

Kolibri

WORDS BY

Charles Anthony Silvestri

MUSIC BY

Christopher Alexander

Also available:

SATB (15/4206H)

Downloadable Accompaniment MP3
(e99/5186H)

SATB and SSA Part-dominant Rehearsal MP3s
(e99/5187H)

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 range from instrumental works to vocal solo and choral literature. In 2016, he was awarded the St. Joseph Allied Arts Council Mayor's Award for Artist of the Year.

About the Poet

Described as “the preeminent choral lyricist of our time,” poet, author, composer, and speaker Charles Anthony Silvestri has worked with other artists from all over the world to create texts tailor-made for their commissions and specific artistic needs. Having retired from the classroom after 38 years, now as a clinician Silvestri speaks to choirs, classes, and concert audiences about his works, the creative process, the marriage of words and music, and about his collaborative relationships with composers. He is the author of three books, several published essays, and scores of choral octavos. He currently lives, writes, and makes music in Lawrence, KS.

From the Composer

Lyrical voice-leading and close-knit harmonies are supported by an illustrative piano accompaniment, leading easily through its wide vocal and emotional ranges. A wind chimes effect is achieved with tapered rubato applied to each pair of measures. The choir dramatizes the text with its note suspensions and fluid volume markings, creating a simple yet evocative result.

From the Poet

Kolibri means “hummingbird” in German. Hummingbirds are such wondrous creatures—so fast, so rare, so ephemeral. While this poem explores that rarity, I wrote it also for a friend who had found love again after a lonely time. Relationships are such risks, but worth it. This friend and his new partner could only be together for brief periods, as they lived so far apart; so their meetings were wonderful times of joy, like the fleeting visit of a hummingbird.

Kolibri

3

Words by
Charles Anthony Silvestri

SSA and Piano

Music by
Christopher Alexander

Andante espressivo ♩ = ca. 72

SI *p legato*

Rare and won - der - ful,

SII *p legato*

Rare and won - der - ful,

A *p legato*

Rare and won - der - ful,

Andante espressivo ♩ = ca. 72

a cappella through measure 5 (play only if needed)
p legato

3

rit.

rare and won - der - ful...

rit.

rare and won - der - ful...

rit.

rare and won - der - ful... (opt. div.)

rit.

Duration: 3:40

Text © 2018 by Charles Anthony Silvestri, admin. Walton Music Corp., a div. of GIA publications, Inc.
All Rights Reserved. Used by permission.

Music © 2026 Heritage Music Press, a division of The Lorenz Corporation. All rights reserved. Printed in U.S.A.
Unauthorized reproduction of this publication is a criminal offense subject to prosecution.

Copying this music is illegal. A license from CCLI or One License does not grant permission to copy.

