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CHORAL HYMNS

FROM THE

RIG VEDA

BY

GUSTAV T. HOLST.

OP. 26.

FOURTH GROUP.

FOUR HYMNS FOR MALE VOICES
WITH ACCOMPANIMENT FOR PIANOFORTE
OR STRING ORCHESTRA, WITH BRASS, *AD LIB.*

1. Hymn to Agni.
2. Hymn to Soma.
3. Hymn to Manas
4. Hymn to Indra.

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Choral Hymns from the Rig Veda

by

GUSTAV T. HOLST. Op. 26.

Sewall

Nov. 29. 1922

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Fourth Group.

I.

HYMN TO AGNI.

The sacrificial fire.

Moderato maestoso. ♩ = 69.

ONE SOLO VOICE.

TENORS. *mp* I praise thee O Ag - ni Lord of the hearth-stone, Priest of sac - ri - fice,

BASSES. - - - - -

PIANO. Moderato maestoso. ♩ = 69.

Bring - er of wealth, Great Her - ald of Gods.

Ag - ni thou art

TUTTI. *p* Ag - ni thou art wor - thy of wor - thy of praise

Note. Besides the ordinary orchestral strings, a harp or piano is needed for the first hymn. The *ad lib.* brass instruments consist of two trumpets in B \flat , two horns in F or E \flat and three trombones. The brass instruments may be omitted whenever such a course is desired and the composer requests that if they are not all used they shall all be dispensed with. The addition of one trumpet and one trombone to the string orchestra for instance would be detestable. Small choirs are advised to use piano accompaniment only. Pronounce A in *Agni* as in *among*.

praise, praise from the liv - ing as from seers of old.

praise from the living as from seers of old.

cresc.

Thou bring-est here the Gods.

Thou bring-est here the Gods.

f *dim.*

ONE SOLO VOICE.

mp

Thou dost en - fold the sac - ri - fice on ev - 'ry side

pp

Ve - ri - ly it go - eth up to the Gods. Her - ald, wise, far -

TUTTI.

Her - ald, wise, far - - see - ing,
 - see, - ing, truth - ful

truth - ful, loud praised God!
 loud praised God!

dim. Draw nigh with the Gods. *pp* Let us come to Thee
dim. Draw nigh with the Gods.

TENOR or ALTO SOLO.

as a son cometh un-to his fa-ther. Dwell with us for our wel-fare

1st TENOR TUTTI.

Poco animato.

Dwell with us for our wel - fare.

2nd TENOR. *cresc.* Ris - ing,

1st BASS. *mf cresc.* Ris - ing, swell - ing, glow - ing,

2nd BASS. *cresc.* Ris - ing,

Poco animato.

mf cresc.

Ris - ing, swell - ing, glow - ing

swell - ing, glow - ing

- ing, Ris - ing, swell - ing,

swell - ing, glow - ing, Ris - ing,

Più mosso.

Con - quer - or of dark - ness, Ru - ler of sac - ri - fice,

Con - quer - or of dark - ness, Ru - ler of

glow - ing Con - quer - or of

swell - ing, glow - ing

Più mosso.

Guar - dian of law O Ag - ni, O
 sac - ri - fice Guar - dian of law O
 dark - ness, Ru - ler of sac - ri - fice Guar - dian of law O
 Con - quer - or of dark - ness, Ru - ler of sac - ri - fice

Ag - ni Day af - ter day we come Bring - ing
 Ag - ni Day af - ter day we come Bring - ing
 Ag - ni Day af - ter day we come Bring - ing
 Guar - dian of law Day af - ter day we come Bring - ing

dim. *p dim. e rall.*

thee a - dor - a - - - tion.
 thee a - dor - a - - - tion.
 thee a - dor - a - - - tion.
 thee a - dor - a - - - tion.

pp *pp* *pp* *pp*

Alto ad lib.

Adagio.

