

GERALD COHEN

Lakol Z'man
(For everything a season)

for SATB chorus and piano
(2004)

PERUSAL SCORE

Lakol z'man/For everything a season was commissioned by the Cantabile Chamber Chorale, Rebecca Scott, conductor. The piece is written in memory of Ronald Axelrad—a beloved member of the chorus, and a great lover of life and of music of many sorts.

The text for this piece is the famous section from the book of Ecclesiastes (known in Hebrew as Kohelet). I have chosen to set the refrain in both Hebrew and English; the melody of the refrain is based upon the traditional cantillation of the text as it is chanted with the Hebrew text, as recited in services on the holiday of Sukkot. The opposing pairs of "a time to..." that make up the rest of the text are set in English, each verse leading to a fuller and more impassioned return of the refrain. The coda of the piece gives the melody of the refrain quietly to the piano, with the chorus singing words of the verses in a gentle recitation.

Gerald Cohen
August 2004

Text:

Lakol z'man, v'et l'kol chefets tachat hashamayim,
For everything a season, and a time for every purpose under the heavens.

a time to be born and a time to die,
a time to plant and a time to uproot,
a time to kill and a time to heal,
a time to break down and a time to build up.

Lakol z'man, v'et l'kol chefets tachat hashamayim,
For everything a season, and a time for every purpose under the heavens.

a time to mourn and a time to dance,
a time to tear and a time to mend,
a time to love and a time to hate,
a time for war and a time for peace.

Lakol z'man, v'et l'kol chefets tachat hashamayim,
For everything a season, and a time for every purpose under the heavens.

Commissioned by Cambridge Chamber Chorale,
in memory of Ronald Axelrad

Lakol Z'man--

Ecclesiastes (Kohelet), Chap. 3

For Everything a Season

Gerald Cohen

Simply, rather slow ♩ = 66

Solo: *p* About 3 Sops and 3 Altos:

Soprano
La - kol z' - man, v' - et l' - kol che-fets ta - chat ha - sha - ma -

Alto
V' - et l' - kol che-fets ta - chat ha - sha - ma -

Tenor

Bass

Simply, rather slow ♩ = 66

Piano

5 (Tutti) *p*

S yim, For eve - ry - thing a sea - son, and a time for eve - ry

A yim, (Tutti) and a time for eve - ry

T For eve - ry - thing a sea - son, and a time for eve - ry

B And a time for eve - ry

5 Pno. *p*

9

S
pur - pose un - der *p* A

A
pur - pose un - der the heav - ens.

T
pur - pose un - der the hea - vens.

B
pur - pose un - der the hea - vens.

Pno.

A little faster ♩ = 72

13

S
time to be born and a time to die,

A
time to be born and a time to die, *p* A

T
p

B
p A

Pno.
p legato

16 *mp*

S a time to kill and a

A *mp* time, time to kill,

T time to plant and a time to up-root, time, time to kill,

B time to plant and a time to up-root,

Pno. *mp*

simile (sustain lowest bass notes) (with Ped.)

19

S time to heal, a time to break down and a

A time to heal, to heal, time, time to break down,

T time to heal, time, time to break down,

B time to heal,

Pno.

With more motion ♩ = 76

23

S time, time to build up; *f* *mp subito* La - - - kol z' -

A time, time to build up; *f* *mp subito* La - kol z' - man,

T time, time to build up; *f* *mp subito* Ten. 1: La - kol z' - man,
 Ten. 2: La - kol z' - man,

Bass 1: time to build up; *f* *mp subito* - kol z' - man,

Bass 2: time to build up; *f* *mp subito* - kol z' - man,

Pno. 23 *mp* *p subito*

28

S man, et l' - kol che - - - - fets, For *mp*

A v' - et l' - kol che - fets ta - chat ha - sha - ma - yim, For *mp*

T v' - et l' - kol che - fets ta - chat ha - sha - ma - yim, *mp*

Bass 1: v' - et l' - kol che - fets ta - chat ha - sha - ma - yim, For

Bass 2: v' - et l' - kol che - fets ta - chat ha - sha - ma - yim, For

Pno. 28 *Leg.* *Leg. simile*

32

S
eve - ry - thing a sea - - - son, and a time_____ for eve - ry

A
eve - ry - thing a sea - son, and a time_____ for eve - ry

T
All tenors:
eve - ry - thing a sea - son, and a time, a time, a

B
All basses:
eve - ry - thing a sea - son, and a time, time,_____ a_____

Pno.