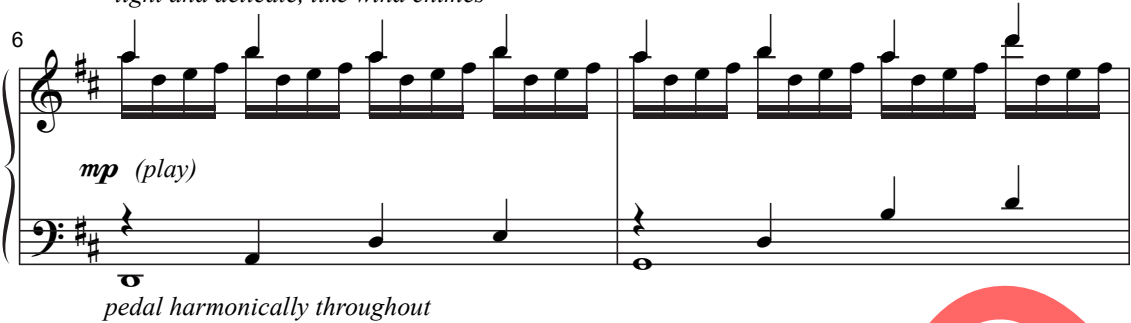
www.lorenz.com

Andantino con mosso e poco rubato ♩ = 84-92
light and delicate, like wind chimes

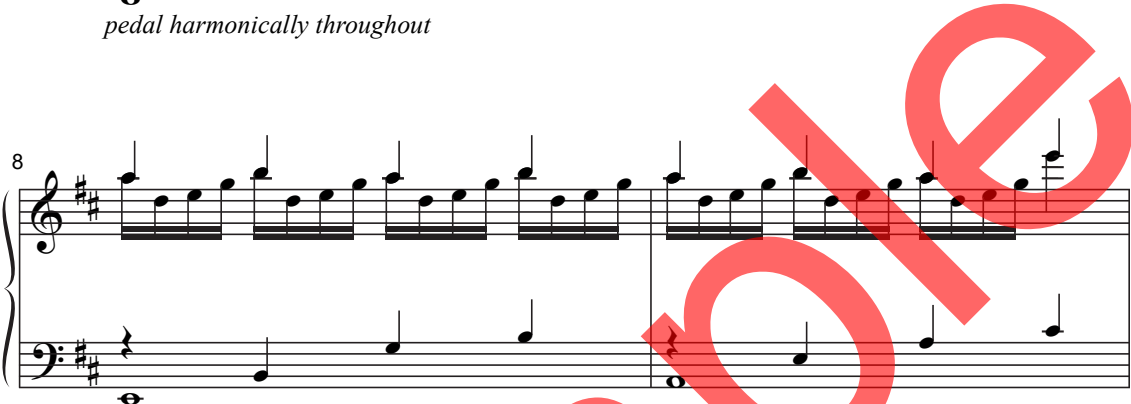
6

mp (play)

