

J O A N S Z Y M K O

We Shake We Shine

No. 3 from
Lifting As We Climb

Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the passage of the
19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States

COPYRIGHT PROTECTED
for perusal use only



JOAN SZYMKO (b.1957)

With a catalog of over 100 choral works Joan Szymko's music is regularly performed at regional, national and international choral festivals, competitions and conferences. Notably, her music has been presented on stage or in sessions at every National Conference of the American Choral Directors Association since 2003. The ACDA recognized Szymko's lasting impact on the choral arts in North America by selecting her as a recipient of the prestigious Raymond W. Brock Memorial Commission (2010). She has been commissioned by all manner of choral ensemble: professional and community choirs, university and high school programs, select children's choirs, LGBTQ choruses and church choirs. Utilizing a familiar music vocabulary, she creates works that are nonetheless fresh and engaging; compelling and inspiring, her text selections are as notable as her music.

Joan Szymko lives and works in the beautiful Pacific Northwest. As resident composer she has enjoyed a fruitful collaboration with Portland-based Do Jump! Movement Theater (1995-present), creating underscoring for both local and major touring productions. A dynamic conductor, she has served on the choral music faculty of Portland State University (2013-15) and most notably, as Artistic Director of Aurora Chorus (1993-2000). As a visiting artist, Szymko workshops her compositions with choirs in a variety of educational and festival settings across the country and abroad. She has presented at regional and national ACDA conferences and was honored to have been invited to present a session on her own music in New Zealand at the 2020 World Symposium on Choral Music.

for more information: www.joanszymko.com.

NOTES from the COMPOSER

I accepted the 2020 Dr. Catherine Roma Commission Project commemorating the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment with the understanding that my composition would not only explore the historical fight for women's suffrage, but also speak to present day attacks on voting rights. "**We Shake, We Shine**" is the stand alone 3rd movement of ***Lifting As We Climb****, a choral narrative 30 minutes in length scored for women's choir, narrators (6) piano, drum kit and alto sax. Suffragists come to life and previously hidden voices of African American women fighting for the vote are heard. ***Lifting As We Climb*** looks back in time, but also explores the present day and anticipates a future that will require a diligent, informed public ready to fight for equality, democracy and the right to vote. The title, "**We Shake We Shine**" references two suffragists' quotes: "***Any great change must expect opposition, because it shakes the very foundation of privilege.***" (Lucretia Mott, 1793-1880) and "***The way to right wrongs is to turn the light of truth upon them.***" (Ida B. Wells, 1862-1931)

We Shake, We Shine lyric by Joan Szymko

The struggle is never ending.
Freedom is never really won.
You earn it and win it in each generation.
You earn it and win it for all of us,
every one of us, for all of us— for the people.
We the people— Shake the foundations of privilege
We the people —Shine the light of truth
Right the wrongs! Press on!
Hold on for the common good.

We shake, we shake
We shine, we shine
Onward and upward,
Upward and onward—
Lifting as we climb.
The struggle is never ending.

Keep your hands on the plow—
Upending hypocrisy,
Defending democracy
Demanding equality
It's our turn, it's our time—
Our turn, our time is now!
We shake, we shine

Onward and upward,
Upward and onward—
Lifting as we climb!

* (The title and phrase, "**Lifting As We Climb**" echoes the motto of the National Association of Colored Women, led by renowned civil rights leader Mary Church Terrell.)

Commissioned by GALA Choruses
www.GalaChoruses.org
for GALA Festival 2020 in Minneapolis, MN

We Shake We Shine

No. 3 from Lifting As We Climb

Lyric by the composer with adaptations of quotes by
Coretta Scott King, Ida B. Wells, Alice Paul &
Mary Church Terrell

Joan Szymko

♩. = 44

A *Altos mp*

The strug - gle is ne - ver

p *mp*

Red.

4

A

end - ing. Free - dom is ne - ver real - ly won. You earn it and win it in

4

8

S
A *mf* add Sop

each gen - er - a tion, you earn it and win it for all of us, ev - 'ry one of us, for all of us, for the

8

A Più mosso

mp *mf* *f*

S peo - ple. Shake the foun - da - tions of priv - 'lege Shine the

S peo - ple. We the peo - ple We the peo - ple

A peo - ple. Shake the foun - da - tions of priv - 'lege Shine the

A Più mosso

8^{va}

for perusal use only

rit. *mf*

S light of truth! Right the wrongs! Press on! Hold on for the com - mon

S We the peo - ple Press on! Hold on for the com - mon

A light of truth! Right the wrongs! Press on! Hold on for the com - mon

rit. *mf*

21 **Tempo primo**
dim. *mp* *mf*

S good. The strug-gle is ne - ver end - ing.

