

MUSIC FOR WOMEN'S CHORUS AND ORCHESTRA
(UPDATED FEB. 16, 2011)

Richard Chiarappa created a list in March of 2007 of Women's Chorus and Orchestra repertoire, and posted it on www.choralnet.org. Using *Choral Repertoire* by Dennis Shrock, published by Oxford, 2009 as well as other online lists, as resources, I have added information to Mr. Chiarappa's list including timings, some instrumentation, and short descriptions when possible.

Beach, Amy

The Sea-Fairies op. 59 – SSA solos, SSAA chorus, and orchestra of two flutes, two clarinets, two horns, harp, and strings – 20 min. (Shrock, pg. 557.)

The Chambered Nautilus op. 66 – SA solos, SSAA chorus, and orchestra (including organ) – 18 min. (Shrock, pg. 557.)

Bernstein, Leonard

“Gloria Tibi” (*Mass*) SA, T solo, piano or orchestra. Boosey & Hawkes, OCTB 6344

Brahms, J.

Ave Maria op. 12 – SSA chorus and organ or instrumental ensemble (winds and strings) – 4:30 min.

Psalm 13 op. 27 – SSA chorus and organ, later scored for strings. 5:30 min.

Brunner, David

Painted Memories, which is on Texas sculptor, Bill Worrell's exquisite text.

Jubilate Deo and a chamber orchestra version of *A living song*

Chabrier, E.

À la musique - SSAA, soprano solo, and orchestra (or piano) – 7 min.

Debussy, C.

La damoiselle élue – SA solos, SSAA chorus, and orchestra (including three flutes, English horn, bass clarinet, and two harps) – 20 min.

Nocturnes – “*Sirènes*” – SSAA chorus – 9:30 min. “The vocal writing is an integral part of the orchestra fabric and is pervasive throughout the movement...the vocal parts are wordless (no vowels or consonants are indicated in the score.” (Shrock, pg. 569.)

Salut printemps - S solo, SSA chorus, and orchestra – 4:30 min. (May also be done beautifully with piano.)

Fauré, G.

Messe basse - I have made an orchestration which works very nicely. [fl, 2 clar, 2 hrns, strings, sop. solo, choir] I've recorded it in the mixed voice version, but it works well with the original SSA version. I'm handling it myself through GrouseMusic, my in-house publisher. -
(washburn@direct.ca)

Hasse, J.A

Miserere in C minor – composed for female voices in 1730's and later arranged for mixed choir by the composer – 8 movements; winds, strings, continuo – 25 min.

Holst, G.

The Planets, H125 (1914-1915) – SSA/SSA wordless chorus and orchestra – 50 min. The chorus sings only in the final movement, "Neptune, the Mystic." [7 min.] (Shrock, pg. 681.)

Seven Part Songs, H162 (1925-26) (scored for women's chorus and strings; on poems of Robert Bridges). 23 min.

Liszt, F.

Dante Symphony, second movement includes SA choir, 24 minutes. (Total symphony approximately 44 minutes.)

Mathias, W.

Salvator Mundi – SSA, strings, 4 hand piano and percussion.
Oxford

Mendelssohn, F.

Incidental music to *Midsummer Night's Dream* is lovely and very manageable for the choir. You need a marvelous orchestra. There are good solos for two sopranos.

Messaien, O.

Trois petites liturgies de la Présence Divine – SSAA chorus, piano, ondes marenot, strings, celesta, vibraphone, and several percussion instruments. – 34 min. (Shrock pg. 586)

Paulus, S.

"*Songs of Meditation*" for SSAA chorus and Orchestra. It's great! (www.stephenpaulus.com)

Perera, Ronald

Earthsongs for soli, SSA chorus, and orchestra (2 flutes (2nd doubling piccolo), 2 oboes, 2 clarinets, 2 bassoons, 2 horns, 2 trumpets, percussion (one player), harp, strings. Or piano). A celebration of some of Cummings' most vivid nature poetry. Commissioned by the Smith College Glee Club, Theodore Morrison, director. 16 min.
ECS Publishing

Pergolesi, G.B.

Stabat Mater – SA solos. Originally scored for SA soloists, strings, and continuo, this work can be performed successfully with a chorus. (It is also a nice way to highlight multiple soloists in an ensemble.) – 35 min.

Porpora, Nicola

Magnificat - SSAA, string orchestra and continuo – 10 min.
Marks Music Corporation

Poulenc, F.

Litanies de la Vierge Noire – SSA chorus and organ (later arranged for strings and timpani.) – 8 min.

Raminsh, I.

Missa Brevis in C Minor (Colla Voce); SSA (div.) with orchestra or piano – 18 min.

Rheinberger, J.

Missa in A major op. 126 – SSA solos SSA chorus, and organ – 20 min. Rheinberger added a flute and string quintet to the organ part, although he most frequently performed the mass with accompaniment of organ alone. (Shrock, p. 486.)

Scurria, Amy

We Are Met at Gettysburg (third movement) was composed for orchestra and children's choir, however would work quite well with a women's choir. The choral part is unison. The piece was commissioned by the Philadelphia Orchestra and the Minnesota Orchestra.

(<http://www.amyscurria.com>)

Tippet, Sir Michael

Crown of the Year – 1958 – SSA solos, SSA chorus, recorders, strings, percussion, and piano – 23 min.

Thompson, R.

Frostiana – two of the seven movements are exclusively for Women's Chorus; "Come into the Garden," SSA, 3:30 min; "A Girl's Garden," SSA, 3 min.

Place of the Blest

Vaughan Williams, R.

Magnificat - Mezzo solo, SSAA chorus, and orchestra (flute solo) – 13 min.

Folksongs from the Four Seasons – 14 min.

Vivaldi, A.

Beatus vir RV 598 (Psalm 112) – SSA solos, SSAA chorus, strings and basso continuo – 7:15 min. (Alliance Publications.)

Gloria RV 589– SA solos, SSAA, strings, oboes, trumpets, and continuo – 27 min. (Transpose the tenor and bass parts as necessary.)

Anthology

Three Opera Choruses for Upper Voices (Tchaikovsky, Wagner & Verdi)

(edited J. Rutter; pub. by Oxford Univ. Press) Oxford also has a brochure of "Music for Women's Voices" (not exclusively w. orchestra.)