

At The Hour of Closing

Music by Katie Kring

Text by Moses Ibn Ezra

Translated by Peter Cole

ABOUT THIS PIECE

“At the Hour of Closing” is a setting of a poem by 11th-century Sephardic rabbi Moshe ibn Ezra, sung here in stunning English translation by Peter Cole and set for SATB choir, string quartet, and mezzo-soprano soloist. The text speaks of a community in exile returning home at the last with justice and joy. When setting this piece, I gave the italicized portions of the poem to the choir, and the unitalicized text to the mezzo-soprano soloist, for a responsory effect. With influences from a wide variety of musical sources, this piece captures the agony and ecstasy of finally returning to one’s homeland.

*Lord of wondrous workings,
grant us understanding—
now at the hour of closing.*

A chosen few are called,
their eyes toward you lifting—
they stand exalted in their trembling
now, at the hour of closing.

They pour forth their souls;
erase, then, their straying—
and grant them, Lord, your absolution
now at the hour of closing.

Be a shelter for them
through all their suffering;
consign them only to rejoicing
now, at the hour of closing.

Show them your compassion,
in your justice turning
on all who brought oppression to them—
now at the hour of closing.

Recall their fathers’ merit
and count it as merit for them;
renew their days as once they were,
now, at the hour of closing.

Call for the year of grace—
the remnant flock’s returning
to Oholibah and Oholàh—
now at the hour of closing.



Listen here

At The Hour Of Closing

For SATB, String Quartet & Mezzo-Soprano

Music by Katie Kring (1983-)

Text by Moshe ibn Ezra (1055-1138)

Translated by Peter Cole

mp

Soprano
Alto

mp

Tenor
Bass

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

p

p

mp

S
A

p

mp

T
B

p

mp

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

mf

mf

Now at the hour of clos - ing

clos - ing

Now at the hour

Now at the hour of clos - ing

clos - ing

Now at the hour

A
f **Stringendo** At The Hour Of Closing

2
11

Solo

A cho - sen few are called, their eyes toward you lift - ing — they

S
A

T
B

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

15

a tempo

Solo

stand ex - al - ted in their trem - bl - ing —

mp

S
A

T
B

Now at the hour of clos - ing —

mp

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

20

Solo *mf* They pour forth their souls; e -

S A *mp* clos - ing clos - ing clos - ing pour forth their souls;

T B *mp* Now clos - ing clos - ing pour forth their souls;

20

Vln. I

Vln. II *mf* 3

Vla. *mf*

Vc.

26

Solo raise, then, their stray-ing and grant them, Lord, your ab - so - lu - tion

S A e - rase, stray-ing

T B e - rase, stray-ing

26

Vln. I *mp* 3 3 3 *f*

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

At The Hour Of Closing

Solo

S
A

T
B

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

mp

f

ooh

Now at the hour of clos - ing

C mf

Solo

S
A

T
B

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

mf

Be a shel-ter for them through all their suf-fer-ing;

Be a

Be a

At The Hour Of Closing

f

5

42

Solo

Be a shel-ter for them through all their suf-fer-ing; con-sign them on-ly

S
A

shel-ter through all their suf-fer-ing;

T
B

shel-ter through all their suf-fer-ing;

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

mf *f* *mf* *f*

47

Solo

to re-joic-ing re-joic-ing Re-

S
A

f *f* *poco rit.*

Now at the hour of clos-ing Now at the hour of clos-ing

T
B

Now at the hour of clos-ing Now at the hour of clos-ing

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Solo

joyce
subito *p*

Now at the hour

Show them your com-pas-sion, in
Now at the hour

S
A

subito *p*

Now at the hour

T
B

52

Vln. I

mf

Vln. II

subito *p*

Vla.

subito *p*

Vc.

mp

57

Solo

your jus-tice turn-ing on all who brought op-pres-sion to them

hour Now at the hour

S
A

hour

T
B

57

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

61

Solo

S
A

p

Now at the hour of clos - ing

T
B

p

Now at the hour of clos - ing

Now

clos - ing

61

Vln. I

p

Vln. II

p

Vla.

Vc.

p

66

Solo

mp

Re - call

S
A

clos - ing

clos - ing

clos - ing

T
B

clos - ing

clos - ing

66

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

At The Hour Of Closing

8

70

Solo

their fath - ers' mer - it and count it as mer - it for them; re -

S

A

T

B

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

74

Solo

new their days as once they were,

S

A

Now at the hour at the hour

T

B

Now at the hour at the hour

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Allargando

78

Solo

S
A

T
B

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Now at the hour of clos

E *f* *a tempo*

Solo

S
A

T
B

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Call for the year of grace—the rem-nant flock's re-turn-ing

ing Call for the

ing Call for the

81

10
86

At The Hour Of Closing

ff

Solo *ff* for the year of grace* the rem - nant flock's re - turn - ing to

S A year of grace the rem - nant flock's re - turn - ing

T B year of grace the rem - nant flock's re - turn - ing

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Solo 90 O - ho - li - bah and O - ho - lah Ah

S A Now at the hour of clos - ing

T B Now at the hour of clos - ing

Vln. I 90 *f*

Vln. II *f*

Vla.

