

# Craig Carnahan

# illuminArias

S.A.T.B., piano



CRAIG CARNAHAN MUSIC craigcarnahan.com carnacraig@gmail.com

#### *illuminArias*

#### 1. The Falling Star

I saw a star slide down the sky, Blinding the north as it went by, Too burning and too quick to hold, Too lovely to be bought or sold, Good only to make wishes on And then forever to be gone.

#### 2. Less Than the Cloud to the Wind

Less than the cloud to the wind, Less than the foam to the sea, Less than the rose to the storm, Am I to thee.

More than the star to the night, More than the rain to the tree, More than heaven to earth Art thou to me.

#### 3. The Giver

You bound strong sandals on my feet, You gave me bread and wine, And sent me under sun and stars, For all the world was mine.

Oh, take the sandals off my feet, You know not what you do; For all my world is in your arms, My sun and stars are you.

-Sara Teasdale

#### PROGRAM NOTE

The Pulitzer Prize-winning American poet Sara Teasdale wrote and published nearly 400 poems. Many of them reflect a life that has been described as lonely and troubled. And even though she received public and critical acclaim, the tone of much of her writing was melancholy and grew increasingly dark. That was not true of all of her poetry, however. The three poems used here are passionate and unrestrained love songs, radiant with images of stars and the sun.

The title *illuminArias* was chosen for several reasons: It reflects the themes of light and illumination present in the poetry and calls to mind the lovely luminarias that light pathways in New Mexico and the southwest United States at Christmas. '*Arias*' signifies the musical approach I took to setting these texts—namely, as solos. Often, the sections sing in unison before breaking into multiple parts. Not only does that underscore the intimate and personal nature of the poetry, it exploits the power of the ensemble singing together as one voice.

Craig Carnahan

## illuminArias

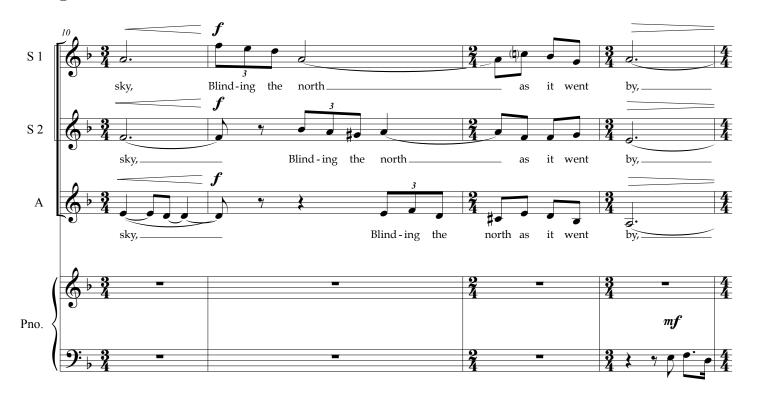
Dedicated to the many devoted singers who continue to contribute to Arrowhead Chorale, now in its 27th year.

