

nathan james dearden
i breathe

for SATB choir (divided)
(2021)

Full Score

for Greg Beardsell and the National Youth Training Choir of Great Britain

i breathe was commissioned by the National Youth Choirs of Great Britain,
with kind support from Dorico (NYCGB's Principal Innovation Sponsor)

TEXT

These hills
have nothing to say
and go on saying it

Ken Jones

mountain path
star by star
the sky deepens

Paul Chambers

the valley white
with hawthorn trees
i breathe i breathe

Arwyn Evans
(Used with kind permission)

PERFORMER NOTE

MURMURINGS *

There are moments in this work where performers (or an optional selection of performers) are asked to 'murmur'. This is where each performer individually whispers/softly freely recites one, or a selection, of the following short phrases in the Welsh language:

	Translation	Spoken pronunciation
Y bryniau hyn	'These hills'	uh bru-knee-y-eye hin
dim byd i'w ddweud	'have nothing to say'	dim b-eed ewe th-wide
a bwrw ymlaen	'and go on'	a boo-roo um-line
anadlu	'breathing'	an-ad-lee

A performative aspect can be built into this piece, where either performer turns towards the audience on entry of their 'murmuring' or lift their heads from a dropped position. The reverse could happen for the ending of the work. This is merely a suggestion and is not compulsory for the performance of this work.

Duration: ca. 3 minutes 30 seconds

for Greg Beardsell and the National Youth
Training Choir of Great Britain

i breathe

for SATB choir

nathan james dearden
(2021)

Text: Arwyn Evans, Ken Jones
and Paul Chambers

like an unfolding flower (♪)

Musical score for 'like an unfolding flower'. The score consists of four staves of vocal parts and a piano reduction. The vocal parts are in 3/4 time, B-flat major, and feature various performance instructions such as 'Murmurings *' and dynamics like 'ppp staggered, freely'. The piano reduction is in 3/4 time, B-flat major, and includes a dynamic 'pp' and a rehearsal mark '(optional)'. The vocal parts also include lyrics: 'mm/ah (flicker freely between sounds)'.



Musical score for the main section of 'i breathe'. The score consists of four staves of vocal parts and a piano reduction. The vocal parts are in 3/4 time, B-flat major, and feature lyrics: 'These hills, These hills, have no - - thing', 'These hills, These hills, have no - - thing', 'These hills, These These', 'These hills, These These', and 'These hills, These These'. The piano reduction is in 3/4 time, B-flat major, and includes dynamics like 'f mp', 'p', and 'mf exhale'. The vocal parts also include instructions like 'Unpitched, breathy' and 'p in the background; change sibilance freely'.

mf ppf pfffff ffffff pfppppp p
mf pfffff pfffff pfffff pfffff pfppp p

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15

s. *mp* These hills, — have no - thing no - thing *f* (—) 3-4'' *f* *mp* These hills, — These hills, —
 a. *mp* These hills, — have no - thing no - thing *f* (—) 3-4'' *f* *mp* These hills, — These hills, —
 t. *mp* These hills, — have no - thing no - thing *f* (—) 3-4'' *f* *mp* These hills, — These
 b. *mp* These hills, — have no - thing no - thing *f* (—) 3-4'' *f* *mp* These hills, —
 s.g. *p* ss/sh. *f* [t] *p* ss/sh. *f* [t]

A

3-4''

mp *p* *f* *mp* *p*

=

21

s. — have_ no _ - thing These hills, — no-thing
 a. — have_ no _ - thing These hills, — no - thing no-thing
 t. — *gliss.* These — These hills, — no - thing no-thing
 b. *p* These — These hills, — no - thing no-thing
 s.g. — ss/sh. *f* *mf exhale* *sim.* nuh thi/ng)

A

mp *p* *mp*

27

s. *pp lightly* *mp* *f*
 no - thing to say These hills, have no - thing,
pp lightly *mp* *f*
 no - thing to say These hills, have no - thing
pp lightly *mp* *f*
 8 no - thing to say These hills, have no - thing,
pp lightly *mp* *f*
 no - thing to say These hills, have no - thing,
p *f*
 s.g. ss/sh [ch]

||: 3 | - | 5 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 4 |

pp lightly mp f
 3 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 4 |

≡

32

B

s. — *mp* *pp* smoothly, ethereal; in own time
 have no-thing, nn, ah, nn, ah, nn, nn, ah, nn,
mp *p* smoothly, ethereal; in own time
 have no-thing, to say, ah, nn, ah, nn,
>p *p*
 a. — (ng), to say and go on
>p *p*
 t. — (ng), to say and go on
>p *p*
 b. — (ng), to say and go on
p *mf exhal* *sim.*
 s.g. 3 | 4 | nuh thi(ng) (return to part)
 ||: 3 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 4 |
 B