pedal harmonically throughout



8



10

mp

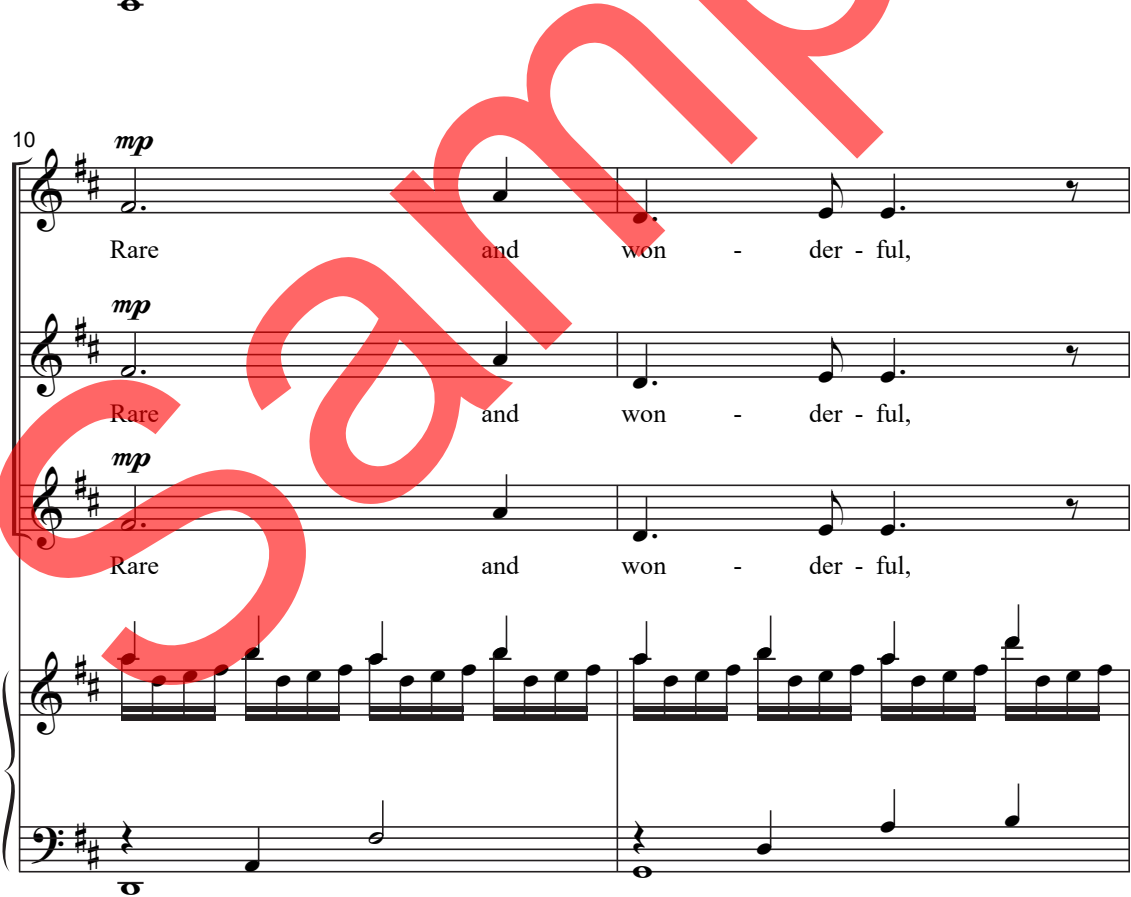
Rare and won - der - ful,

mp

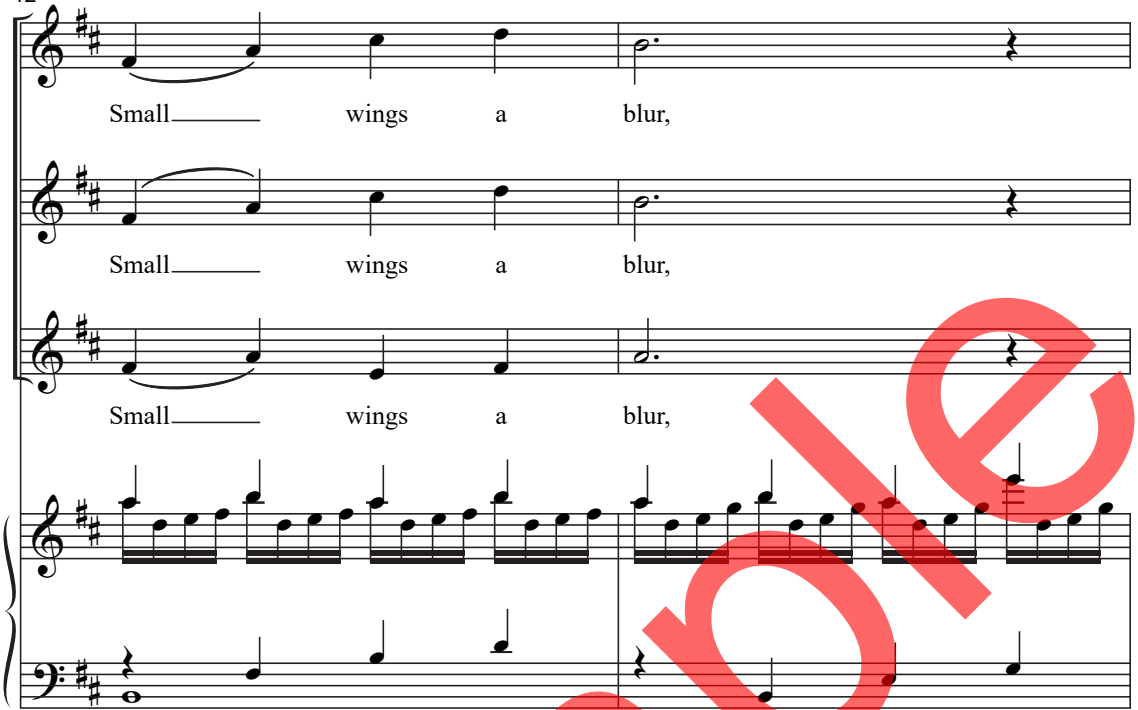
Rare and won - der - ful,

mp

Rare and won - der - ful,



12



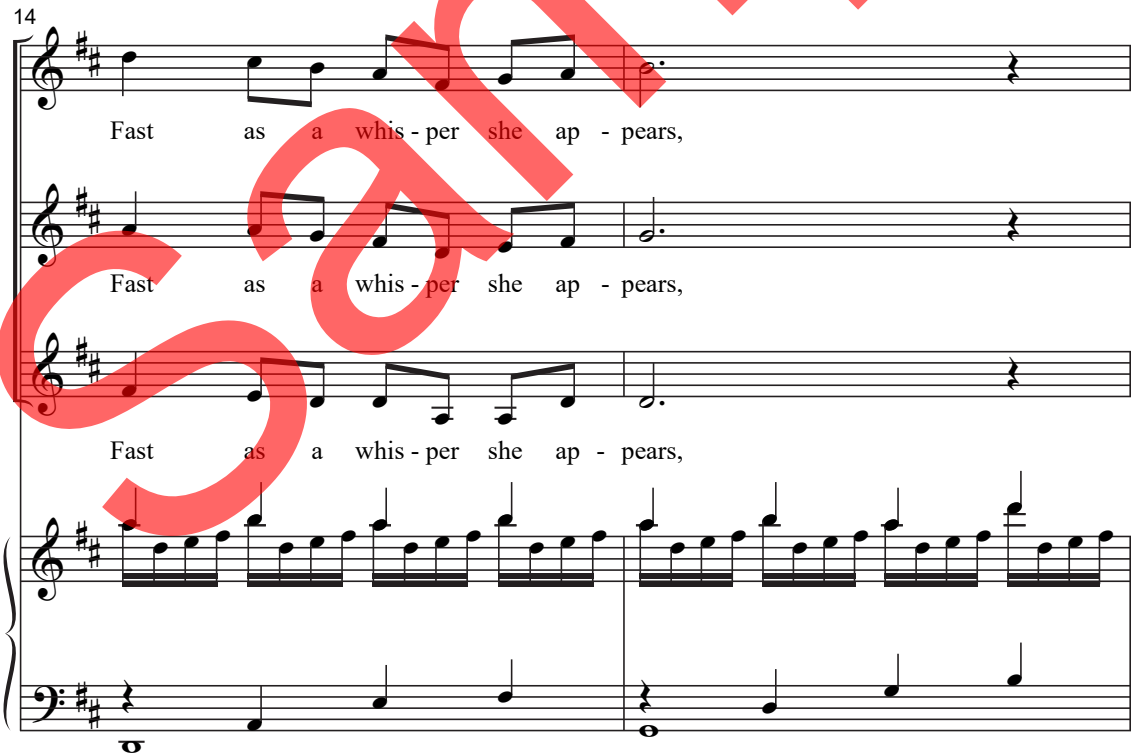
Small _____ wings a blur,

Small _____ wings a blur,

Small _____ wings a blur,

The piano accompaniment for measures 12-13 features a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a continuous eighth-note pattern in the right hand, while the bass staff has a simple harmonic accompaniment with quarter notes and rests.

14



Fast as a whis - per she ap - pears,

Fast as a whis - per she ap - pears,

Fast as a whis - per she ap - pears,

The piano accompaniment for measures 14-15 continues with the same treble and bass staff structure. The treble staff maintains the eighth-note pattern, and the bass staff provides harmonic support with quarter notes and rests.

22

*rit.**a tempo*

still.

*rit.**a tempo*

still.

*rit.**a tempo*

still.

*rit.**mp a tempo*

25

mf

Her

mf

Her

28

mf

Her _____ au - di - ence is fleet - ing.

au - di - ence is fleet - ing. She

au - di - ence is fleet - ing. She

mf

30

She brings a wel - come bless - ing, A

brings a wel - come bless - ing, A

brings a wel - come bless - ing, A

32

heal - ing for the heart, A re - mind - er to the spir - it That the

heal - ing for the heart, A re - mind - er to the spir - it That the

heal - ing for the heart, A re - mind - er to the spir - it That the

34

p cresc.
world is good, That love is

p cresc.
world is good, That love is

