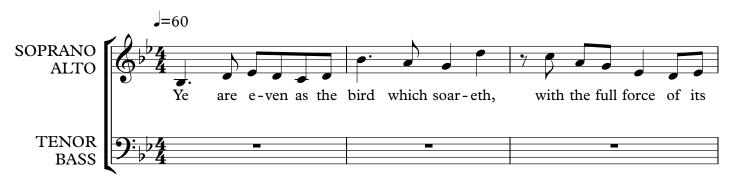
## Ye Are Even As The Bird SSAATB

Bahá'u'lláh John Thomas Higgins





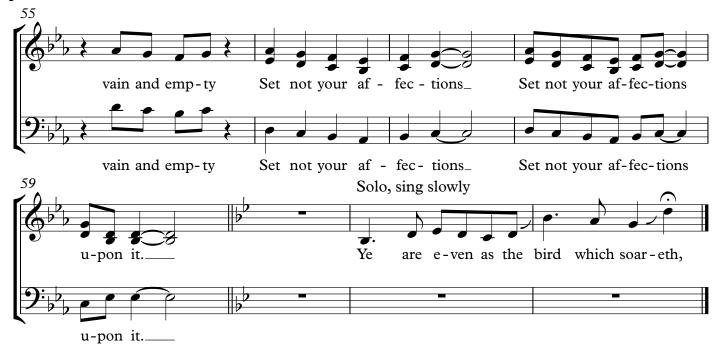












Ye are even as the bird which soareth, with the full force of its mighty wings and with complete and joyous confidence, through the immensity of the heavens, until, impelled to satisfy its hunger, it turneth longingly to the water and clay of the earth below it, and, having been entrapped in the mesh of its desire, findeth itself impotent to resume its flight to the realms whence it came. Powerless to shake off the burden weighing on its sullied wings, that bird, hitherto an inmate of the heavens, is now forced to seek a dwelling-place upon the dust. Wherefore, O My servants, defile not your wings with the clay of waywardness and vain desires, ...

Gleanings From The Writings Of Bahá'u'lláh, #CLIII, pg 327. Bahá'í Publishing Trust, Wilmette, 1976

The world is but a show, vain and empty, a mere nothing, bearing the semblance of reality. Set not your affections upon it.

Gleanings From The Writings Of Bahá'u'lláh, #CLIII, pg 328.

Bahá'í Publishing Trust, Wilmette, 1976

## Composer's notes:

This piece of music makes use of the technique of 'word painting', the musical depiction of words in the text. The music tries to imitate the emotion or action described in the text, moving upwards as the bird soars, using dissonance as the bird is trapped in the material world. The last section sets parallel fourths and fifths together to emphasize that the world truly is "but a show". JH