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Composer's note

Creation Song was written as a response to a request from Ashley Grote, the Master of Music at Norwich Cathedral, along with Canon Aidan Platten from the Dean and Chapter. Norwich Cathedral was due to be the final stop on a nationwide British tour, which began in February 2018, of the replica skeleton of 'Dippy' the dinosaur from the Natural History Museum in London. The idea was to celebrate this visit to Norwich with a piece that could be sung by the Cathedral Choir along with a large choir of schoolchildren. The resulting work, *Creation Song*, is scored for upper voices, SATB, and organ. It is written in sections with a recurring refrain but is designed to be sung as a continuous piece. The opening tempo marking suggests a speed that remains constant throughout, but please feel free to allow for some flexibility of tempo in certain sections if that feels right to you. The refrain, written for upper voices, can equally be sung by the mixed choir in any voice combination that you may choose should an upper-voice choir not be available. I am grateful to both Ashley Grote and Canon Aidan Platten, as well as the Norfolk Music Hub, for the commitment, energy, and enthusiasm that they have shown towards this lovely project.

Duration: *c.*12 minutes

A lyric sheet and separate part for the upper voices is available for free download from the catalogue page of the OUP website.
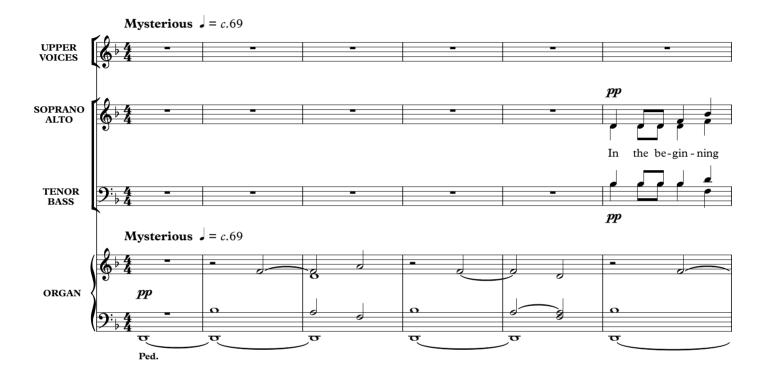
Commissioned by the Dean and Chapter of Norwich Cathedral with generous support from the Norfolk Music Hub,
for the Natural History Museum's 'Dippy on Tour' exhibition in Norwich,
and in celebration of the beauty of creation as the world seeks a sustainable future.

Creation Song

BOB CHILCOTT

Movement 1

Genesis 1: 1–5 (adap.)

Mysterious ♩ = *c.*69

UPPER VOICES

SOPRANO ALTO

pp

In the be-gin-ning

TENOR BASS

pp

Mysterious ♩ = *c.*69

ORGAN

pp

Ped.

7

S. A.

God cre-at-ed the heav'n and the earth. And the earth was with-out

T. B.

form, and void, void; and dark-ness was up - on the

face of the deep, deep. And God

said, Let there be light: and there was light.

And God saw the light, that it was good. And God called the light Day, and the dark-ness he called Night.

attacca

Refrain 1

Thomas Traherne (*c.*1637–1674)

Flowing ♩. = *c.*69 (♩. = ♩)

UPPER
VOICES

mf

The earth, the seas,— the

mf

Ped.

6

light, the day, the skies,_____ the earth, the seas,— the light, the day, the

11

< *f*

skies,____ the__ skies, The__ sun__ and stars__ are mine, the__ sun__ and stars__ are

< *f*

16

mine, if those I prize.

attacca