



Down By the Salley Gardens

Traditional Irish Melody

Words by **WILLIAM BUTLER YEATS**

Arranged by **BLAKE R. MITCHELL**

Preview Only
Excelcia Music Publishing

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 Resting*, 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



Recordings are available on all major streaming services.

Down By the Salley Gardens

for a cappella TTBB Voices

TRADITIONAL IRISH MELODY

Words by

WILLIAM BUTLER YEATS

Arranged by

BLAKE R. MITCHELL

Freely ♩ = 72-76

mp *rit.*

Tenor I
Loo loo loo_ loo loo loo_ loo_ loo loo_ loo_

Tenor II
mp *rit.*
Loo loo loo loo loo_ loo_ loo_ loo_ loo loo

Bass I
mp *rit.*
Loo loo loo loo loo loo_ loo_ loo loo loo_ loo

Bass II
mp *rit.*
loo loo loo

4

mp *mf*

Down by the sal - ley gar - dens my_

mp *mf*

loo Down by the sal - ley gar - dens my

mf

loo_ loo my

mf

loo_ loo my

8

love and I did meet. She passed the sal - ley gar - dens with

12

lit - tle snow-white feet. She bid me take love ea - sy as

16

leaves grow on the tree, but I, be - ing young and

Calmly $\text{♩} = 64$ *mp*

19 *dim.* fool - ish, with her did not a - gree. Down by the gar - den,
dim. fool - ish, with her did not a - gree. Down by the gar - den,
dim. fool - ish, with her did not a - gree. Down by the gar - den,
dim. fool - ish, with her did not a - gree. Down by the

23 *sim.* down by the gar - den. Down by the gar - den, down by the gar - den.
sim. down by the gar - den. Down by the gar - den, down by the gar - den.
sim. down by the gar - den. Down by the gar - den, down by the gar - den.
sim. gar - den. Down by the gar - den.

Broadly $\text{♩} = 60$ *mf*

26 *mf* In a field down by the ri - ver my love and I did
mf In a field by the ri - ver my love and I did
mf In a field by the ri - ver my love and I did
mf In a field by the ri - ver my love and I did

30

stand, And on my lean - ing shoul - der she

stand, did stand, And on my lean - ing shoul - der she

stand, did stand, And on my lean - ing shoul - der she

stand, did stand, And on my lean - ing shoul - der she

33

mp, *cresc.*

laid her snow - white hand. She bid me take life ea - sy as the

mp, *cresc.*

laid her snow-white hand. She bid me take life ea - sy as the

mp, *cresc.*

laid her snow-white hand. She bid me take life ea - sy as the

mp, *cresc.*

laid her snow-white hand. She bid me take life ea - sy as the

37

sub. mp

grass grows on the weirs; but I was young and fool - ish, and

sub. mp

grass grows on the weirs; but I was young and fool - ish, and

sub. mp

grass grows on the weirs; but I was young and fool - ish, and

sub. mp

grass grows on the weirs; but I was young and fool - ish, and

Slowing to the end

41 *cresc.* *mp*

now am full of tears. Down by the sal - ley -

cresc. *mp*

now am full of tears, full of tears. Down by the sal - ley -

cresc.

now am full of tears, full of, full of tears.

cresc.

now am full of tears, full of, full of tears

45 meet.

gar - dens my love and I did Down by the gar - den, down by the gar - den.

gar - dens my love and I did Down by the gar - den, down by the gar - den.

mp

loo loo Down by the gar - den, down by the gar - den.

mp

loo loo Down by the gar - den,

49 *p*

Down by the gar - den, down by the gar - den. oo

p

Down by the gar - den, down by the gar - den. oo

p

Down by the gar - den, down by the gar - den. oo

p

Down by the gar - den. oo



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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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