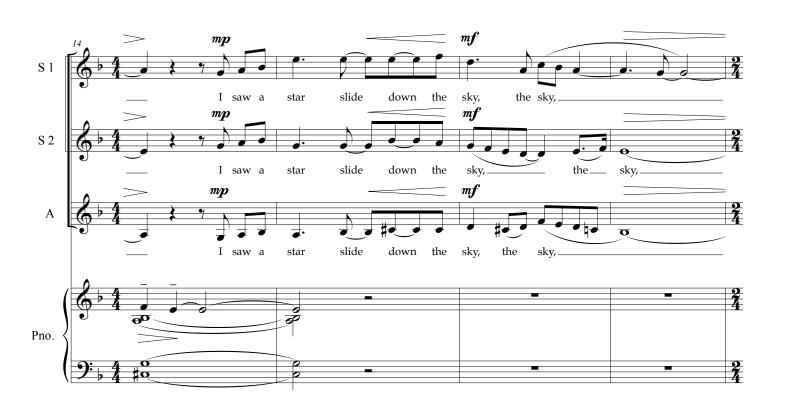
Sara Teasdale

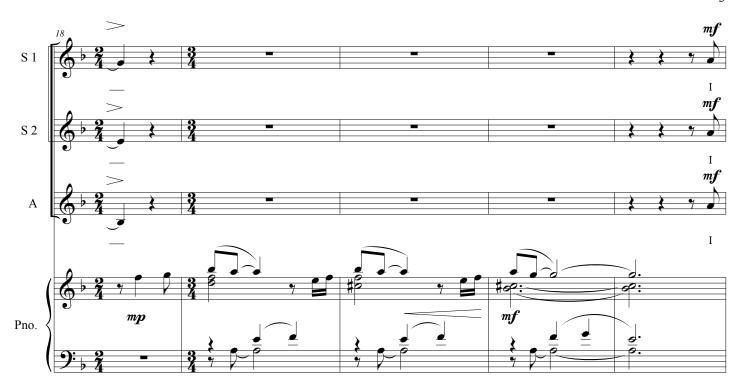
Craig Carnahan (b. 1951)

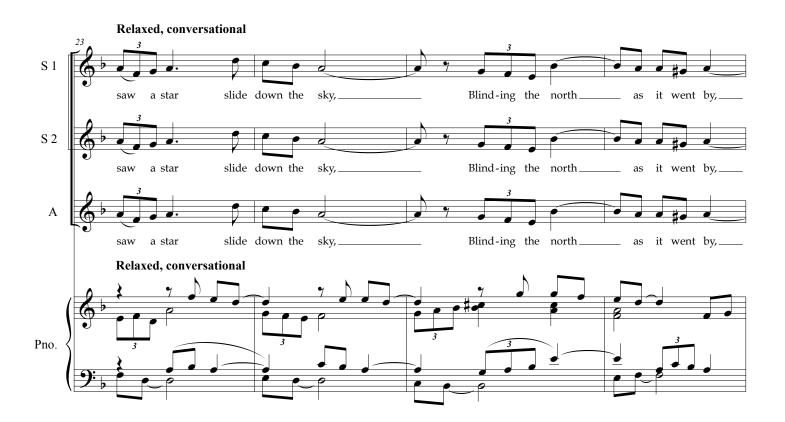
## 1. The Falling Star (S.S.A.)

