



AH, MOON OF MY DELIGHT!

for SATB chorus a cappella

[2022]

*Commissioned and premiered by
Modern Sound Collective - Kai Leung, artistic director
Toronto ON Canada*

text by

OMAR KHAYYAM

trans. EDWARD FITZGERALD

music by

HIRAD MORADI



Modern
Sound
Collective

ABOUT THE PIECE

Ah, Moon of My Delight! depicts the human obsession with love and the inevitable mortality of all living things. We often see the moon as a symbol of uncertainty and cyclical change, and that is absolutely its role here. Throughout the piece, expressions of love are repeatedly made towards the moon but left without reciprocation. The music wanders through different worlds which depict a deep emptiness and instability within, to reflect this unanswered desire. Drones in the low end and echoing voices create mysterious soundscapes, as tensions rise throughout the piece. The music reaches its darkest point near the end and begins to fall apart in a desperate attempt at finding an answer, before finally arriving at a point of complete acceptance and solace. In the words of author Ivan Granger, "the individual self – the little self or the ego – disappears in the light of illumination. The moon rises, it shines, but there is no "you" to be found within that light."

ORIGINAL TEXT

Omar Khayyam (1048-1131)

Ah, Moon of My Delight!

*Ah, Moon of my Delight who know'st no wane,
The Moon of Heaven is rising once again:*

*How oft hereafter rising shall she look
Through this same Garden after me -- in vain!*

translated by Edward Fitzgerald (1809-1883)

MSC Presents

MSC Presents, launched in 2023 by Toronto's Modern Sound Collective (artistic director: Kai Leung), is a progressive new publication label serving as a professional distribution platform for the music of MSC-affiliated composers. Offering an extremely competitive royalty rate to its artists, this initiative aims to create accessible opportunities for growth and collaboration for the many talented young choral composers in the GTA and beyond.

PRINTING

Choral scores distributed by *MSC Presents* are optimized for 8.5x11 printing.

ABOUT THE COMPOSER

The music of Iranian-Canadian composer **Hirad Moradi** (b.2003) takes listeners on a journey into the profound and visceral emotions that define our human experience. Drawing inspiration from a diverse array of sources—from jazz and metal to electronic music, visual arts, and poetry, Moradi crafts a uniquely innovative fusion of Persian and Western classical music that explores cultural intersectionality, while retaining distinct individuality.

Driven by a passion for artistic collaboration, Moradi's music has been performed across North America and Europe by groups such as the Dior Quartet, Talea Ensemble, Mostly Modern Orchestra, AMF Orchestra, University of Toronto Wind Symphony, and many more.

Currently, Moradi acts as conductor and executive director of the *Blank Canoas Sound Collective*, an independent organization and chamber orchestra focused on promoting and performing new music. In addition to this ambitious project, Moradi actively performs as a pianist and percussionist with several ensembles across Canada and the U.S.



IG: [@hiradmoradi](#)
Youtube: [Hirad Moradi](#)

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Misterioso ♩ = 70

SOPRANO 1
Solo *pp* < *mf*

SOPRANO 2
pp < *mf* *pp* < *mf* *pp* <

ALTO 1
pp < *mf* *pp* < *mf* *pp* <

ALTO 2
pp < *mf* *pp* < *mf* *pp* <

TENOR 1
pp falsetto < *mf* *pp* < *mf* *pp* <

TENOR 2
pp falsetto < *mf* *pp* < *mf* *pp* <

BASS 1

BASS 2

PIANO
(for rehearsal only)

Misterioso ♩ = 70

9
(soloist holds note) $\text{♩} = 50$
Solo, molto rubato

f // **pp** ————— **mf** > **mp** ————— **mf**

Tutti *oo* → *ah!* Moon of my de - light.

S. *ah!* *oo* → *ah!*

S. → *ah!* *oo* → *ah!*

A. → *ah!* *oo* → *ah!*

A. → *ah!* *oo* → *ah!*

T. → *ah!* *oo* → *ah!*

T. → *ah!* *oo* → *ah!*

Pno. $\text{♩} = 50$

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11

S. — Ah, moon ————— who know-est no wane — My de - light. Ah, **mp**

17 Slightly faster ♩ = 56

15

mp *con molto rubato* *mf*

S. moon Moon of heav-en of heav-en my de

S.2 *mf* *f*
who know'st no wane

A. *mf* *f*
no wane

A. *mp* *mf*
Moon

T. *ord.* *mp* *mf*
Moon

T. *ord.* *mp* *mf* *p*
Moon

B. *mp* *mf*
Moon

B. *mp* *mf*

Pno.

Freely re-enter (individually/scattered) with a slight accent after each breath

17 Slightly faster ♩ = 56

20 (Solo cont'd)

S. *mp*
-light Moon Ah, moon The moon of heav-en

T. 8

T. 8

B. *p* Freely re-enter (individually/scattered) with a slight accent after each breath
Moon

B. *p* Freely re-enter (individually/scattered) with a slight accent after each breath
Moon



26 *mf* rit.