Vc.

94

Solo

Ah _____ Now at the hour of clos - ing Now at the hour

S
A

Now at the hour of clos - ing Now at the hour Now at the hour Now at the hour

T
B

Now at the hour of clos - ing Now at the hour Now at the hour Now at the hour

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

99

Solo

poco rit. * of clos - ing Now at the hour of clos - ing

S
A

Now at the hour Now at the hour of clos ing

T
B

Now at the hour Now at the hour of clos - ing

Vln. I

Vln. II

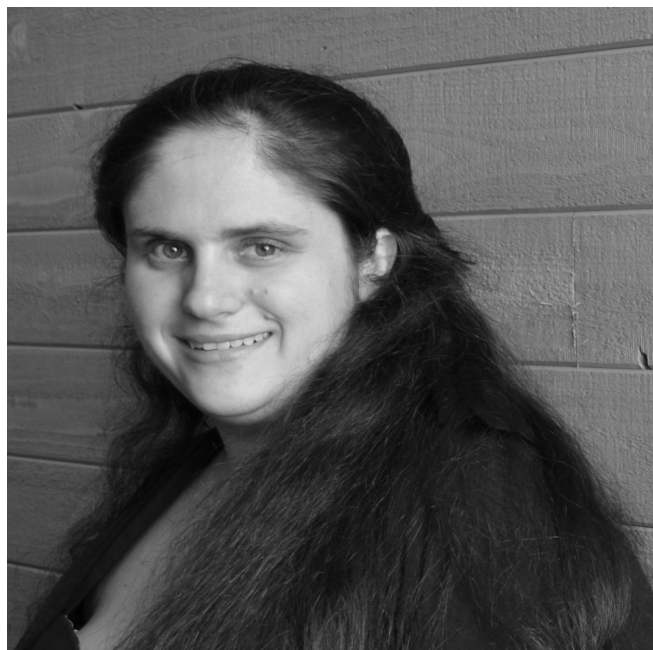
Vla.

Vc.

Perusal Score Only

ABOUT THE COMPOSER

Katie Kring is a choral composer, writer-of-musicals, and baker based in Springfield, MO.



Katie is a prolific choral composer and a passionate advocate for writing good parts for altos. Her piece “The Snow is Deep on the Ground,” (text by Kenneth Patchen), was published by Walton Music in 2015, and is now performed internationally. Katie has been commissioned to write numerous works, including “Dreams” and “I See You” (April 2019) for the Springfield Chamber Chorus, where she has served as Composer-In-Residence.

In 2015, she was commissioned by St. John’s Episcopal Church in Springfield, MO to create a new choral setting of the sung Compline service for men’s choir. Gerrit Scheepers’ Brooklyn Choral Artists commissioned her compositions “At the Hour of Closing” and “Land of Rest” which premiered in Pretoria, South Africa in September 2018.

Katie’s musical theatre works include PEARL (Goodspeed Musicals, CT, 2007), ONWARD (with J. Oconer Navarro, 59E59, New York City, 2009), FARMERS MARKET THE MUSICAL (with Rob Hartmann, Fairmont, WV, 2013), IN THE SWIM and THINK BIG (with Rob Hartmann, Monterey Bay Aquarium, CA, 2013 & 2014), and KELLY THE DESTROYER VS THE SPRINGFIELD COBRAS (with Rob Hartmann, Spokane, WA, 2015 and Springfield, MO, 2019).

Katie is also the owner of B+B Boulangerie & Bakery and Lead Instructor of KatieMade Baking & Cooking School. She received her MFA in Musical Theatre Writing at NYU and her BFA in music at the University of Michigan.

www.katiekring.com

Katie Kring Choral Catalog

At the Hour of Closing (SATB, String Quartet, and Mezzo-Soprano Solo) – text by Moshe Ibn Ezra, trans. Peter Cole

Land of Rest (SATB with 2 Violins) – text and arr. Kring

Hartstaal (SATB with Baritone Solo) – Afrikaans text by Gerrit Scheepers

I See You (SATB *divisi*) – text by Ethan D. Bryan

Dreams (SATB *divisi*) – text by Ethan D. Bryan

Sleep (SATB) – text by Steven Smallwood

SEA SONGS

The Sea-Hold (SATB or TTBB) – text by Carl Sandburg

Sea-Heroes (SATB or TTBB) – text by H.D.

Morning Fair (SATB or TTBB) – text by Heidi Heilig

Look Out Me Hearties (TTBB) – text by Katie Kring

Magnificat (SATB or TTBB) – traditional English text

Sub Tuum Praesidium (SATB) – traditional Latin text

Phos Hilaron (SATB) – traditional Greek text

Compline (TTBB) – full service text from the Book of Common Prayer

Christmas & Winter

The Snow is Deep on the Ground (SATB *divisi*) – text by Kenneth Patchen

Jesus Jesus Rest Your Head (SATB *divisi*) – traditional Appalachian text

A Winter's Night (SATB with Solos) – text by Sara Teasdale

Bring the Torch Jeanette Isabella (SSATTB) – Traditional carol

I Wonder as I Wander (SATB *divisi*) – traditional Appalachian text

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