

Commissioned by the Toledo Choral Society
Richard Napierala, Artistic Director
for premiere June 26, 2022
Toledo, Ohio

PROGRAM NOTES

Lake Huron [Islands] is an expression of the composer's fascination and delight with the many islands located in Lake Huron. An initial view of the map led to the awareness of the colorful island names. As they are listed alphabetically in the map legend, they provide the lyrics for this song. The opening and closing Mezzo solo lines are literally the exclamations of the composer: "How I love these island names!...and my favorite is...BEAR'S RUMP ISLAND!"

This choral setting is part of the cantata *The Great Lakes*, a musical journey across the magnificent five lakes bordering the Eastern US and Canada. Texts by American and Canadian poets have been selected as lyrics for this cantata. The journey moves from East (Lake Ontario) to West (Lake Superior), stopping to explore the unique character of each lake en route.

Although the preliminary form of the cantata was scored for chorus with piano accompaniment, the final version is now orchestrated. Therefore, the composer has enjoyed exploring orchestral colors inspired by the personalities of the lakes.

TEXT

Lake Huron, vast and beautiful, dotted with islands large and small, how I love these island names!

Bear...Birch...Boat...Burke...

Cove...Crow...Cockburn...Cranberry...

Devil...Dollar...Doctor...Great Duck...

Middle Duck...Western Duck...Outer Duck...

duck...duck...duck...duck...

Goat...Goose...Gull Rock...Garden...

Herschel...Haven...Indian...ISLAND NUMBER 8!!!

Kitchener...Kolfage...Little Kitchener...Lonely Island...

Main Station...Manitoulin...McCallum...Marquette (a VERY LARGE ISLAND)...

Perseverance...Penny...Russell...Rover...

Smokehouse...South Otter...

Thibault...Turning...Tyson...Vimy...

Yeo!

And my favorite is:

BEAR'S RUMP ISLAND!

—Gwyneth Walker

Lake Huron

[Islands]

from *The Great Lakes*

Alto Solo, SATB Chorus (divisi), and Piano or Orchestra

G. W.

Gwyneth Walker

Alto Soloist steps forward to sing

Alto Solo

Freely, as an introduction

mf

Alto Solo

Lake Hur - on, vast and beau - ti - ful, —

Piano

Alto Solo

dot - ted with is - lands large and small, — how I love — these is - land names! —

(*Rec.*)

A ♩ = 120 (constant tempo to m. 59)

Soloist rejoins chorus.

Alto Solo

A ♩ = 120 (constant tempo to m. 59)

with suitable energy for listing all of the island names!

with slight pedal ad lib.

B enjoying the island names

9

S A

T B

Bear... *p*

Is - land,

B enjoying the island names

12

S A

T B

Birch... Boot... Burke...

Is - land, Is - land, Is - land,

15

S A

T B

Cove... Crow... Cock - burn...

Is - land, Is - land, Is - land,

18 **C** *p*

S
A
Cran - ber - ry... Is - land, Is - land,

T
B
Is - land, Dev - il... Dol - lar...

p

21 *cresc.* *mf*

S
A
cresc. Is - land, Is - land, Is - land,

T
B
cresc. Doc - tor... Great Duck... Mid - dle Duck...

mf

24 *with delight p sub.*

S
A
Is - land, Is - land, Duck, Duck, Duck, Duck, Duck, Duck, Duck, Duck,

T
B
West-ern Duck... Out-er Duck... Duck, Duck, Duck, Duck, Duck, Duck, Duck, Duck,

with delight p sub.

p sub.

6 **D** *The islands come alive with rhythm*

27 *f*

S Goat... Goose... Gull Rock...

A Goat... Goose... Gull Rock...

T *f*
8 it's an is - land, it's an is - land, it's an is - land,

B *f*
D it's an is - land, it's an is - land, it's an is - land,

30 *mf*

S Gar - den... Herch-el... Ha - ven...

A Gar - den... Herch-el... Ha - ven...

T *mf*
8 it's an is - land, it's an is - land, it's an is - land,

B *mf*
it's an is - land, it's an is - land, it's an is - land,

delighting in such
an unimaginative name!

