

The cuckoo is a pretty bird

unaccompanied SATB chorus

English Folk Song arrangements: no.29

Timothy Salter

Unless underlaid with words or other phonetics, each note is to be sung to “doo” (with the d barely articulated). Where it or another phonetic is written, retain the phonetic until anything other is indicated.

The cuckoo is a pretty bird

arr. Timothy Salter

Lively but not too fast ♩ = c.72-78

Soprano *mp light*
The cuck-oo is a pret-ty

Soprano *pp* *mp light*
doo The cuck - oo

Alto *pp*
doo doo... doo doo... doo

Tenor *mp legato*
doo...

Bass

8

S. *mf*
bird, is a pret- ty bird, is a pret- ty bird, is a pret- ty bird; She bring - eth us good

S. *light* *mf*
is a pret-ty bird, is a pret-ty bird, is a pret-ty bird, is a pret-ty bird, doo doo...

A. *mp* *mf legato*
she sing - eth as she flies. doo...

T. *light* *mf*
is a pret-ty bird, doo

B. *p legato* *mf*
doo...

13

S. *light*
ti - dings, She tell - eth us no lies. She suck - eth all sweet flow - ers To

S. *light*
She suck - eth all sweet flow - ers To

A. *light*
doo doo... A.I,II

T. *light*
doo doo... doo doo...

B. *light*
doo doo...

18

S. *mp* S.I or solo *p* S.I
 keep her throt - tle clear. And ev' - ry time she sing - eth: *mp* *p*
 cuck-oo, cuck-oo, cuck - oo, —

S.
 keep her throt - tle clear. And ev' - ry time she sing - eth:

A. *mp*
 keep her throt-tle clear. cuck-oo,

T.
 doo doo...

B.
 doo doo...

25

S. *mp*
 — The sum - mer draw - eth near, sum - mer draw - eth near. *mp* *p*
 cuck-oo, she sing - eth. doo doo...

S. *mp*
 The sum - mer draw - eth near. doo doo...

A. *p*
 doo

T. *p*
 doo

B. *p* *see footnote
 doo

31

S. *p distant*
 doo doo... *p* cuck-oo, cuck-oo, doo doo...

S. *p*

A. *p*

T. *mp* *p*
 The cuck-oo is a gid-dy bird: doo

B. *mp*
 No o - ther is as

* bars 27 & 29-31: basses sing upper D if lower one not available; preferably all basses should sing at the same octave.

38

S. *pp* cuck-oo, *pp* cuck-oo, *mp* doo

S. doo

A. *mp* That flits a-cross each mea-dow, That sings in ev'-ry tree. A nest she ne-ver

T. she, _____ doo

B. *p*

45

S. build-eth, A va-grant she doth roam, doo

S. Her mu-sic is but tear-ful:

A. doo

T. Her mu-sic is but tear-ful:

B.

51

S. *pp* cuck-oo, cuck-oo, doo

S. *pp*

A. *mp* I no-where have a home." *p* doo

T. *p* doo

B. *gently* cuck-oo. *p* doo

TIMOTHY SALTER

English Folk Songs

arranged for unaccompanied SATB chorus

Four English Folk Songs

The Frog and the Mouse (1974 - 1'30") **The Trees so High** (1974 - 3'30")

The Seeds of Love (1974 - 5') **The Tailor and the Mouse** (1974 - 2')

Three English Folk Songs

O No John! (1979 - 2')

Bonny at Morn (1979 - 3')

A Frog he would a-wooning go (1979 - 4'30")

Widdicombe Fair (1983 - 4'30")

The Wrangle Taggle Gipsies (1984 - 2'15")

Strawberry Fair (1984 - 2'15") **Blow The Wind Southerly** (1984 - 3'45")

The Oak and the Ash (1985 - 3'40")

Early one morning (1988 - 2'30")

Dashing away with the Smoothing Iron (1988 - 3')

O Waly, Waly (1990 - 4') **The Miller of the Dee** (1990 - 1'40")

Elsie Marley (1991 - 2') **The Willow Tree** (1991 - 3'30")

O Rare Turpin (1993 - 2') **Barbara Allen** (1993 - 3'45")

Cold blows the wind (1989, 1995 - 4'30") *see also Two English Folk Songs*

The Coasts of High Barbary (1997 - 2'40") **The Loyal Lover** (1997 - 3'20")

Bridgewater Fair (1999 - 1'45") **The Blacksmith** (1999 - 3')

The Bold Fisherman (2002 - 2'30") **The Cuckoo** (2002 - 3')

Flowers in the Valley (2015 - 3'45") **The cuckoo is a pretty bird** (2016 - 2'45")

Two English Folk Songs

piano, percussion (one player), SATB chorus

Cold blows the wind (1989 - 4'30")

O soldier, soldier (1989 - 2')

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