

**FORGOTTEN
VOICES**

I See You

music by Katie Kring
text by Ethan D. Bryan

ABOUT THIS PIECE

I see you through swish and flick
of windshield wipers
cardboard-sign bearing
stoplight waiting
rain-dripping chin

Is that wise, is that safe
What about my kids?
Simple, naïve honest prayers
do they honor God and neighbor
or just assuage guilt?

I carry no cash
I desire to make eye contact
but feel embarrassed for comforts
I take for granted daily, hourly

Reliable transportation
hot showers, good food
supportive family

I see you through
side-eye glances, waiting
on an overdue green

Dare I open doors
offer to take you to lunch
warm, dry respite on a
cat-and-dog-hair-covered couch

I'm sorry I don't say anything
I'm sorry I don't give anything

But I see you
beautifully human
and hope you know
you are loved.

The poem "Victory," by local poet Ethan D. Bryan serves as the postscript to the Forgotten Voices cycle, turning the viewpoint from that of the unhoused to that of housed people who sincerely wish to help, but feel powerless and confused in the face of suffering. I love this poem because it correctly identifies the first step to real change – loving the beautifully human people who make up our unsheltered community. It does not absolve any of us from helping in every way we can, but it understands that love comes first, and then action follows. I hope this moves you to carry some cash, some handwarmers, water, food, something, so that you can always be ready to act in love and kindness towards those you meet, that it moves you to advocate for real change.

– Katie Krings

Katie Krings is a composer, writer-of-musicals, baker and alto. Katie's choral works and commissions are performed internationally and she has served as Springfield Chamber Chorus's Composer-in-Residence for several years. Her "At the Hour of Closing" was the winner of the 2019 MCDA Opus Award. She is particularly interested in creating work that empowers disadvantaged communities and is a passionate advocate for writing good parts for altos. Katie's musical theatre works include PEARL, ONWARD, FARMERS MARKET THE MUSICAL (about the time she got kicked out of the farmers' market -- twice!), IN THE SWIM and THINK BIG for the Monterey Bay Aquarium, and KELLY THE DESTROYER VS THE SPRINGFIELD COBRAS. Her first opera, SWEET LOUISA, is slated to premiere in 2022. Katie is the owner of Pickwick & Cherry, a bakery & cooking school, and an adjunct professor in the Missouri State University Music Department. In 2019, she founded the Springfield Street Choir, a choir made up of people experiencing homelessness and extreme poverty. She received her MFA in Musical Theatre Writing at NYU and her BFA in music at the University of Michigan, where she danced 25' up a tree and lived to tell about it.

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Perusal Score Only

For Coco
Forgotten Voices: A Postscript
I See You

Music by Katie Krings
Text: "Victory" by Ethan D. Bryan

(♩ = c. 70)

p

Soprano
mp swish and flick swish and flick swish and flick swish and flick

Alto
mp I see you through swish and flick of wind - shield wip - ers

Tenor
mp I see you swish and flick swish and flick swish and flick swish and flick

Bass
mp see you see you through wind - shield wip - ers

Piano
mp

(♩ = c. 70)

5

S *mf* swish and flick swish and flick card-board-sign bear-ing stop-light wait-ing rain-drip-ping chin

A *mf* card-board-sign bear-ing *p* swish and flick swish and flick

T *mf* swish and flick swish and flick card-board-sign bear-ing stop-light wait-ing rain-drip-ping chin

B *mf* card-board-sign bear-ing wait-ing rain-drip-ping chin

Pno. *mf*

Words marked with an (*) were added by the composer for ease of singing.
Commissioned by the Springfield Chamber Chorus, Chris Brammer, Artistic Director

I See You

S *mp* I car - ry no cash no cash no

A swish and flick — swish *mp* I car - ry no cash no cash no

T *mp* I car - ry no cash no cash no

B *mp* I car - ry no cash no cash no

Pno. *mp*

S *pp* *mf* cash no I de - si-re to make eye con-tact but feel em - bar - rased for com - forts I take for grant-ed

A *pp* *mf* cash no I de - si-re to make eye con-tact but feel em - bar - rased for com - forts I take for grant-ed

T *pp* *mf* cash no I de - si-re to make eye con-tact but feel em - bar - rased for com - forts I take for grant-ed

B *pp* *mf* cash no I de - si-re to make eye con-tact but feel em - bar - rased for com - forts I take for grant-ed

Pno. *pp* *mf*

16 *mf*
S dai-ly, ho-ur - ly Re li-ab-le trans-por-ta - tion hot show-ers, good food sup-port - ive fam - ily

16 *pp*
S dai-ly, ho-ur - ly dai - ly, ho-ur - ly dai-ly, ho-ur - ly dai-ly, ho-ur - ly

A *mf*
A dai-ly, ho-ur - ly Re li-ab-le trans-por-ta - tion hot show-ers, good food sup-port - ive fam - ily

16 *pp*
A dai-ly, ho-ur - ly dai - ly, ho-ur - ly dai-ly, ho-ur - ly dai-ly, ho-ur - ly

T *mf*
T dai-ly, ho-ur - ly Re li-ab-le trans-por-ta - tion hot show-ers, good food sup-port - ive fam - ily

16 *pp*
T dai-ly, ho-ur - ly dai - ly, ho-ur - ly dai-ly, ho-ur - ly dai-ly, ho-ur - ly

B dai-ly, ho-ur - ly dai - ly, ho-ur - ly sup - port - ive fam-ily

Pno. *mf*

I See You

24

S
you Dare I op - en doors Of - fer to take you to lunch a* warm, dry res - pite on a

A
Dare I Of - fer lunch a* warm, dry res - pite

T
8
Dare I op - en doors Of - fer you lunch a* warm, dry res - pite on a

B
Dare I Of - fer lunch a* warm, dry res - pite on

Pno.

