

SSA

I Am the World

\$2.50

Christopher Alexander

I Am the
World

SSA and Piano

Also available in: SATB, SAB, TBB, and Two-Part

cantareworks

THE MUSIC OF CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

About the Work

The poet's powerful words are fully encapsulated in this new choral anthem. The beginning declaration segues into a fast traveling waltz with a fervent and adventurous piano accompaniment. A slower, introspective section then returns to the fast waltz toward a final callback of the opening.

I am the song, that rests upon the cloud;

I am the sun;

I am the dawn, the day, the hiding shroud,

When dusk is done.

I am the changing colours of the tree;

The flower uncurled;

I am the melancholy of the sea;

I am the world.

The other souls that, passing in their place,

Each in their groove;

Out-stretching hands that chain me and embrace,

Speak and reprove.

O atom of that sun, by which the earth

Is turned and whirled;

Behold, ye hurrying with the crowd assert

You are the world.

Am I not one with all the things that be

Warm in the sun?

All that my ears can hear, or eyes can see,

Till all be done.

Of song and shine, of changing leaf apart,

Of bud uncurled:

With all the senses pulsing at my heart,

I am the world.

One day the song that drifts upon the wind,

I shall not bear;

Nor shall the rosy shoots to eyes grown blind

Again appear.

Deaf, in the dark, I shall arise and throw

From off my soul,

The numbered world with all its joy and woe,

That was my goal.

I shall arise, and like a shooting star

Slip from my place;

So lingering see the old world from afar

Revolve in space.

And know more things than all the wise may know

Till all be done;

Till One shall come who, breathing on the stars,

Blows out the light.

Dora Sigerson Shorter (1866-1918)

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.

I AM THE WORLD

Words by
DORA SIGERSON SHORTER
(1866-1918)

SSA and Piano

Music by
CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

Stately (♩ = 66)

f

SOPRANO I
SOPRANO II

I am the world! I am the world! —

ALTO

I am the world! I am the world! —

PIANO

f

Pedal harmincally throughout

rit.

I am the world! —

rit.

I am the world! —

rit.

Also available in SATB, SAB, TBB, and Two-Part voicing.

I Am the World SSA

6 Fast waltz, in 3/4 (♩. = c. 54-56)

Musical notation for the first system, measures 6-7. It consists of two staves, both in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The time signature is 3/4. Both staves contain whole rests for measures 6 and 7.

6 Fast waltz, in 3/4 (♩. = c. 54-56)

Musical notation for the second system, measures 8-9. It features a piano accompaniment with two staves (treble and bass clefs) and a vocal line in treble clef. The piano part starts with a dynamic marking of *f* and the instruction *furoso con moto*. The vocal line has a dynamic marking of *mf*.

10

12 *mf* unis.

Musical notation for the third system, measures 10-11. It shows two vocal staves in treble clef. The lyrics are: "I am the song, that" in measure 10 and "I am the song, that" in measure 11. The dynamic marking is *mf*.

10

12

Musical notation for the fourth system, measures 10-11. It features a piano accompaniment with two staves (treble and bass clefs). The piano part has a dynamic marking of *mf* and includes a crescendo hairpin.

14

Musical notation for the fifth system, measures 14-15. It shows two vocal staves in treble clef. The lyrics are: "rests up - on the cloud;" in measure 14 and "rests up - on the cloud;" in measure 15. The notes are held across the bar lines.

14

Musical notation for the sixth system, measures 14-15. It features a piano accompaniment with two staves (treble and bass clefs). The piano part continues with a melodic line in the bass clef.

18

I am the sun; I am the dawn, the

I am the sun; I am the dawn, the

18

22

day, the hi - ding shroud, When

day, the hi - ding shroud, When

22

26

dusk is done. I am the chang - ing

28 *espress.*

dusk is don I am th chang - ing

28

26

I Am the World SSA

30

col - ors of the tree; The

col - ors of the tree; The

Musical score for measures 30-33. It features two vocal staves (Soprano and Alto) and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are "col - ors of the tree; The". The piano part includes a large fermata over measures 31 and 32.