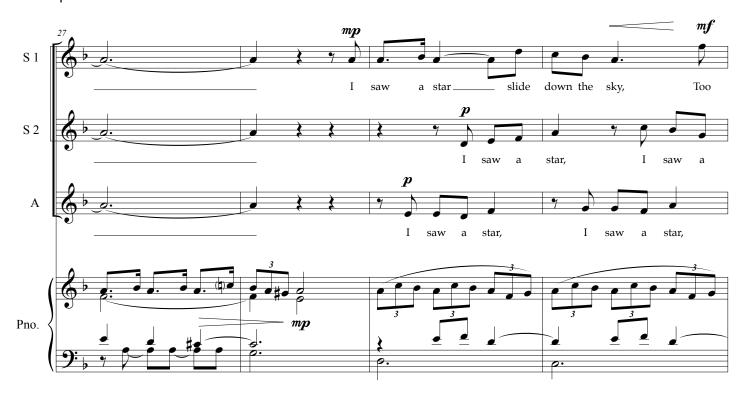


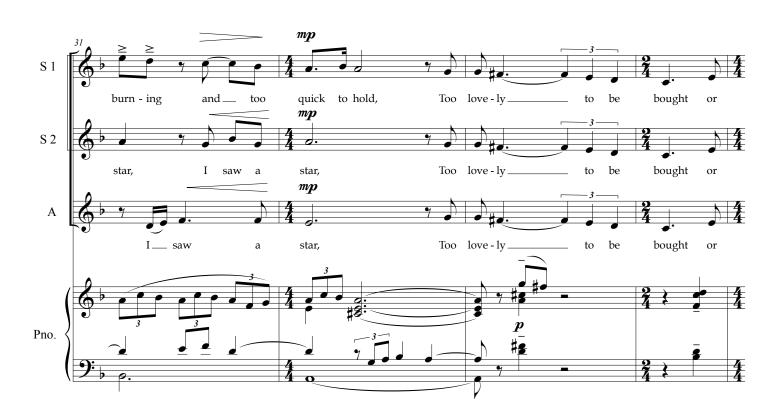








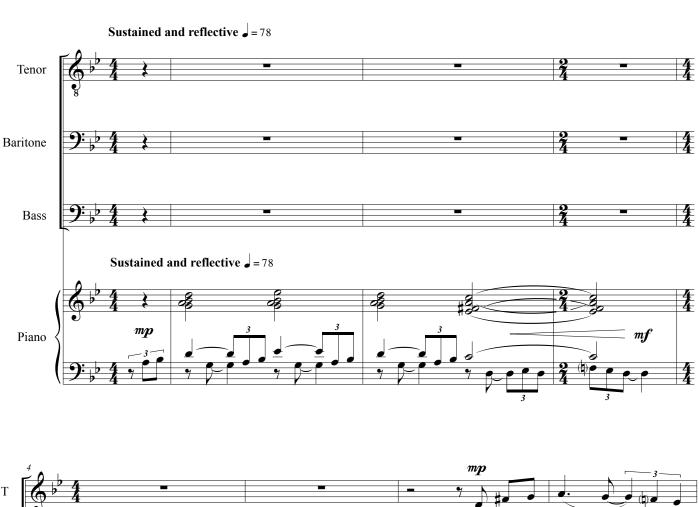






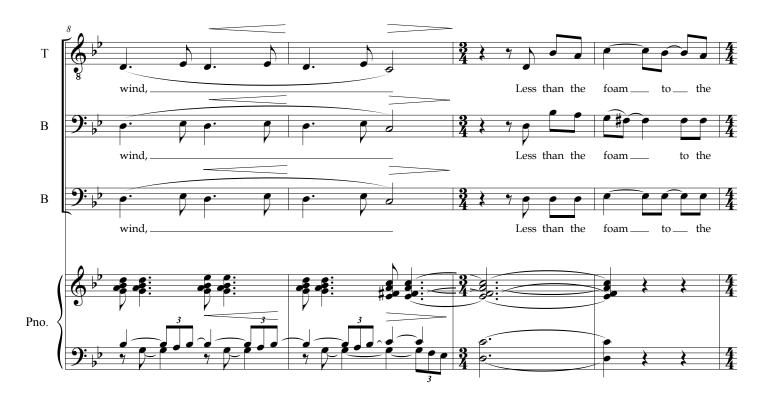


## 2. Less Than the Cloud to the Wind (T.B.B.)



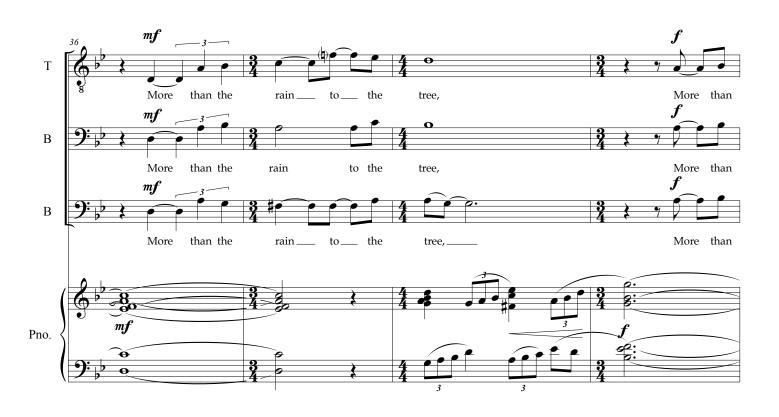


c. 2:30 minutes













## 3. The Giver (S.A.T.B.)









