

SATB

Gather Ye Rosebuds While Ye May

\$2.25

Christopher Alexander

Gather Ye
Rosebuds
While Ye May

SATB, a cappella

cantareworks

THE MUSIC OF CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

About the Work

With inspiration from John Barlet's madrigal *Of All the Birds*, this a cappella setting creates a Renaissance whimsical feel (like a madrigal) to match the text by Robert Herrick. Homophonic and in comfortable ranges for all voices, this is an attainable choral piece for your choir to perform. Have some fun singing this song at your next concert!

*Gather ye rosebuds while ye may,
Old time is still a-flying;
And this same flower that smiles today
Tomorrow will be dying.*

*The glorious day of heaven, the sun,
The bright he's a-getting,
The sooner will his race be run,
And nearer he's to setting.*

*That age is best which is the first,
When youth and blood are warmer;
But being spent, the worse, and worst
Times still succeed the former.*

*Then do not coy, but use your time,
And while ye may, go marry;
For having lost but once your prime,
You may forever tarry.*

— *To the Virgins, to Make Much of Time*
by Robert Herrick (1591-1674)

About the Composer



Mr. Christopher Alexander is an award-winning composer and arranger from St. Joseph, Missouri. He received his Bachelor of Science in Vocal Music Education degree from Missouri Western State University in 2009. A self-taught pianist, his compositions and arrangements ranging from instrumental works to vocal solo and choral literature. Mr. Alexander has been commissioned numerous times by singing groups and church choirs within the northwest Missouri and northeast Kansas regions. He is also active in musical theatre productions as a music director and pianist. His works have been published with GIA Music Publications and Hal Leonard.

In 2016, he was awarded the St. Joseph Allied Arts Council Mayor's Award for Artist of the Year. In 2022, he was inducted into the New Generation Singers Hall of Fame.

Mr. Alexander currently serves as the pianist and primary arranger for The New Generation Singers, a Christian singing youth group based in St. Joseph, Missouri. He is a member of NAFME, ACDA, MCDA, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity.

He is available for commissions and conducting events on request.

Gather Ye Rosebuds While Ye May

for SATB a cappella

Words by
Robert Herrick

Music by
Christopher Alexander
*Inspired by "Of All the Birds"
by John Barlet (1565-1620)*

Andante (♩ = c. 72)

mf

Soprano

Gath - er ye rose - buds while ye may, Old time is still a - fly - ing; And

Alto

Gath - er ye rose - buds while ye may, Old time is still a - fly - ing; And

Tenor

Gath - er ye rose - buds while ye may, Old time is still a - fly - ing; And

Bass

Gath - er ye rose - buds while ye may, Old time is still a - fly - ing; And

Piano
(for rehearsal only)

Andante (♩ = c. 72)

mf

5

S

this same flow'r that smiles to - day To - mor - row will be dy - ing.

A

this same flow'r that smiles to - day To - mor - row will be dy - ing.

T

this same flow'r that smiles to - day To - mor - row will be dy - ing.

B

this same flow'r that smiles to - day To - mor - row will be dy - ing.

Gather Ye Rosebuds While Ye May

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S The glo - rious lamp of heav'n the sun, The high - er he's a get - ting, The

A The glo - rious lamp of heav'n the sun, The high - er he's a - get - ting, The

T 8 The glo - rious lamp of heav'n the sun, The high - er he's a - get - ting, The

B The glo - rious lamp of heav'n the sun, The high - er he's a get - ting, The

13

S soon - er will his race be run, And near - er he's to set - ting. *rit.* Fine

A soon - er will his race — be run, And near - er he's to set - ting. *rit.* Fine

T 8 soon - er will his race be run, And near - er he's to set - ting. *rit.* Fine

B soon er will his race be run, And near - er he's to set - ting. *rit.* Fine