37

S
pur - pose un - der the hea - vens. *mp*

A
pur - pose un - der the hea - vens. *mp*

T
time, _____

B
time _____

Pno.

mp

Move ahead slightly..... *rit.* -----

42 With some agitation ♩ = 88

S
time to mourn and a time to dance,

A
time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to

T
mp
Time to mourn, time to dance,

B

Pno.
mp

46

S

A
dance, tear,

T
mp a time to tear and a time to

B
mp a time to tear, time to tear, time to

Pno.
8va

50 *p*

S a time to love and a time to

A *p* a time to love, a time to

T mend, time to love, a time to

B mend,

Pno. *mp*

simile (sustain lowest bass notes)

54 *mf* *f*

S hate, a time for war

A *mf* *f* hate, a time for war,

T *mf* *f* hate, a time for war a time for

B a time for war

Pno. *mf* *f*

sustain l.h. arpeggio, but let melodic lines come through with Ped.

58

S *mf* and a time for

A *mf* and a time for

T *mf* war and a time for

B *mf* war and a time for

Pno. *mf* *mp*

61

S *f* peace. *f* La - kol z' -

A *f* peace, for peace La - kol,

T *f* peace, for peace. La - kol z' -

B *f* peace, peace. La - kol,

f *f*

Broadening..... A little more broadly ♩ = 80

61

Pno. *f*

Broadening..... A little more broadly ♩ = 80

Leo.

65

S
man, v' - et l' - kol che - fets ta - chat ha - sha -

A
la - kol z' - man, v' - et

T
man, v' - et l' - kol che - fets ta - chat ha - sha -

B
la - kol z' - man, v' - et

Pno.

65

Ado. Ado.

Note: tenors divided on next system

Broadening..... More broadly

67

S
ma - yim, For eve - ry - thing a sea - son, and a

A
l' - kol che - fets, Eve - ry - thing a sea - son, a

Ten. 1 :
ma - yim, For eve - ry - thing a sea - son, and a

Ten. 2 :
ma - yim, For eve - ry - thing a sea - son,

B
l' - kol che - fets, eve - ry - thing a sea - son,

Pno.

67

Ado. Ado. 1^o

Note: tenors unison on next system

A tempo ♩ = 80

S
time for eve-ry pur- pose, for eve-ry pur- - -

A
time for eve- - - ry pur- - - pose, time,

T
All tenors:
time eve- ry pur- - - pose, eve- ry pur- - -

B
All basses, div.:
time eve- ry pur- - - pose, eve- ry pur- - -

dim. *dim.* *dim.* *dim.*

A tempo ♩ = 80

Pno.

f *dim.*

70

Leo. Leo. Leo. Leo.

(dim.)

rit.

Tempo I, gently ♩ = 66

p

S
pose, un- der the hea- vens.

A
(dim.) *mp*

T
(dim.) *mp*

B
(dim.) pose, *mp*

rit.

Tempo I, gently ♩ = 66

p

Pno.

p *l.h. very gently, simply* *r.h.* *r.h.*

74

Leo. Leo. Leo. Leo.

80 *p* very simply

S A T B

A time to tear, — a time to mend, —

A time to tear, — a time to mend,

A time to love, — a time to hate, —

a time to love, — a time to hate, —

Pno. *p* sempre

l.h. r.h.

ped. ped. ped. ped.

85 *p* *p* *p* *p*

S A T B

a time for war, — a time for peace, — a time,

a time for war, — a time for peace, — a time,

a time,

a time,

Pno.

l.h. r.h.

ped. ped. ped. ped.

89

S
a time, — for eve - - - ry

A
a time, — for eve - - - ry

T
a time, — a time, — for eve - - - ry

B
a time, a time, — for eve - - - ry

Pno.

poco

Lea. Lea. Lea. Lea.

94

S
pur-pose un-der the hea - - - vens. *rit.* *pp*

A
pur-pose un-der the hea - - - vens. *pp*

T
pur-pose un-der the hea - - - vens. *pp*

B
pur-pose un-der the hea - - - vens. *pp*

Pno.

p *pp* *8va*

* (hold to end) *