II. HYMN TO SOMA.

Allegretto. $\text{♩} = 112.$

TENORS. *mf* The thoughts of men are

BASSES. *p* La la la la la la La la la la la La la

Allegretto. $\text{♩} = 112.$

PIANO. *p*

ma - ni-fold And di - verse are their ways The doc - tor seeks the in - va - lid The

la la la La la la la la la La la la la la la

Brah - man, one who prays. Flow on In - du, Flow ye on O ho - ly stream We

La la la la Flow on In - du, Flow ye on O ho - ly stream We

p cresc. *f*

Note. Soma— called Indu in this hymn— is the juice of a herb used in sacrifice.
This hymn was probably a popular country song to which the refrain to Soma was afterwards added.

pour thee for In - dra. — *mf* Sharp —

p La la la la la La la la la la La la la
ar - rows doth the smith - y make With fea - thers, reeds and canes, But first he seeks a

ia la la. — *mf* Flow on In - du,
wealth-y man To pay him for his pains! — *mf* Flow on In - du,

cresc. Flow ye on O ho - ly stream We pour thee — *dim.* for In - dra. — *mf* A
cresc. Flow ye on O ho - ly stream We pour thee — *dim.* for In - dra. —

po - et I, my dad's a leech, My moth - er grinds the corn In - hope of win - ning
 La la la la la la La la la la la La la la

wealth and fame We rise to work each morn. Flow on In - du,
 la la la La la la la. Flow on In - du,

p cresc.

Flow ye on O ho - ly stream We pour thee for In - dra. —
 Flow ye on O ho - ly stream We pour thee for In - dra. —

p
 La la la la la la La la la la la
mf
 The — horse would draw an ea - sy car, The frog doth yearn for rain The

La la la la la la.

lad is look ing for a mate The las - sie wants a swain!

pp

mf Flow on In - du, *cresc.* Flow ye on O ho - ly stream We

mf Flow on In - du, *cresc.* Flow ye on O ho - ly stream We

mf *cresc.*

dim. pour thee for In - dra, *pp* for In - dra.

dim. pour thee for In - dra, *pp* for In - dra.

dim. *pp*

pp We pour thee forth for In - dra.

pp We pour thee forth for In - dra.

morendo *morendo*

morendo

III.

HYMN TO MANAS.

This is an invocation to the Manas or spirit of a dying man.

Lento.

1st TENOR.

2nd TENOR.

BARITONE SOLO.
senza misura

1st BASS.

2nd BASS.

PIANO.
For practice only.

accel.

rall.

O thou who hast fled a-way To join the ranks of those that lie with-in the a-bode of Death.

$\text{♩} = 60.$
(Lento.) *p a tempo*

We call thee back to dwell with us a - gain.

p a tempo

We call thee back to dwell with us a - gain.

SOLO.

O

p a tempo

We call thee back to dwell with us a - gain.

(Lento.) $\text{♩} = 60.$
p a tempo

Note. The normal division of each $\frac{7}{4}$ bar is four crotchets followed by three. When the three beats come first 3-4 is written at the commencement of the bar.

senza misura

thou who hast fled a-way O'er loft-y moun-tain peaks, A - cross the bil-lows of the sea.

Più mosso.

We call thee back to dwell with us a - gain.

We call thee back to dwell with us a - gain.

TUTTI.

O thou who hast fled a - way —

We call thee back to dwell with us a - gain. O thou — who hast

Più mosso.

Animato.

To live with-in the splendour of the sun. We

To live with-in the splendour of the sun. We

Be - yond the earth and sky To live with-in the splendour of the sun. We

fled a - way Be - yond the earth and sky To live with-in the splendour of the sun. We

Animato.

call thee back to dwell with us a - gain. *rall.* *a tempo*

call thee back to dwell with us a - gain. *rall.* *a tempo*

call thee back to dwell with us a - gain. O thou who hast fled a - way *rall.* *a tempo*

call thee back to dwell with us a - gain. *rall.* *a tempo*

To bathe thyself in ra-diant light, To bathe thyself in ra-diant

To bathe thyself in ra-diant light, To bathe thyself in ra-diant light, in

TUTTI. *p dolce* To bathe, To bathe thy-self in ra-diant light, in

light, Whose flashing beams flow on through space in ev-er last-ing streams: We call thee *rall. e dim.* *pp* *ppp*

light, Whose flashing beams flow on through space in ev-er last-ing streams: We call thee *rall. e dim.* *pp* *ppp*

light, Whose flashing beams flow on through space in ev-er last-ing streams: We call thee *rall. e dim.* *pp* *ppp*

3-4

back to dwell with us a gain.

back to dwell with us a gain.

back to dwell with us a gain.