— p mp p
 3 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 4 |

38

s. ah, nn, nn, ah, nn, ah, nn, nn, ah, nn, ah, nn, nn, ah, nn,-

a. ah, nn, ah, nn, ah, nn, ah, nn, ah, nn, ah, nn,-

t. say - ing it to say and go on
cresc. poco a poco

b. say - ing it to say and go on
cresc. poco a poco

b. say - ing it to say and go on
cresc. poco a poco



44

s. ah, nn, nn, ah, nn, ah, nn, nn, ah, nn, ah, nn, nn, ah, nn,-

a. ah, nn, ah, nn, ah, nn, ah, nn, ah, nn, ah, nn,-

t. say - ing it to say and go on
cresc. poco a poco

b. say - ing it to say and go on
cresc. poco a poco

b. say - ing it to say and go on
cresc. poco a poco

50

f

(in time)

s. ah, nn, nn, ah, nn, ah, nn, say - ing, say - ing,

(in time) *f*

ah, nn, ah, nn, ah, say - ing, say - ing,

a. say - ing it say - ing, say - ing, say - ing,

t. say - ing it say - ing, say - ing, say - ing,

b. say - ing it say - ing, say - ing, say - ing,

(♩=♩)

s. *f*

a. *f*

t. *f*

b. *f*



55

C same tempo
pp lightly like nymphs

s. say-ing it, and, say-ing it, go, say-ing it, on, say-ing it, and,

pp lightly like nymphs

s. say-ing it, say-ing it, and go, say-ing it, say-ing it, and go,

a. say-ing it, and, say-ing it, go, say-ing it, on, say-ing it, and,

p sub.

t. (ng), say - ing,

p sub.

b. (ng), say - ing,

C same tempo
pp

59

s. say-ing it, go, say-ing it, on, say-ing it, and, say-ing it, go,

a. say-ing it, go, say-ing it, on, say-ing it, and, say-ing it, go,

t. *mp smoothly*
moun - - tain path star

b. *mp smoothly*
moun - - tain path star



63

s. say-ing it, on, say-ing it, and, say-ing it, go, go, go, go, go, go,

a. say-ing it, on, say-ing it, and, say-ing it, go, say-ing it, on, *mp*

t. by star, by _____ star, _____

b. by star by _____ star, _____

D

67

s. *mp* go, say-ing it, and, say-ing it, go, say-ing it, on,

s. *mp* *pp* (as before) and go, and go,

a. — say-ing it, and, say-ing it, go, say-ing it, and,

t. *pp* (as before) and go, and go, and go, and go, and go, and go, and go,

t. *mp* the sky, —

b. the sky, —

D *mp* *pp* (as before)

2

71

s. say-ing it, and, say-ing it, go, say-ing it, on,

and go, and go,

a. say-ing it, go, say-ing it, and, say-ing it, go, and go, and go, and go,

and go, and go, and go, and go, and go, and go, and go, and go,

t. the sky, deep

b. the sky, deep

mf

75

p

E

s. sky, deep - - ens, (nn)

a. and go, and go,

t. - ens. deep - - ens, (nn)

b. - ens. deep - - ens, (nn)

p

p

E

=

79

mp warmer

s. the val - ley white

a. and go, and go,

t. *mp warmer* the val - ley white

b. *mp warmer* the val - ley white

F a touch slower

87 *a touch growl*

s. These hills, have no - thing to say mm, mm/ah,
ff defiant (flicker freely between sounds)

s. These hills, have no - thing to say mm, mm,
ff defiant

a. These hills, have no - thing to say mm, mm/ah,
ff defiant (flicker freely between sounds)

t. These hills, have no - thing to say mm, i go, i go, i go, i go,
ff defiant

t. These hills, have no - thing to say mm, mm/ah,
ff defiant (flicker freely between sounds)

b. These hills, have no - thing to say mm, mm/ah,
ff defiant (flicker freely between sounds)

F a touch slower

95

s. i breathe, i breathe, i
(as before) nn, ah, nn, ah, nn, nn, ah, nn, ah, nn, nn, ah, nn, ah, nn, ah, nn,
a. i breathe, i breathe, i
t. i breathe, i breathe, i
b. i breathe, i breathe, i
s.g. (return to s.g.) Murmurings *
ppp staggered, freely, individually

=

6-10"

101

s. X||: breath, i, Repeat freely, independently pp introduce soft exhalations fade away → ||
a. X||: breath, i, Repeat freely, independently pp fade away → ||
t. X||: breath, Repeat freely, independently pp introduce soft exhalations fade away → ||
b. X||: breath,- i, Repeat freely, independently pp fade away → ||
s.g. X||: → ||

6-10"

s. X||: Repeat freely, independently pp fade away → ||
s.g. X||: fade away → ||