

Sierra Flute Society

Simple Gifts

Traditional

Arranged for Flute Quartet (or Choir) by Phyllis Avidan Louke



Simple Gifts

for Flute Choir or Flute Quartet

Arranged by Phyllis Avidan Louke

Performance Notes:

Simple Gifts is an arrangement of a well-known folk song used by a religious sect called Shakers. This piece is comprised of a series of variations on this famous tune, starting with a “simple” setting, continuing to a variation with chromatic accompaniment, an “ethereal” variation, a march-like variation with a rousing piccolo counter melody, finishing with a more conventional chorale section.

This piece may be performed either with a Flute Quartet, or with a Flute Choir. If played with only four players, the sections marked “piccolo” in the march variation (in Flute 1 & Flute 2 parts, starting at letter D) should be played on flute, since there isn’t ample time to switch instruments. If played with a Flute Choir, the Alto Flute & Bass Flute parts enhance the harmonic structure of the piece and add depth to the arrangement. The arrangement works well with either one or both of these optional voices added. *Simple Gifts* is scored for four c-flutes (with optional piccolo sections on Flute 1 & Flute 2), optional alto flute and optional bass flute.

Simple Gifts is scored for four c-flutes, (opt. piccolo, alto flute, bass flute, and contra) (5:20)

Level 3 to 3+

Phyllis Avidan Louke (b. 1954), a member of ASCAP, is Music Director of Rose City Flute Choir, and principal flute with Oregon Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra and Oregon Symphonic Band. She adjudicates, maintains a private studio, and freelances in Portland, Oregon. She performed with the NFA Professional Flute Choir in 1993-2010, with the National Flute Choir on their ten ALRY Publications recordings, as well as on the 1997-2010 International Flute Orchestra tours to Europe, Asia, and South America. Ms. Louke’s original compositions include: *Extended Techniques—Double the Fun* for two flutes, *Extended Techniques—Solos for Fun*. Compositions for flute and piano include *Echoes in the Wind—A Native American Soliloquy*, *Castle in the Mist* and *Big Sky* for alto flute and piano, *Blessings & Celebration* for bass flute and piano, and *Reflections of Water* for flute and piano. Flute choir compositions include *Suite Butterfly* for Flute Quartet or Flute Choir (also on the ALRY recording *High Altitude*), *Une Chanson du Printemps*, *Shadowlands*, *Under the Big Top*, *Echoes in the Wind*, *Cloud Images*, *A New Beginning*, *As Eagles Flew*, *Flute Fiesta*, *Temple of Heaven* and the award winning *Of Wizards and Witches*. She is also the co-author of *Flute 101: Mastering the Basics*, *Flute 102: Mastering the Basics*, and *The Flute Scale Book: A Path to Artistry* with Patricia George. More information on the music of Phyllis Avidan Louke can be found at www.phyllislouke.com.

Score

Performance Time - 4:20

Simple Gifts

for Flute Choir or Flute Quartet

arr. by Phyllis Avidan Louke

ASCAP

Con Moto ♩ = 126

Fl. only *tr*

mf *fp* *mf* *mp*

rit.

This section contains measures 1 through 6 of the score. It features six staves: Flute 1 & Piccolo, Flute 2 & Piccolo, Flute 3, Flute 4, Alto Flute, and Bass Flute/Contra (optional). The music begins with a trill in Flute 1 and Flute 2. Flute 3 and Flute 4 play a rhythmic pattern. Flute 1 and Flute 2 have melodic lines. Dynamics range from mezzo-forte (mf) to fortissimo (fp). A 'rit.' (ritardando) marking is present at the end of the section.

Affetuoso ♩ = 108

This section contains measures 7 through 12. It features six staves: Flute 1/Piccolo, Flute 2/Piccolo, Flute 3, Flute 4, Alto Flute, and Bass/Contra. Flute 2 and Flute 3 play a rhythmic pattern. Flute 4 has a melodic line. Dynamics range from mezzo-forte (mf) to fortissimo (f).

rit. Fl. only **A**

mp *f* *f* *f*

sol *sol*

3

This section contains measures 13 through 18. It features six staves: Flute 1/Piccolo, Flute 2/Piccolo, Flute 3, Flute 4, Alto Flute, and Bass/Contra. Flute 1 and Flute 2 play a rhythmic pattern. Flute 3 and Flute 4 have melodic lines. Dynamics range from mezzo-piano (mp) to fortissimo (f). A 'rit.' (ritardando) marking is present at the beginning. A '3' indicates a triplet in Flute 4. A boxed 'A' is placed above measure 14.

Simple Gifts, Score, page 2

19

Fl. 1/
Picc

Fl. 2/
Picc

Fl. 3

Fl. 4

A. Fl.

Bass/
Contra

mf

mf

mf

mf

24

B **Piu mosso**

Fl. 1/
Picc

Fl. 2/
Picc

Fl. 3

Fl. 4

A. Fl.

Bass/
Contra

mp

mp

mp

29

rit.

C **Tranquillo** ♩ = 88

Fl. 1/
Picc

Fl. 2/
Picc

Fl. 3

Fl. 4

A. Fl.

Bass/
Contra

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

accel.

34

Fl. 1/
Picc

Fl. 2/
Picc

Fl. 3

Fl. 4

A. Fl.

Bass/
Contra

40

mf

mp

mf

mf

pp

pp

pp

pp

rit.

mf

45

D **Alla marcia** ♩ = 108
leggiere

mp piccolo only
marcato

mp

Fl. 1/
Picc

Fl. 2/
Picc

Fl. 3

Fl. 4

A. Fl.

Bass/
Contra

49

Fl. 1/
Picc

Fl. 2/
Picc

Fl. 3

Fl. 4

A. Fl.

Bass/
Contra

53

Fl. 1/
Picc

Fl. 2/
Picc

Fl. 3

Fl. 4

A. Fl.

Bass/
Contra

57

Fl. 1/
Picc

Fl. 2/
Picc

Fl. 3

Fl. 4

A. Fl.

Bass/
Contra

Simple Gifts, Score, page 5

61 E a2

Fl. 1/
Picc. *f*

Fl. 2/
Picc. *f*
add one picc.

Fl. 3 *mf*

Fl. 4 *mf*

A. Fl. *mf*

Bass/
Contra *mf*

65

Fl. 1/
Picc.

Fl. 2/
Picc.

Fl. 3

Fl. 4

A. Fl.

Bass/
Contra

69 *tr~* *tr~*

Fl. 1/
Picc.

Fl. 2/
Picc.

Fl. 3

Fl. 4

A. Fl.

Bass/
Contra

Simple Gifts, Score, page 6

73

Fl. 1/
Picc

Fl. 2/
Picc

Fl. 3

Fl. 4

A. Fl.

Bass/
Contra

6

gliss.

mf

mf

mf

78

[F] **Broadly** ♩ = 120

Fl. 1/
Picc

Fl. 2/
Picc

Fl. 3

Fl. 4

A. Fl.

Bass/
Contra

mf Fl. only

mf

mf

86

Fl. 1/
Picc

Fl. 2/
Picc

Fl. 3

Fl. 4

A. Fl.

Bass/
Contra

f

f

f

f

f

f

Simple Gifts, Score, page 7

95

Fl. 1/
Picc

Fl. 2/
Picc

Fl. 3

Fl. 4

A. Fl.

Bass/
Contra

103

12/93

Fl. 1/
Picc

Fl. 2/
Picc

Fl. 3

Fl. 4

A. Fl.

Bass/
Contra