S good. The strug-gle is ne - ver end - ing.

S good. The strug-gle is ne - ver end - ing.

21 **Tempo primo**
mp

Ped.

for perusal use only

25

S Keep your hands on the plow, de -

S Keep your hands on the plow, up - end-ing hy-po-cra-cy, de-fend-ing de-mo-cra-cy,

A Keep your hands on the plow, up - end-ing hy-po-cra-cy, de-fend-ing de-mo-cra-cy, de -

25

mf *p* *mf*

B Poco più mosso

f *mf*

S mand - ing e - qua - li ty - Shake the foun - da - tions of priv - lege Shine the light of truth!_ it's

f *ff* *mf*

S It's our turn, _____ it's our time _____ of truth!_ it's

f *mf* *mf*

A mand - ing e - qua - li ty - Shake the foun - da - tions of priv - lege Shine the light of truth!_ it's

30

B Poco più mosso

for perusal use only

poco accel. **rall.**

35

f *mf*

S our turn, _____ it's our time!_ Our turn, our time, our turn, our time is now!_ We

f *mf*

S our turn, _____ it's our time!_ Our turn, our time, our turn, our time is now!_ We

f *mf*

A our turn, _____ it's our time!_ Our turn, our time, our turn, our time is now!_ We

35

poco accel. **rall.**

drumkit enters

A tempo, ♩=70

C

40

S

shake__ we shake we shine__ we shine__ On-ward and up - ward, up-ward and on - ward

S

shake__ we shake we shine__ we shine__ On-ward and up - ward, up-ward and on - ward

A

shake__ we shake we shine__ we shine__ On-ward and up - ward, up-ward and on - ward

N.B.

A tempo, ♩=70

C

40

mf

42

S

f lift - ing, *mf* lift - ing as we climb, *f* lift - ing as we

S

f lift - ing, *mf* lift - ing as we climb, *f* lift - ing as we

A

f lift - ing, *mf* lift - ing as we climb, *f* lift - ing as we

42

42

44

Sax *f*

S climb. We

S climb. We

A climb. We

44

for perusal use only

46

S shake, we shake___ we shine_ we shine___ we

S shake, we shake___ we shine_ we shine___ we

A shake, we shake___ we shine_ we shine___

46

48

S

shake we shake we shine we shine N.B. shake we shake we shake we shine

S

shake we shake we shine we shine shake we shake we shake we shine

A

we shake we shake we shake we shine N.B.

48

for perusal use only

50

S

shake we shake we shake we shine! We shine! ff

S

shake we shake we shake we shine! We shine! ff

A

shake we shake we shake we shine! We shine! ff

50

D

52

S1 up.div. *mf*

mf melody

S1 Lift - ing, lift - ing as we climb, lift - ing as we climb!_

S2 *mp*

S2 Lift - ing, as we climb!

A1 *mp*

A1 lift - ing lift - ing lift - ing,

A2 *mf*

A2 Lift - ing as we

D

52

mf

for perusal use only

54

S shake we shake we shine_ we shine_ shake we shake we shine_ we shine_

S lift - ing as we climb, lift - ing as we climb! *f*

S *mf* Lift - ing, lift - ing, lift - ing, as we

A *mf* lift - ing, lift - ing, lift - ing, as we climb,

A climb. We *f*

54

56

S lift-ing as we climb, lift-ing as we climb! *f*

S Lift-ing as we climb!

S climb, *f* as we climb! *mf*

A

A shake we shake we shake we shine, shake we shake we shake we shine,

56 *simile*

58

S

f

f

We

Shake we shake we shine_ we shine_ shake we shake we shine_ we shine_

Shake we shake we shine_ we shine_ shake we shake we shine_ we shine_

Shake we shake we shine_ we shine_ shake we shake we shine_ we shine_

Shake we shake we shine_ we shine_ shake we shake we shine_ we shine_

58

f

60

S climb. we shine *ff* We

S shake we shake we shine we shine *f* shake we shake we shine *ff* We

S shake we shake we shine we shine *f* shake we shake we shine *ff* We

A shake we shake we shine we shine *f* shake we shake we shine *ff* We

A shake we shake we shine we shine *f* shake we shake we shine *ff* We

60

for perusal use only

63 senza ritard

Sax *ff*

S senza ritard!

shine! _____

S senza ritard!

shine! _____

S senza ritard!

shine! _____

A senza ritard!

shine! _____

A senza ritard!

shine! _____

63 senza ritard!

f

ff

fff

for perusal use only