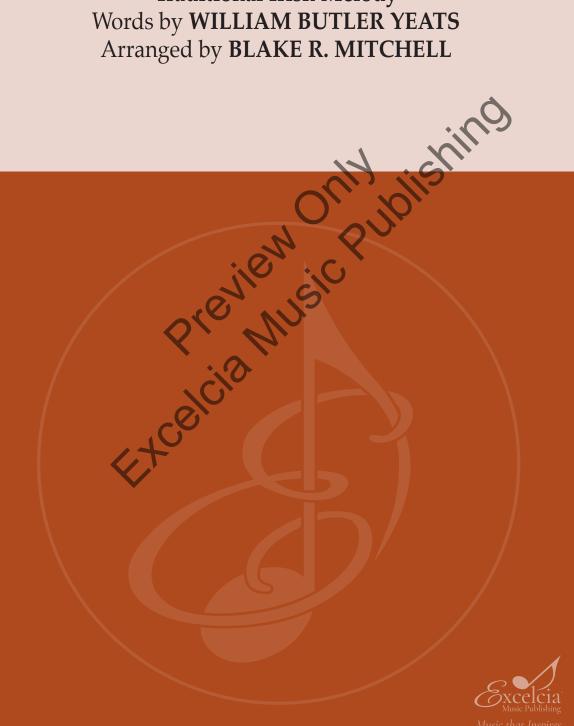
Down By the Salley Gardens

Traditional Irish Melody Words by WILLIAM BUTLER YEATS Arranged by BLAKE R. MITCHELL



About the Arranger

Blake R. Mitchell (b. 1998) is a vocalist, composer, and arranger whose variety of musical experiences feeds into his flexibility in writing for both vocal and instrumental ensembles. Primarily a composer of choral works, Blake's music has been recognized for its truthful setting of texts and harmonic richness while maintaining approachable lines for singers of any level. Blake earned his Bachelor of Music in Voice Performance at Samford University, where he engaged in additional studies in music composition.

Down By the Salley Gardens

Down by the Salley Gardens has long been one of my favorite folk tunes. When William Butler Yeats published the poem in 1889, the original name of the poem was An Old Song Resung, until it was changed to its current title upon republishing in 1895. In keeping with the poem's original title, I believe Yeats accomplished his goal of what he described as "reconstruct[ing] an old song from three lines imperfectly remembered." The poem is folkloric storytelling of young love and employs his stylistic imagery of the English countryside to do so.

I primarily aimed to preserve the peacefulness of Yeats's text and the adjoined folktune. Still, new harmonies and climactic moments within this arrangement make it an engaging and rewarding piece for any tenor-bass choir.

-Blake



Down By the Salley Gardens

for a cappella TTBB Voices

TRADITIONAL IRISH MELODY Words by WILLIAM BUTLER YEATS

Arranged by **BLAKE R. MITCHELL**













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Blake R. Mitchell

From traditional concert works to musical theatre and jazz stylings, Blake's versatility as an emerging composer and arranger makes his work engaging for instrumental and vocal ensembles alike. His belief in crafting music for all produces memorable moments accessible for the performer and conductor, and impactful for the listener.

Down By the Salley Gardens

This traditional Irish tune is brought to life in this engaging new arrangement. Approachable for high school choirs and beyond, its timeless feel and exciting divisi harmonies make a memorable and meaningful addition to any concert program!

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