O thou who hast fled a-way Towards the dread unknown

3-4

pp

mf *dim.*

We call thee back to dwell with us a - gain.

mf *dim.* *senza misura. misterioso*

We call thee back to dwell with us a : gain.

mf *dim.* *SOLO.*

We call thee back to dwell with us a - gain. O thou who hast fled away To be u-nited with the

to dwell with us a - gain.

senza misura.

mf *dim.*

ppp

We call thee back to dwell with us a - gain.

ppp

We call thee back to dwell with us a - gain.

ppp **TUTTI.**

All that is and is to be. — We call thee back to dwell with us a - gain.

ppp

We call thee back to dwell with us a - gain.

ppp

IV.

HYMN TO INDRA.

Indra is god of heaven, storm and battle.

Allegro moderato. ♩ = 84. *mf*

TENORS. Who is he of lof - ty pow'r,

BASSES. Who is he of lof - ty pow'r,

Allegro moderato. ♩ = 84. *mf*

PIANO.

Guar-dian of the Gods?— Who supports the heavn's a - lone? He O men is In - dral

Guar-dian of the Gods?— Who supports the heavn's a - lone? He O men is In - dral

mf

When the moun-tains shake with fear, When the earth is quak - ing,

mf

When the moun-tains shake with fear, When the earth is quak - ing,

Who is he that holds all fast? He O men is In - dra!

Who is he that holds all fast? He O men is In - dra! When the drag - on of

drought had seized the clouds and rain Like to kine he ga-ther'd them to his cave.

f

Who was the he-ro that heard our pray'rs? Who was the war-ri-or thun-der armed?

f

Who was the he-ro that heard our pray'rs? Who was the war-ri-or thun-der armed?

accel cresc.

He O men is In - dra! is In - - dra!

accel cresc.

He, O men is In - dra!

accel cresc.

ff

Più mosso.

Who rush'd to the bat - tle field, wrath - ful - ly? Who with fierce re -

ff

Who rush'd to the bat - tle field, wrath - ful - ly? Who with fierce re -

Più mosso.

ff

- sist-less might charged the foe? Who was he who smote the fiend down to earth

- sist-less might charged the foe? Who was he who smote the fiend down to earth

accel.

Who with one blow slew him? He O

accel.

Who with one blow slew him? He O

accel.

mf Tempo I.

men is In - - - dra! Who re-leased the cap-tive clouds,

men is In - - - dra! Who re-leased the cap-tive clouds,

Gave the dry land show - ers, Made the riv - ers free - ly flow?

Gave the dry land show - ers, Made the riv - ers free - ly flow?

He O men is In - dra! Who is he, the gen-'rous one

He O men is In - dra! Who is he, the gen-'rous one

Who to those that wor - ship Giv - eth strength and vic - to - ry?

Who to those that wor - ship Giv - eth strength and vic - to - ry?

The musical score consists of seven systems, each with a vocal line (treble and bass clefs) and a piano accompaniment (grand staff). The key signature has one flat (F major or D minor). The tempo is marked 'Tempo I' and the dynamic is 'mf'. The lyrics are: 'men is In - - - dra! Who re-leased the cap-tive clouds, Gave the dry land show - ers, Made the riv - ers free - ly flow? He O men is In - dra! Who is he, the gen-'rous one Who to those that wor - ship Giv - eth strength and vic - to - ry?'. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords in the right hand.

Più mosso.

He O men is In dra! Who is he whose name we call in the fight?
 He O men is In dra! Who is he whose name we call in the fight?

Più mosso.

Who doth make his wor ship pers con quer ors? He the Bull, the Mighty One,
 Who doth make his wor ship pers con quer ors? He the Bull, the Mighty One,

Fierce and true, the Thun-der arm'd, Lord of heav'n and Chief of Gods,
 Fierce and true, the Thun-der arm'd, Lord of heav'n and Chief of Gods,

He O men is In dra!
 He O men is In dra!