S. is ris - ing once a - gain is ris - ing is ris - ing once a - gain the moon of heav-en is ris - ing ris -

T. 8 *p* Freely re-enter (individually/scattered) with a slight accent after each breath
Moon

T. 8

B. 8

B. 8

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a tempo

31 *f* *mp*

S. - ing once a - gain, Ah, moon, Moon Ah, moon Ah,

T. *8*

T. *8*

B. *8*

B. *8*

35 *long fermata* *mp* *poco rit.*

S. moon who knowt no wane moon ah, moon

S. *S.2 mp* Moon

T. *8*

T. *8* *mp* Moon

B. *8* *mp* Moon

B. *8* *mp* Moon

Pno. *37* *poco rit.*

♩ = 45

43 Slightly faster (♩ = 50)

mp *f* *mp*

mf

mp *mf* *Solo*

mp *f* *mp*

mp *f* *mp*

mp *f* *mp*

mf *p* *mf*

mf *p* *mf*

mf *p* *mf*

mf *p* *mf*

mm *mm*

mm *mm*

mm *mm*

43 Slightly faster (♩ = 50)

Pno.

The score is for a vocal piece with piano accompaniment. It features four vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor 1, Tenor 2) and a piano part. The tempo starts at ♩ = 45 and changes to ♩ = 50 at measure 43. Dynamic markings include *mp*, *f*, *mf*, *p*, and *mm*. The lyrics are: "Moon, ah, moon, ah, ah, moon" and "Moon my delight, ah". A large watermark "FOR PEPUSAL ONLY" and "© Modern Sound Collective" is overlaid on the score.

45

S. *p* *f* *ff*
mm → *Aa!** The moon of heav-en

S. *mp* *f*
mm → *Aa!**

A. *f* *Tutti A.1* *3*
moon ah, moon Who know-est no vane The moon of heav-en

A. *p* *mf* *mp* *f*
mm → Ah! *mm* → *Aa!** The moon of heav-en

T. *p* *mf* *mp* *f*
mm → Ah! *mm* → *Aa!** The moon of heav-en

B. *p* *mf* *mp* *f*
mm → Ah! *mm* → *Aa!** The moon of heav-en

Pno. *3*

"Aa!": sung as a very bright piercing vowel

51 **Faster** ♩ = 64 53

S. *pp* How oft there af - ter

S. *mp sub.* ris-ing once a - gai - *mn* *pp* How oft *mp* there af - ter *pp*

A. *mp sub.* ris-ing once a - gai - *mn* *pp* How oft *mp* there af - ter *pp*

A. *mp sub.* ris-ing once a - gai - *mn* *pp* How oft *mp* there af - *pp*

T. *mp sub.* ris-ing once a - gai - *mn* *pp*

B. *mp sub.* moon

Pno. **Faster** ♩ = 64 53

58

mp *pp* *mp*

S. ris - ing ris - ing ris - ing

mp *pp* *mp*

S. ris - ing shall she look shall

mp *pp* *mp*

A. ris - ing ris - ing shall

mp *pp* *mp*

A. - ter ris - ing shall she look shall

T. Ah moon moon

Pno.

66

71

Slower ♩ = 50

S. through this Gar - den

S. she look looks through this Gar - den

A. she look looks through this Gar - den af - ter me in

A. she look through this Gar - den looks through this Gar - den af - ter me in

T. moon moon moon ah moon

T. moon moon ah, moon

71

Slower ♩ = 50

Pno.

72

S. Slightly faster ♩ = 56
p
through this

A. *p* *mp*
vain, in vain, How oft there-af - ter shall she look

A. *p* *mp*
vain, How oft there-af - ter shall she look

Pno. Slightly faster ♩ = 56

80

S. *mp*
same Gar - den af - ter me in vain

A. *p* *mp*
same Gar - den in vain

T. *mp*
Gar - den in vain

B. *p* *mp* B.2 *p cresc. poco a poco*
Gar - den in vain moon - light, oh, moon - light, oh,

Pno. 80

85 poco a poco accel. . . .
cresc. poco a poco

S. in vain, in vain, in vain, in vain, in vain,

A.1 *mp cresc. poco a poco*
 ah, moon who know - est no wane my de -

T.2 *p cresc. poco a poco* +T.1 *p*
 Moon - light, oh, moon - light, oh, moon -

B. (+B.1) *p cresc. poco a poco*
 moon - light, oh, moon - light, oh, moon - light, oh, moon -

Pno. 85 poco a poco accel. . . .