Detailed description: This system of music covers measures 24 to 28. It features four vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and a piano accompaniment. The Soprano part has lyrics: 'you Dare I op - en doors Of - fer to take you to lunch a* warm, dry res - pite on a'. The Alto part has lyrics: 'Dare I Of - fer lunch a* warm, dry res - pite'. The Tenor part has lyrics: '8 Dare I op - en doors Of - fer you lunch a* warm, dry res - pite on a'. The Bass part has lyrics: 'Dare I Of - fer lunch a* warm, dry res - pite on'. The piano accompaniment consists of two staves with various rhythmic patterns and chords. There are triplets in measures 25 and 26. The time signature changes from 3/4 to 4/4 in measure 25, to 5/4 in measure 26, and back to 4/4 in measure 27.

29

S
cat - and - dog - hair - cov - ered couch

A
Is that wise, is that safe What a - bout my kids

T
8
cat - and - dog - hair - cov - ered couch

B
cat - and - dog - hair - cov - ered couch

Pno.

Detailed description: This system of music covers measures 29 to 32. It features four vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and a piano accompaniment. The Soprano part has lyrics: 'cat - and - dog - hair - cov - ered couch'. The Alto part has lyrics: 'Is that wise, is that safe What a - bout my kids'. The Tenor part has lyrics: '8 cat - and - dog - hair - cov - ered couch'. The Bass part has lyrics: 'cat - and - dog - hair - cov - ered couch'. The piano accompaniment consists of two staves with various rhythmic patterns and chords. The time signature changes from 4/4 to 3/4 in measure 29, to 4/4 in measure 30, to 3/4 in measure 31, and back to 4/4 in measure 32. The system ends with a double bar line and repeat signs.

38

S do they hon - or God and neigh - bor or just as - suage guilt. sor - ry I ___ don't say a - ny - thing I'm

38 hon - or God and neigh - bor or just as - suage guilt I'm sor - ry I ___ don't say a - ny - thing I'm

A do they hon - or God and neigh - bor or just as - suage guilt. sor - ry I ___ don't say a - ny - thing I'm

38 - - bor or just as - suage guilt I'm sor - ry I ___ don't say a - ny - thing I'm

T do they hon - or God and neigh - bor or just as - suage guilt. sor - ry I ___ don't say a - ny - thing I'm

38 do they hon - or God and neigh - bor or just as - suage guilt I'm sor - ry I ___ don't say a - ny - thing I'm

B God and neigh - bor or just as - suage guilt. sor - ry I ___ don't say a - ny - thing I'm

Pno.

The image shows a page of a musical score for the song "I See You". It features five vocal parts: Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), Bass (B), and Piano (Pno.). The lyrics are: "do they hon - or God and neigh - bor or just as - suage guilt. sor - ry I ___ don't say a - ny - thing I'm". The score includes musical notation with treble and bass clefs, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a time signature of 2/4. There are dynamic markings such as *fp* and *3* (triplets). A large watermark "Perusal Score Only" is visible across the page.

Bar 45 to the end *MUST* be performed from memory. Look out, face the audience.

The musical score is arranged for Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), Bass (B), and Piano (Pno.). It begins at bar 45 with a forte (*ff*) dynamic. The Soprano part has lyrics: "see you — beau-ti-fully hu - man I see you — see you — beau-ti-fully hu - man". The Alto part has lyrics: "see you I see you — beau-ti-fully hu - man I see you — I see you — beau-ti-fully hu -". The Tenor part has lyrics: "I see you — beau-ti-fully hu - man see you — I see you — beau-ti-fully hu - man". The Bass part has lyrics: "see you I see you beau - ti - ful I see you — see you — beau-ti-fully hu - man". The Piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note accompaniment with triplets in the right hand and chords in the left hand. A large watermark "Perusal Score Only" is overlaid on the score.

49 *mp* *rit.*
beau-ti-fully hu-man beau-ti-fully beau-ti-fully hu-man and I* hope you know you are loved.

49 *mp*
beau-ti-fully hu-man beau-ti-fully beau-ti-fully hu-man and I* hope you know you are loved.

49 *mp*
man beau-ti-fully hu-man beau-ti-fully beau-ti-fully hu-man and I* hope you know you are loved.

49 *mp*
— beau-ti-fully hu-man beau-ti-fully beau-ti-fully hu-man and I* hope you know you are loved.

8 *mp*
beau-ti-ful-ly beau-ti-fully beau-ti-fully hu-man and I* hope you know you are loved.

8 *mp*
beau-ti-ful-ly beau-ti-fully beau-ti-fully hu-man and I* hope you know you are loved.

8 *mp*
beau-ti-ful-ly beau-ti-fully beau-ti-fully hu-man and I* hope you know you are loved.

49 *mp* *rit.*
Pno. *3*