p cresc.
world is good, That love is

p cresc.

43

appassionato

46

sub. mp cresc.

Red.

49

rit.

rit.

rit.

sim.

rit.

f

Tempo I ♩ = ca. 72

52 *mp espress.*

How can such a crea - ture So small, so

mp espress.

How can such a crea - ture So small, so

mp espress.

How can such a crea - ture So small, — so

Tempo I ♩ = ca. 72

mp espress.

55

frag - ile, Fill such an emp - ti - ness? I

frag - ile, Fill such an emp - ti - ness? I

frag - ile, Fill such an emp - ti - ness? I

espress.

Tempo II ♩ = 84-92

58

cresc. e accel. poco a poco

won - der, and once a - gain Set out my bro - ken

cresc. e accel. poco a poco

won - der, and once a - gain Set out my bro - ken

cresc. e accel. poco a poco

won - der, won - der, won - der, won - der, won - der, bro - ken

Tempo II ♩ = 84-92

cresc. e accel. poco a poco

61 *mf* heart, Wait - ing for her re - turn, say - ing,

61 *mf* heart, Wait - ing for her re - turn, say - ing,

61 *mf* heart, Wait - ing for her re - turn, say - ing,

64 *f* "Come! Here is sweet food!" *rit.* *a tempo*

64 *f* "Come! Here is sweet food!" *rit.* *a tempo*

64 *f* "Come! Here is sweet food!" *rit.* *a tempo*

f *rit.* *a tempo*

Red. *

67 *rit.*

Here is sweet _____ food!"

rit.

Here is sweet _____ food!"

rit.

Here is sweet _____ food!"

rit.

70 *p a tempo*

Rare and won - der - ful,

p a tempo

Rare and won - der - ful,

p a tempo

Rare and won - der - ful,

8va
leggero

p a tempo

72

rare and won - der - ful...

rare and won - der - ful...

rare and won - der - ful... (opt. div.)

(8^{va})

74

(8^{va})

76

molto rit.

pp