34

flow'r un - curled; I am the mel - an -

flow'r un - curled; I am the mel - an -

Musical score for measures 34-37. It features two vocal staves (Soprano and Alto) and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are "flow'r un - curled; I am the mel - an -". The piano part includes a large fermata over measures 35 and 36.

38

cho - ly of the sea;

cho - ly of the sea;

furioso

Musical score for measures 38-41. It features two vocal staves (Soprano and Alto) and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are "cho - ly of the sea;". The piano part includes a large fermata over measures 39 and 40, and a *furioso* marking starting at measure 41.

I Am the World SSA

42

I am the world, _____ ,
 I am the world, _____ ,

42

I am the world, _____

46

the world. _____
 the world. _____

46

50

51 *f* *unis.*

Am I not one with all the
 Am I not one with

50

51

Am I not one with

I Am the World SSA

54

things that be _____ Warm in the

all the things that be _____

54



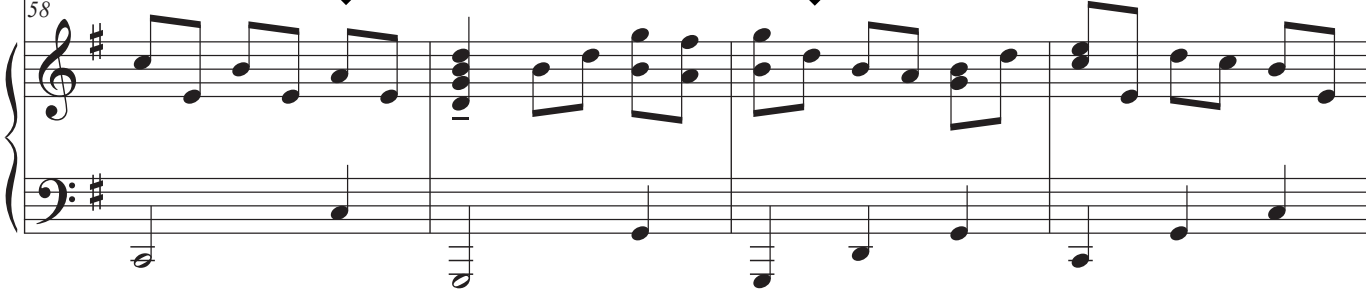
Piano accompaniment for measures 54-57, featuring a treble and bass clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#).

58

sun? _____ all that my ears can hear, or

Warm in the sun? All that my ears can

58



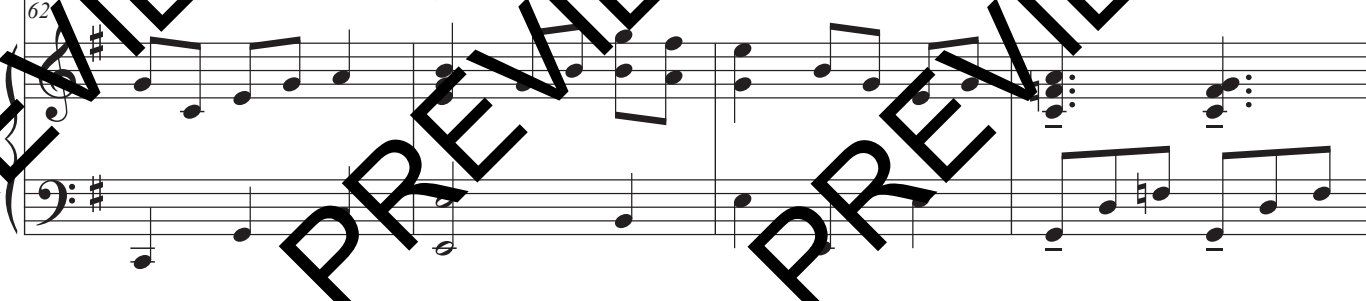
Piano accompaniment for measures 58-61, featuring a treble and bass clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#).

62

eyes can see, _____ Till all be

ear, or eyes can see, Till all be

62



Piano accompaniment for measures 62-65, featuring a treble and bass clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#).