90

S. in vain, in vain, in vain, in vain, in vain,

A. light who know - est no wane moon who know - est no wane, my del -
mp cresc. poco a poco

A. *cresc. poco a poco*
 oh, moon of heav - en, of heav - en, is

T. - light, oh, moon - light, oh, moon - light, oh moon - light, oh, moon - light,

B. - light, oh, moon - light, oh, moon - light, oh, moon - light, oh, moon - light,

Pno.

molto rit.

(S.1 opt. pickup)

95

S. in vain, in vain, in vain moon -

A. - light, who know - est no wane, moon, the moon moon -

A. ris - ing a - gain, the moon of heav - en moon

T. oh, moon - light, oh, moon - light oh, moon light moon -

B. oh moon - light, oh, moon light oh, moon - light moon -

Pno.

ff

molto rit.

99 **a tempo**
all voices: very bright, piercing vowels

S. - light! moon of my de-light moon of heav-en who know - est_ no

S. light! moon of my de-light moon of heav - en know - est_ no

A. - light! moon of my de-light moon of heav - en know - est_ no

T. - light! moon of my de-light moon of heav - en know'st no

B. - light! Ah, moon of my de-light moon of heav - en who know'st no

Pno.

Solo top line

107 all voices: open/normal vowels

105

molto rit. - - *a tempo* *Solo to the end*
mp sub.

S. wane Ah, moon of my de-light The moon of heav-

S. *f* wane ris-ing once a-gain, my de-light *mp sub.* The moon of heav(en)

A. *mp* wane *f* ris-ing once a-gain, moon of my de-light *mp sub.* The moon of heav(en)

A. *mp* ris-ing once a-gain, *f* ris-ing once a-gain, moon of my de-light *mp* The moon of heav(en)

T. *mp* ris-ing once a-gain *f* ris-ing once a-gain, moon of my de-light *mp sub.* The moon of heav(en)

T. *mp* wane *f* ris-ing once a-gain, moon of my de-light *mp sub.* The moon of heav(en)

B. *mp* wane *f* ris-ing once a-gain, moon of my de-light

B. *mp* wane *f* moon of my de-light

Pno. *molto rit.* - - *a tempo*

107 all voices: open/normal vowels

109

rit. *mp dying away...*

S. - en Ah moon moon moon

pp softly echoing

S. moon moon

pp dying away...

A. moon

A. moon

T. moon

mp

B. moon

rit.

Pno.

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Sami Anguaya	<u><i>Dawn, Where Are You Now?</i></u>	SSAATTBB, piano, 2 woodblocks	Sami Anguaya	4 min	2024	MSC0013
Sami Anguaya	<u><i>Lying Awake, Waiting</i></u>	SSAATTBB a cappella	Tom Robinson & Sami Anguaya	4 min	2022	MSC0001
Emily Green	<u><i>Somewhere in Space</i></u>	SSAA & percussion trio	Edith Södergran	3.5 min	2023	MSC0002
Emily Green	<u><i>What the Silence Offers</i></u>	SSAATTBB, soloist, & amplified speaker	Erica Kath	9 min	2022	MSC0012
E.K.R. Hammell	<u><i>Too Still for Dreams</i></u>	SSAATTBB & piano	A.E. Wetherald	4.5 min	2022	MSC0003
Francesca Hauser	<u><i>That Shadow, My Likeness</i></u>	SSAATTBB & piano	Walt Whitman & Christina Rossetti	4 min	2024	MSC0013
Francesca Hauser	<u><i>Twilight</i></u>	SSAATTBB & piano	Sara Teasdale	3.5 min	2022	MSC0004
Elizabeth Legierski	<u><i>Spring and Fall</i></u>	SSAATTBB a cappella	Gerard Manley Hopkins	3 min	2018	MSC0007
Kai Leung	<u><i>Generation 2.5</i></u>	SSAATTBB a cappella	Kai Leung	7 min	2024	MSC0014
Kai Leung	<u><i>When David Heard</i></u>	SSAATTBB a cappella	2 Samuel 18:33	3 min	2022	MSC0005
Carol Kayee Mak	<u><i>The Sirens' Song</i></u>	SSATBB & piano	William Browne	5 min	2019	MSC0008
Hirad Moradi	<u><i>Ah, Moon of My Delight!</i></u>	SSAATTBB a cappella	Omar Khayyam	8 min	2022	MSC0015
Danial Sheibani	<u><i>The Affable Enigma</i></u>	SSSAAATTTBB a cappella	Rūmī	3 min	2021	MSC0009
Madox Terrell	<u><i>Remember</i></u>	SSAATTBB a cappella	Christina Rossetti	2.5 min	2020	MSC0010
Nicholas Wanstall	<u><i>Le Pont Mirabeau</i></u>	SATB, soloist, & piano	Guillaume Apollinaire	4 min	2024	MSC0016
Nicholas Wanstall	<u><i>May This Place</i></u>	SSAATB a cappella	Nicholas Wanstall	3 min	2018	MSC0006



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