33

unis. *f* *mf* **E**

S In - di - an... IS - LAND NUM - BER EIGHT! it's an is - land,

A In - di - an... IS - LAND NUM - BER EIGHT! it's an is - land,

T it's an is - land, IS - LAND NUM - BER EIGHT! Kit - chen - er...

B it's an is - land, IS - LAND NUM - BER EIGHT! Kit - chen - er...

36

S it's an is - land, it's an is - land, Lone - - -

A it's an is - land, it's an is - land, Lone - - -

T Kol - fage... Lit - tle Kit - chener... Lo

B Kol - fage... Lit - tle Kit - chener... Lo

8

39

S ly - Is - land... *p* **F**

A ly - Is - land... *p*

T Lo *unis.* *p*

B Lo - - - (one) - ly *unis.* *p*

dim. *p* **F**

42

S Lone - ly... *unis. pp*

A Lone - ly... *pp*

T Lone - ly... *pp*

B Lone - ly... *pp*

Is - land... Lone - ly...

pp

45 **G** *p* *cresc.*

S it's an is - land, it's an is - land, it's an is - land,

A it's an is - land, it's an is - land, it's an is - land,

T Main Sta - tion... Man - i - tou - lin... Mc - Cal - lum...

B Main Sta - tion... Man - i - tou - lin... Mc - Cal - lum...

p *cresc.*

48 *(cresc.)* *f* *mf*

S it's an is - land, a VER - Y LARGE IS - LAND! Per - se - ver - ance...

A *(cresc.)* it's an is - land, a VER - Y LARGE IS - LAND! Per - se - ver - ance...

T *(cresc.)* Mar - quette... a *unis. f* VER - Y LARGE IS - LAND! it's an is - land,

B *(cresc.)* Mar - quette... a *f* VER - Y LARGE IS - LAND! it's an is - land,

[from appx. High G] *white-note gliss.*

(cresc.) *f* *mf*

51

S Pen - ny... Rus - sell... Rov - er...

A Pen - ny... Rus - sell... Rov - er...

T it's an is - land, it's an is - land, it's an is - land,

B it's an is - land, it's an is - land, it's an is - land,

dim.

dim.

dim.

dim.

dim.

dim.

dim.

dim.

54 [H] p

S Smoke - house... South Ot - ter...

A *unis.* p Smoke - house... South Ot - ter...

T p it's an is - land, it's an is - land, *unis.* (p) Turn - ing...

B p it's an is - land, it's an is - land, (p) Thi - bault... Turn - ing...

[H]

p

(p)

Sea.

57

mp cresc. *with delight!* *gliss.* *rit.* *f*

unis. *>* *#8*

S
 Vim - y... — Ye - - - - - o!

p cresc. *with delight!* *gliss.* *f*

A
 Ty - son... Vim - y... — Ye - - - - - o!

cresc. *with delight!* *gliss.* *f*

T
 Ty - son... Vim - y... — Ye - - - - - o!

cresc. *with delight!* *gliss.* *f*

B
 Ty - son... Vim - y... — Ye - - - - - o!

cresc. *rit.* *f*

(Leo.)

I Slowly *accel.* *a tempo* (♩ = 120)

f enthusiastically

60 **Slowly, freely** [long pause] BEAR'S RUMP IS - LAND!

S

Alto Solo *mf* *3* [long pause] Soloist stays in front *f enthusiastically*

A And my fa - vor - ite is... BEAR'S RUMP IS - LAND!

T [long pause] *f enthusiastically* BEAR'S RUMP IS - LAND!

B [long pause] *f enthusiastically* BEAR'S RUMP IS - LAND!

I Slowly *accel.* *a tempo* (♩ = 120)

rehearsal only

tremolo of anticipation *p* *f* *(f)*

Copyrighted material

Chorus punches fists in air to celebrate the islands.
Keep fists raised until applause.

64

S
it's an is - land... YEO!
exclaimed!
[not on pitch]

A
it's an is - land... YEO!
exclaimed!
[not on pitch]

T
it's an is - land... YEO!
exclaimed!
[not on pitch]

B
it's an is - land... YEO!
exclaimed!
[not on pitch]

white-note gliss.
ova

2:20
January 16, 2018
New Canaan, Connecticut