Ose Ayo (Sunrise Song)

(S.A.T.B. and Percussion)

Traditional Yoruba Song from Nigeria Arranged by Brian Tate

Ose Ayo is a sunrise song because this text expresses hope, thanks, and/or joy for the arrival of a new day. It should have a feeling of warmth and joy, and it should be sung in a free and loose manner. If you don't have the full percussion ensemble, use what you have - a single djembe or shaker will do. Introduce the percussion however you wish - all at once or one at a time. The four-measure introduction is only a guideline. A gentle sway of the choir from left to right at the top of each measure adds effective movement. If you want to include your audience, the main four parts are easy to teach so they can sing along. Enjoy! BT

Pronunciation and Translation

Ose = ō - shāy (accent on first syllable) = thank you

Ayo = $\check{a}h - y\bar{o}$ (even syllables; no real accent) = j oy

Abeh = ăh - běh (accent on first syllable) = we beg

Adeh = ăh - dāy (accent on first syllable) = we come (to you)

 $o = \bar{o} = is \text{ not 'you' but is like the exclamation 'oh'}$

Ayeh = ăh - yāy (even syllables, no accent) = the world

We are grateful to **O. Ayodele Ogunmekan** - University of Dayton, and **Sharon Davis Gratto** - Professor and Chair, University of Dayton, and National Repertoire and Standards Chair for Ethnic and Multicultural Perspectives, the American Chorol Directors Association, for their notes on accuracy with this publication

Joyfully, with flow and ease J = 124

Each section may be repeated as many times as desired.

Volume should gradually build with each repeat to the end of the piece.

percussion plays throughout (for rehearsal, use shaker 1 rhythm)





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