

SSA

The Moment of Magic

\$2.25

Christopher Alexander

The Moment
of Magic

SSA and Piano

cantareworks

THE MUSIC OF CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

About the Work

Your women's choir will embrace the beauty and power that music can bring with this work. The choir fully illustrates Victoria Safford's timeless text and creates a wonderful picture of sound. The piano steadily accompanies the voices throughout the piece.

*Now is the moment of magic,
When the whole, round earth turns again
toward the sun,
And here's a blessing:
The day will be longer and brighter now
Even before the winter settles in to chill us.*

*Now is the moment of magic,
When people beaten down and broken,
With nothing left but misery and candles
and their own sweet voices,
Kindle tiny lights and whisper secret music,
And here's a blessing:*

*The dark universe is suddenly illuminated
by the lights of the menorah,
Suddenly ablaze with the lights of the kippah,
And the whole world is glad and loud
with winter singing.*

*Now is the moment of magic,
When an eastern star
Beckons the ignorant toward an unknown goal,
And here's a blessing:
They find nothing in the end
but an ordinary baby,
Born at midnight, born in poverty,
and the baby's cry, like bells ringing,
Makes people wonder as they wander
throughout their lives,
What human love might really look like,
sound like, feel like.*

*Now is the moment of magic,
And here's a blessing:
We already possess all the gifts we need,
We've already received our presents:
Ears to hear music, eyes to behold lights,
Hands to build the peace of earth
And to hold each other tight in love.*

— Rev. Victoria Safford

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.

THE MOMENT OF MAGIC

Words by
VICTORIA SAFFORD

SSA and Piano

Music by
CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

Slowly, freely
mp

SOPRANO I
Now is the mo - ment of ma - *rit.*

SOPRANO II
Now is the mo - ment, the mo - ment of ma - *rit.*

ALTO
Now is the mo - ment, the mo - ment of ma - *rit.*

PIANO
(opt. a cappella) mp *rit.*

5 Adagietto espressivo (♩ = c. 48-52)

gic.

gic.

gic.

5 Adagietto espressivo (♩ = c. 48-52)

mp (play)

The Moment of Magic

8 *mp*
Now is the mo - ment of ma - gic, _____
mp
Now is the mo - ment of ma - gic, _____
mp
Now is the mo - ment of ma - gic, _____

8

12
when the whole, round earth _____ turns a - gain to - ward the sun,
when the whole, round earth _____ turns a - gain to - ward the sun,
when the whole, round earth _____ turns a - gain to - ward the sun,

12

16 17

and here's a bless - ing: the day will be long - er and bright - er now _____

16 17

and here's a bless - ing: the day will be long - er and bright - er now _____

20

e - ven be - fore the win - ter set - tles in to chill us.

20

e - ven be - fore the win - ter set - tles in to chill us.

The Moment of Magic

24

25 *mf*

Now is the mo - ment of ma - gic,

Now is the mo - ment of ma - gic, the mo - ment of

Now is the mo - ment of ma - gic, the mo - ment of

Now is the mo - ment of ma - gic, the mo - ment of

when peo - ple beat - en down and bro - ken,

ma - gic, with no - thing left but

ma - gic, with no - thing left but

ma - gic, with no - thing left but

ma - gic, with no - thing left but

ma - gic, with no - thing left but

ma - gic, with no - thing left but

ma - gic, with no - thing left but

ma - gic, with no - thing left but