

Women's Choir Repertoire
Submitted by GayLin Tutnick
Saguaro High School (Scottsdale)

The following list is an eclectic one. I tried to devise it so that everyone might find at least one or two pieces that are appropriate for their women's ensembles. Please accept my best wishes for your success.

Title: Dance on My Heart
Composer: Allen Koepke
SSA and piano
Santa Barbara Music Publishing
Difficulty: Moderate

Dance On My Heart is a fusion of madrigal and contemporary styles. It is a light-hearted strophic song that tells the story of a girl looking for the right man to marry-someone who will "dance on my heart." Challenging rhythmically, alternating between 4/4 and 7/8 time. Ranges are very comfortable for all voicings.

Title: Hungering Hearts
Composer: James Mulholland
SSA with piano
Colla Voce Music, Inc.
Difficulty: Moderate/Difficult

Set to the inspiring text of a poem by an anonymous author, this piece tells of the sorrows of loneliness and the hope that love can bring. Beautifully written with soaring vocal lines-especially challenging for the first sopranos. Requires a good accompanist and an ensemble capable of great power and control to execute the demanding dynamics. Mostly in three parts, but divides into four briefly at the beginning. Also contains a unison section. Highly recommended!

Title: What'll I Do?
Arranger: Kirby Shaw
SSAA a cappella
Hal Leonard Publishing
Difficulty: Moderate/Difficult

If you have a strong Alto II section, this would be a great feature piece for them. This setting of the Irving Berlin classic from 1924 is versatile enough for a barbershop, classical or jazz group. The melody is in the Alto II part for most of the piece, with the other voices singing broken chords, however in the B-section the melody goes to the Soprano I.

Title: The Quiet Heart
Composer : John Ness Beck

SSA with piano

Beckenhorst Press-from Five Anthems for Women's Chorus

Difficulty: Easy/Moderate

This would work well for church or school. The text is interdenominational. The melody is beautifully written with challenging intervals and gradual dynamics. This is a great piece to work on phrasing and breath control with your group. Ranges are moderate throughout.

Title: Sensational Sixties

Arranger: Ed Lojeski

SSA and piano

Hal Leonard

Difficulty: Easy

This is a medley of the early sixties girl hits; "My Boyfriend's Back," "You Don't Own Me," and "One Fine Day." There is plenty of easy three part harmony with great opportunities to feature soloists in your group. This piece also lends itself well to riser choreography. A real crowd and student pleaser!

Title: Nigra Sum

Composer: Pablo Casals

SSA and piano

Tetra/Continuo Music Group

Difficulty: Moderate

Language: Latin

I am including this piece for those new teachers and student ACDA members who may not know this beloved classic by the renowned cellist. It requires a group with mature tone quality and enough control to execute a great range of dynamics and long phrases. The character of the piece is slow and sustained. Nigra Sum goes back and forth between 2 and 3 parts and there is a beautiful unison section in the middle to work your ensemble for blend.

Title: Magnificat

SSAA with 4 hands piano accompaniment

Composer: Z. Randall Stroepe

Alfred Publishing

Difficulty: Difficult

Language: Latin and English

This is a dynamic and challenging piece for church or school that requires a strong 4-part Women's Chorus and two excellent pianists. Some of the chords in this arrangement of the Magnificat are very challenging for the chorus to work out, but it is well worth the effort. There are marcato and legato sections, rhythmic challenges and a

short soprano solo in the middle of the piece. This piece works well for a closer with its bell-like ending, featuring a high D for some lucky soprano on the last chord.