la

mf

doo doo doo na na na na_ na na na na_ The

mf

doo doo doo_ doo doo doo doo doo doo_ na na na na na na na_ na_ The

mf

doo doo doo na na na na na_ na_ The

mf

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo

29 *f*

la____ la la la____ la la la la____ la la la la la la la

f

roots, they stitch their web of mean-ing, pass - ing on the tune, a__

f

8 roots stitch their web of mean-ing, pass - ing on the tune, a

f

roots, they stitch their web of mean-ing, pass - ing on the tune, a__

31 *mp*

la____ la la la____ la la la la la la la____ the__

mp

me - lo - dy__ from tree to tree, a hymn to sun_ and__ moon,____

mp

8 me - lo - dy from tree to tree, a hymn, sun, moon,____ the__

mp

me - lo - dy__ from tree to tree, a__ hymn to sun_ and__ moon,

33

roots, they stitch their web of mean - ing, pass - ing on the tune, oh a

web of mean-ing, pass-ing on the tune,

roots, they stitch their web of mean - ing, pass - ing on the tune, a

web of mean-ing, pass-ing on the tune,

35

me - lo-dy from tree to tree. na na na na na na na doo

tree to tree. na na na na na na na doo

me - lo-dy from tree to tree. na na na na na na na doo

tree to tree. na na na na na na na doo

Musical score for measures 37-38. The score is written for five staves: four vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and one piano accompaniment staff. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The time signature is 4/4. The vocal parts feature a melodic line with lyrics "doo" and a bass line with lyrics "doo". The piano accompaniment features a melodic line with lyrics "doo" and a bass line with lyrics "doo". The score includes a watermark "For ABCD Conference 2026".

quasi bass pizz.

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo

Musical score for measures 39-40. The score is written for five staves: four vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and one piano accompaniment staff. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The time signature is 4/4. The vocal parts feature a melodic line with lyrics "doo" and "na na na na na na na A" and a bass line with lyrics "doo" and "na na na na na na na". The piano accompaniment features a melodic line with lyrics "doo" and "na na na na na na na". The score includes a watermark "For ABCD Conference 2026".

f

doo doo doo na na na na na na na A

f

doo doo doo na na na na na na na A

doo doo doo na na na na na na na

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo doo na na na na na na na

f

41

tree is a song from root to crown, and since the world was young, oak_

tree is a song from root to crown, and since the world was young, oak_

mf
8 doo doo doo doo_ doo doo doo and since the world was

mf
doo doo doo doo_ doo doo doo and since the world was

43

— and haw-thorn, beech and row - an, all sing_ the heart - wood's song, all

— and haw-thorn, beech and row - an, all sing_ the heart - wood's song, all

f
8 young, doo doo doo doo_ doo doo doo doo_ all sing_ the heart-wood's, all

f
young, doo doo doo_ doo doo doo doo_ all sing_ the heart-wood's, all

45

mf

sing_ the heart - wood's song, _____ la la la la la la la

mf

sing_ the heart - wood's song, _____ a tree's a song from root to crown, _____ and_

mf

8 sing - ing_ the heart-wood's song, _____ a tree's a song from root to crown, _____ and_

mf

sing - ing_ the heart-wood's song, _____ a tree's a song from root to crown, _____ and_

mf

47

la la la la la la la la la la la la na na

since the world was young, oh _____ oak _____ and haw-thorn, and row - an, na

8 since the world was young, oh _____ oak _____ and haw-thorn, and row - an, na

since the world was young, oh _____ oak _____ and haw-thorn, and row - an, na

51

[illegible]

53

tree is a song from root to crown, and since the world was young, oak_

tree is a song from root to crown, and since the world was young, oak_

tree is a song from root to crown, and since the world was young, was young, oak_

tree is a song from root to crown, and since the world was young, was young, oak_

55

— and haw-thorn, beech and row - an, all sing_ the heart-wood's song, — a —

— and haw-thorn, beech and row - an, all sing_ the heart - wood's song, — a

— and haw-thorn, beech and row - an, all sing_ the heart - wood's song, — a

— and haw-thorn, beech and row - an, all sing_ the heart - wood's song, — a

57

tree's a song_ from root to crown, and since the world was young, oh

tree's a song_ from root to crown, oh

tree's a song_ from root to crown, oh oak

tree's a song from root to crown, oh

59

oak, beech, row - an, all sing_ the heart - wood's, sing_ the heart - wood's,

oak, beech, row - an, all sing_ the heart - wood's, sing_ the heart - wood's,

and haw-thorn, beech and row - an, all sing_ the heart - wood's, sing_ the heart - wood's,

oak, beech, row - an, all sing, all sing, all

61 *mf cresc. poco a poco*

sing, all sing the heart-wood's song, sing, sing the heart-wood's song.

mf cresc. poco a poco

sing, all sing the heart-wood's song, sing the heart-wood's song, heart - wood's song.

mf cresc. poco a poco

sing, all, all sing the heart-wood's song, sing, sing the heart-wood's song.

mf cresc. poco a poco

sing, all, all sing, all sing the heart-wood's song, heart - wood's song.

mf cresc. poco a poco

63 *f* *mf sec*

la la la la la la la la la la la la la

f *mf sec*

la la la la la la la la

f *mf sec*

la la la la la la la la

f *mf sec*

la la la la la la la la

f *mf sec*

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voiceJunction

Voice Junction is an inspirational concert series for all modern mixed-voice singing groups. A meeting point of various styles, the series is fresh, popular, and alternative in feel, and includes new original works—both accompanied and *a cappella*—alongside unique arrangements of well-known tunes. Whether performed by a one-per-part vocal group or a community choir, this is music that brings people together.



Photo: Karina Lyburn

Award-winning composer **Cecilia McDowall** is perhaps best known for her choral works, with their distinctive fusion of fluent melodic lines with occasional dissonance and rhythmic exuberance. Her music has been commissioned and performed worldwide by leading ensembles, including the BBC Singers, The Sixteen, and Oxford and Cambridge choirs. In 2020 The Ivors Academy presented McDowall with the prestigious Ivor Novello Award for a 'consistently excellent body of work'. She was commissioned to write a carol for the Choir of King's College, Cambridge, as part of their 2021 *Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols*, which was broadcast worldwide.



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