

# Boy with Orange (out of Kosovo)

Commissioned by a consortium of six Canadian amateur choirs

Lotte Kramer

Alex Eddington

Wearily ♩ = 63

**A**

Soprano

Alto *p* A boy hold - ir in his hands

Tenor

Bass

Piano *p* pedal freely

---

8

S *p* Has cr bor - der in un - cer - tain - ty.

A in un - cer - tain - ty.

T.

B Has crossed the bor - der

Pno

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Please report performances at [www.AlexEddington.com](http://www.AlexEddington.com)

15 *p* **B**

S He stands there, mar - ble eyes at

A He stands there, stares with mar - ble eyes at

T eyes at

B He stands there, s<sup>t</sup> mar - ble eyes at

Pno

22 *mf* *p*

S scenes Too des - o - late ce for him to com - pre - hend

A scenes Too der des - o - late for him to com - pre - hend

T scenes late Too des - o - late for him to com - pre - hend

B .oo des - o - late Too des - o - late for him to com - pre - hend

Pno

29 rit..... **C** a tempo or slightly faster; More hopefully

S  
A  
T  
B

Pno rit..... **C** a tempo or *r* *more hopefully*

35 *mp*

S *mp* A round as - sur - ance and a prom - ised

A *mp* Now, in this clutch - ing some - thing safe, A round as - sur - ance and a prom - ised

T *mp* Now, he's clutch - ing some - thing safe, A round as - sur - ance and a prom - ised

B and a prom - ised

Pno *mp*

**D**

38 *f* *mp*

S joy No one shall take No one shall take No one shall

A joy No one shall take No one shall take No one shall

T joy joy No one shall

B joy joy No one shall take No one shall

Pno *f* *mp*

**D**

42 *rit.*..... *p* **Tempo prir**

S take a - - -

A take

T take - way.

B a - - way.

*rit.*..... **Tempo primo**

Pno *8va* *p*

48 **E** *p*

S He can - not smile. Be - hind him are the

A He can - not smile. Be - hind ' are the

T He can - not smile.

B

Pno **E** *p*

55 **F** *mf* Urgently ♩ = 80

S stones of ba - by acce' ..... Soon he will find a

A stones of ba ..... d. Soon he will find a

T stones by - hood. Soon he will find a

B ba - by - hood. Soon he will find a

Pno *accelerando* ..... **F** Urgently ♩ = 80

62

S hand, per - haps, to hold, Or a kind face, a kind face, some com - fort

A hand, per - haps, to hold, Or a kind face, a kind face, some com - fort

T hand, per - haps, to hold, Or a kind face, some com - fort

B hand, per - haps, to hold, some com - fort

Pno

rit..... *f*

rit..... *f*

rit..... *f*

rit..... *f*

rit..... *f*

69

G

S some com - fort

A some a while.

T - fort for a while.

B ome com - fort for a while.

Pno

*p* *molto rit..... a tempo* *molto rit.....*

*pp*

**Boy with Orange (out of Kosovo)** takes its text from a poem of the same name by British poet Lotte Kramer.

Born in Germany in 1923, Kramer escaped the Holocaust and came to England as a child refugee. She started writing poetry in her 30s to help process her experiences. This poem is a striking universal image of how war affects the lives of children and their families. It reflects the devastating reality of modern warfare, and the resulting global refugee crisis.

Alex Eddington's musical setting is intended as a contemporary reflection for the time around Remembrance Day, Veterans Day or any concert on the theme of war and peace.

## Boy with Orange (out of Kosovo)

Lotte Kramer

A boy holding an orange in his hands  
Has crossed the border in uncertainty.

He stands there, stares with marble eyes at scenes  
Too desolate for him to comprehend

Now, in this globe he's clutching a round assurance and saying safe,

No one shall take it from him, not smile.  
Behind him are the ruins of his childhood.

Soon he will perhaps, to hold,  
Or a kinship, comfort for a while.

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This piece was commissioned in 2019 by a group of Canadian amateur choirs:

**Accord Vocal Ensemble** - Edmonton AB - Artistic Director: Erin Craig  
**Beach United Church** - Toronto ON - Director: Steven Webb  
**Ensemble Gaïa** - Montreal QC - Artistic Director: Aline Blain  
**Holy Trinity Anglican Church** - Edmonton AB - Music Director: Dr. John Brough  
**Vocal Alchemy** - Edmonton AB - Artistic Director: Jordan Van Biert  
**VIVA Singers** - Toronto ON - Artistic Director: Carol Woodward Ratzlaff, Associate Artistic Director: Brad Ratzlaff

The composer made revisions to the score in 2021.



Alex Eddington's music has been described as "eclectic" (*Wholenote Magazine*), "remarkable and very theatrical" (*Nieuwe Noten*) and "[shining] with wit and assurance... subtlety and truthfulness" (*National Post*).

His choral pieces have been performed across Canada and the U.S.A., including Elektra Women's Choir, Chronos Vocal Ensemble, Toronto Chamber Choir, KCVITAs and the Da Camera Singers. His instrumental music has been commissioned by the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Mississauga Symphony, Continuum, Toronto Consort and violinist Conrad Chow.

Known for his solo vocal music, Alex's debut album *A Present From a Small Distant World* showcased his decades-long collaboration with soprano Kristin Mueller-Heaslip. Additionally, his music has been recorded and released on albums by Quattuo Bozzini, Odin Quartet, junctQín Keyboard Collective, soprano Stephanie Lamprea and the Scarborough Philharmonic Orchestra.

Alex's work with young and community musicians includes collaborative composition projects with VIVA Singers, Jumbles Theatre, St. Paul's Steel Band and the Suzuki String School of Guelph. As a theatrical composer he has worked with Guild Festival Theatre, Tarragon Theatre and many small companies touring the Fringe theatre circuit.

Alex Eddington is also a high school music/drama teacher, bird enthusiast, playwright/storyteller, and host of the contemporary music podcast *Fresh Sounds / Open Ears*.