

Sure On This Shining Night
SATB, Secular

Morten Lauridsen

\$1.90

Morten Lauridsen
*Sure On This
Shining Night*
(James Agee)

from *Nocturnes*
SATB and piano

Sure On This Shining Night

Sure on this shining night
Of starmade shadows round,
Kindness must watch for me
This side the ground.

The late year lies down the north.
All is healed, all is health.
High summer holds the earth.
Hearts all whole.

Sure on this shining night
I weep for wonder
Wandering far alone
Of shadows on the stars.

— James Agee

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From *Nocturnes*, The American Choral Directors Association
2005 Raymond W. Brock Memorial Commission

Premiere performance of the *Nocturnes* at the ACDA Los Angeles
National Convention, February, 2005 by the Donald Brinegar Singers and
Morten Lauridsen, piano

The *Nocturnes*—“Sa Nuit d’Été” (R.M. Rilke), “Soneto de la Noche” (Pablo Neruda)
and “Sure On This Shining Night”—may be performed either separately or as a cycle
(in that order).

Composer Morten Lauridsen is most noted for his seven vocal cycles—*Les Chansons des Roses*, *Madrigali*, *Mid-Winter Songs*, *Cuatro Canciones*, *A Winter Come*, *Lux Aeterna* and *Nocturnes*—and his series of *a cappella* motets which are regularly performed by distinguished ensembles and vocal artists throughout the world. His *O Magnum Mysterium* and *Dirait-on* have become two of the most performed and recorded compositions of recent years. “Lux Aeterna,” a CD of his compositions recorded by the Los Angeles Master Chorale conducted by Paul Salamunovich, was a Grammy finalist in 1998. Mr. Lauridsen (b. 1943) is Professor of Composition at the University of Southern California Thornton School of Music and served as Composer-in-Residence of the Los Angeles Master Chorale from 1994 to 2001.

Sure On This Shining Night

James Agee

Morten Lauridsen

Flowing, tempo rubato (♩ = ca. 72) *poco rit.* a tempo

Piano *p espressivo*

4 *rit.* a tempo *mp*

T Sure on this shin - ing

B *mp* Sure on this shin - ing

rit. a tempo

7 *poco rit.* *

night of star-made shad-ows round, kind-ness must watch for me this side the ground, on this

night of star-made shad-ows round, kind-ness must watch for me this side the ground, on this *poco rit.*

*Omit if the low As are out of range.

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10 *a tempo* *rit.* *a tempo*

shin - - - ing night, this shin - -

shin - - - ing night, this shin - -

Ped. *Ped.* *Ped.* *Ped.* *Ped.*

13 *rit.* *a tempo* *rit.*

- - - ing night.

- - - ing night.

rit. *a tempo* *rit.*

Ped. *Ped.* *Ped.* *Ped.* *Ped.*

16 **B** *a tempo* *mp*

Sure on this shin-ing night of star-made shad-ows round, kind-ness must watch for me this

Sure on this shin-ing night of star-made shad-ows round, kind-ness must watch for me this

Sure on this shin-ing night, sure on this shin - - - ing.

Sure on this shin-ing

B *a tempo*

Ped. *Ped.* *Ped.* *Ped.* *Ped.*

19

side the ground, on this shin-ing night, this

side the ground, on this shin-ing night, this

night, sure on this shin-ing night, this

night, sure on this shin-ing night, this

Ped. *Ped.* *Ped.*

rit.

22

shin-ing night.

shin-ing night.

shin-ing night.

shin-ing night.

Ped. *Ped.* *Ped.* *Ped.* *Ped.* *Ped.*

a tempo *molto rit.* *a tempo*

mp

*Omit if the low As are out of range.

25

T *mp* The late year lies—

B *mp* The late year lies—

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

28 (no breath)

down the north, All is healed, all is health. High

down the north, All is healed, all is health. High

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

31

S *mp* The late year lies— down the north, All is

A *mp* The late year lies— down the north, All is

T sum-mer holds the earth... Hearts all whole. All is healed,—

B sum-mer holds the earth... Hearts all whole. All is healed,—

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

34 (no breath) *mf*

healed, all is health. High sum-mer holds the earth. Hearts all

healed, all is health. High sum-mer holds the earth. Hearts all

all is health, all is health. High sum-mer holds the earth. Hearts all

all is health, all is health. High sum-mer holds the earth. Hearts all

mf

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

37 *meno mosso* *rit.* **D** *a tempo* *f*

whole. Sure on this shin - ing night, sure on this shin - ing,

whole. Sure on this shin - ing night, sure on this

whole. Sure on this shin - ing night, sure on this

whole. Sure on this shin - ing night, sure on this

meno mosso *rit.* **D** *a tempo* *f*

Ped. Ped.

40

shin - - ing night, — sure on this shin - -

shin - - ing night, sure on this shin - -

shin - - ing night, sure on this shin - -

shin - - ing night, sure on this shin - -

rit. *ff* *a tempo*

ff *ff* *ff*

rit. *a tempo*

ff

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

43

- ing night. I weep for won-der wan-d'ring far a - lone of

- ing night. I weep a - lone of

- ing night. I weep for won-der wan-d'ring far a - lone of

- ing night. I weep a - lone of

rit. *mp* *a tempo* *p*

mp *p*

mp *p*

mp *p*

mp *p*

rit. *a tempo*

mp *p*

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

meno mosso rit.

molto rit. molto lunga

E *Molto meno mosso, with a sense of wonder ppp hushed*

46

shad - ows on the stars. Sure on this

shad - ows on the stars. Sure on this

shad - ows on the stars. Sure on this

meno mosso rit.

molto rit. molto lunga (no break)

E *Molto meno mosso, with a sense of wonder ppp hushed*

shad - ows on the stars. Sure on this shin-ing

Red. Red. Red. ppp

49

shin-ing night, this shin - - - ing night, on this

ppp hushed

Sure on this shin - - - ing night, on this

ppp hushed

Sure on this shin-ing night, on this

night of star-made shad-ows round, kind-ness must watch for me this side the ground, on this

Red. Red. Red. ppp

*Omit if the low As are out of range.

52

shin - - - ing night, this shin - -
shin - - - ing night, this shin - -
shin - - - ing night, this shin - -
shin - - - ing night, this shin - -

8

rit.

F **Meno mosso**

p

Ped. Ped.

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for measures 52 through 55. It features four vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are 'shin - - - ing night, this shin - -'. The score includes a piano (p) dynamic marking and a 'Ped.' (pedal) marking. The tempo is marked 'Meno mosso' with a forte (F) dynamic. The music is in a key with three flats and a 3/4 time signature.

56

- - - ing night,
- - - ing night,
- - - ing night,
- - - ing night,

8

rit.

F **Meno mosso**

p

Ped. Ped.

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for measures 56 through 59. It features four vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are '- - - ing night,'. The score includes a piano (p) dynamic marking and a 'Ped.' (pedal) marking. The tempo is marked 'Meno mosso' with a forte (F) dynamic. The music is in a key with three flats and a 3/4 time signature.

59 **meno mosso** *rit.* **molto meno mosso** *p*

sure on this shin - ing

sure on this shin - ing

sure on this shin - ing

sure on this shin - ing

meno mosso *rit.* **molto meno mosso**

p.
Ped.

62 **Tempo I** *rit.* **molto rit.** *lunga*

night.

night.

night.

night.

Tempo I *rit.* **molto rit.** *lunga*

mp *p*

p.
Ped.

(for Jama)
(ca. 4'45")