

Subu'hun Quddu'sun
For SATB Choir
By Michael Knopf © 1989 Revised 2002

The text used in this work is from the Sacred Writings of the Báb, the Herald-Prophet of the Bahá'í Faith. Its particular significance comes from its use in an event in the Faith's early history. It was sung in a welcoming procession of great reverence for the foremost disciple of the Báb whose title was Quddus. He had been released from his persecution and arrived at the fort of Shaykh Tabarsi in Mazindarán. He arrived in the night and his fellows greeted him in the surrounding forest with a candle in each hand and their voices raised in a unison chant not too far removed from the melody used in this piece. The melody is based on what was learned from a Persian Baha'i who sang it for the composer.

Subu'hun Quddu'sun Rabaná va rabímaláikátih va ru'h. Ho-ly Ho-ly the Lord our God, Lord of the an-gels, and of the spi-rit. Holy, Holy, the Lord our God, Lord of the angels, and of the spirit.

The transliteration used in this piece is standard. Below is a guide to the pronunciation.

Subu'hun sounds like So boo hone

Quddus'sun sounds like Ko doos sewn (K is really a guttural 'Q' sound)

Rabaná sounds like ra(rap) ba (bat) gnaw

va as in vat

rabíl ra (as in rap) beel

maláikátih ma (mat) law ; i (as in it) ka (as in caw) tih (short 'I' sound with aspirated 'H' at the end)

va

ru'h. sounds like roo with an aspirated 'H' at the end