

## Alec Roth – DREAM SONGS

five songs for children's choir and piano

commissioned by the SPNM

first performed by pupils from Leaden Hall School, Godolphin Preparatory School and St. Andrew's Primary School, Salisbury, conducted by Rachel Leach with Susanna Stranders (piano), Salisbury Methodist Church, 25 June 2004

Prelude (optional)

1. In My Dream
2. He, She and It
3. Shadows
4. Beetlejuice
5. Dream Toppings

### COMPOSER'S NOTE

The seeds of *Dream Songs* were sown during a series of music workshops in three Salisbury primary schools in the spring of 2004. Activities included a creative writing exercise in which the children had to imagine a special place and some of the people and things they might meet there: the sights, sounds and smells. Sifting through the children's writing, I was hugely impressed by their vivid imaginations. So surreal were some of the images that the theme of dream songs immediately suggested itself.

Surprisingly (or perhaps not), the subject of food seemed to be a major preoccupation. I cut out all the words and phrases on the food theme and threw them up in the air. I then picked up the pieces of paper from the floor and arranged them in an interesting pattern on my desk. That's how the words of the final song "Dream Toppings" came about. I used similar means to assemble the texts of the other songs. So my special thanks go to all the children, whose ideas I have incorporated into this piece.

### DURATION

ca. 14 minutes

(Individual Songs may be performed separately)

### FORCES REQUIRED

Children's Choir and Piano

The songs are intended for unison choral singing; the lower part, where given, is optional and may be omitted.

The songs may be performed with keyboard alone; alternatively, the accompaniment may be adapted to whatever instrumental forces are available, including classroom percussion.

### PERFORMANCE MATERIALS

Score

### SCORE SAMPLES

Click here to see [sample pages](#) of the Score