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I, Michael A Ciavaglia , hereby submit this original work as part of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Musical Arts in Conducting, Choral Emphasis.

It is entitled:

The Choral Music of Robert De Cormier

Student's name: **Michael A Ciavaglia**

This work and its defense approved by:

Committee chair: L. Scott, D.M.A.

Committee member: Eva Floyd, Ph.D.

Committee member: Earl Rivers, D.M.A.



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The Choral Music of
Robert De Cormier

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Michael A. Ciavaglia

B. A., Fairfield University, 2004

M. M., Temple University, 2006

Committee Chair: L. Brett Scott, D. M. A.

ABSTRACT

This document comprises a study of the life and a cataloguing of the choral works of Robert De Cormier (b. 1922), American composer, arranger, and conductor. The first chapter outlines his musical development and professional activity. Included are his activities as a conductor, arranger, and composer for singers and orchestra, as well as his collaborations with greats of the American folk music revival of the twentieth century. The catalogue of his complete published choral arrangements includes information on the sources of all folk material where possible, including the unique numbers assigned by the Roud Folksong Index for English-language songs. There is also an annotated listing of his complete choral compositions, which span from 1962 to the present and encompass a variety of styles. A relevant bibliography is included, highlighting De Cormier's work as an early crossover artist working in both folk and classical music.

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To Robert and Louise De Cormier
with warmest thanks

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CHAPTER I: A musical biography of Robert De Cormier

Introduction

Robert De Cormier is a prolific arranger, composer, and performer whose work was influenced by, and has influenced, the American folk music revival movement of the twentieth century. He has written and published concert works with chorus and orchestra, unaccompanied choral works, ballet scores, Broadway and Off Broadway scores, and music for film and television. His published choral arrangements represent a wide array of American and international styles and number in the hundreds. The Robert De Cormier Choral Series, published by Lawson-Gould, includes De Cormier's arrangements and works by others inspired by American and international folk traditions

De Cormier has had a lifetime of significant professional conducting activity. He was music director of the Jewish Young Folksingers of New York, the Robert De Cormier Singers, the New York Choral Society, is founder and director of the Vermont Symphony Orchestra and Chorus, and was the founding conductor music director of the Vermont-based professional chorus Counterpoint. He was Associate Professor of Ensembles and Conducting at the Eastman School of Music from 1972 to 1977.

In professional recordings, De Cormier has been active in the American folk music movement since its earliest years in the 1940s, and has worked with many of the best-known performers in the field. He has arranged music for Harry Belafonte, Peter, Paul and Mary, Pete Seeger, the Weavers, Paul Robeson, Yip Harburg, Jerry Hermann, Harvey Schmidt and Tom Jones, Odetta, Martha Schlamme, and Jan Peerce. He was music director for Harry Belafonte and the Belafonte Singers from 1957 to 1963, appearing with them on television, recordings and in live performances in the United

States and abroad. He was music director for Peter, Paul and Mary from their reformation in 1979 through Mary Travers's death in 2009.

Early Life and Education

Robert De Cormier was born in Pinelawn, New York in 1922. In 1924 he and his family moved to Poughkeepsie, where he spent his childhood and adolescent years. His father, also named Robert, was of French Canadian origin, and his mother, Selma Stigberg De Cormier, was born in Sweden. Robert and Selma De Cormier also had four daughters, Brita (born 1917), Frances (born 1919), Regina (born 1923), and Miriam (born 1924).

Robert De Cormier's childhood musical experience included lessons in trumpet beginning at age six, and family and school singing. He enrolled in Colby College in Waterville, Maine, which he attended from 1939-1941, having enrolled in a general liberal arts curriculum. In 1940, as a singer in Colby College's choir, he performed at the New England Festival, which provided exposure to high-quality choral music and inspired his life's work in that arena. Wishing to expand his education and see a new part of the country, in 1942 he travelled alone by bus to Albuquerque, where he studied music theory and composition for several months. A highlight of that time was a lecture by Nadia Boulanger, as well as De Cormier's first exposure to theory and practice of post-tonal music, in particular twelve-tone serialism.

World War II and Professional Beginnings

In 1943, De Cormier was drafted into the U. S. Army. He went willingly, since he held a strong personal belief, spurred by the Spanish Civil War, that the United States must do as much as possible to defeat fascism. His army training included intense study

of French language and culture on the campus of Rutgers University in New Jersey. After this specialized training, he went to Europe as an infantryman in the summer of 1944, and served in France, Belgium, Holland, and Germany. In November of 1944, he sustained a serious wound to his right wrist during combat. A series of hospitalizations followed in Europe and in the United States. While at Halloran Hospital on Staten Island he joined the chorus of the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO, before its 1955 merge with the American Federation of Labor). With this group De Cormier sang *The Ballad for Americans*, a cantata by the singer-songwriter and composer Earl Robinson. It included a segment of the African-American spiritual "Go Down, Moses." For De Cormier, this was an early exposure to a style that would be a major part of his career: an arrangement of a traditional African-American song.

The Juilliard years

In 1945 De Cormier was discharged both from the hospital and from the army. That same year he auditioned for the Juilliard School, where he was accepted as a voice major. At Juilliard he studied music theory with Arthur Farrante (of the piano duo Farrante and Teicher) and choral music with Peter Wilhousky. In 1946 he began studies in choral conducting with Robert Shaw, who was on the faculty of Juilliard, and with Shaw's teacher, Julius Herford. While Julius Herford was not on the faculty of Juilliard, he was accessible to De Cormier and his fellow students, and they frequently discussed both conducting technique and musical analysis. De Cormier's classmates at Juilliard included many fellow luminaries of twentieth century choral music: Alice Parker, Margaret Hillis, Harold Acks, and Ralph Hunter. He completed his bachelor's degree in 1948 and his master's degree in 1949.

De Cormier's professional choral conducting career began in earnest in the late 1940s, when he became conductor of the Brooklyn branch of the Jewish Young Folksingers. Concurrently, he began arranging Jewish folksongs, African-American spirituals, and songs of the American labor movement, with his arrangements forming a portion of the group's repertoire. Examples of these arrangements are "River of My People," "Coo-Coo," and "He nay ma tov." De Cormier's first experience as a music director and principal conductor was with this ensemble.

In the summers De Cormier served as music director at two summer camps known for their progressiveness in racial integration. He succeeded Elmer Bernstein (who would become a famous film composer) at Camp Unity in Wingdale, New York, where his responsibilities included rehearsing and conducting choruses and doing some arranging. At Camp Unity De Cormier collaborated with Bernstein and with Earl Robinson. A group of musicians and actors from Camp Unity formed the Freedom Theatre in 1948, a theater and musical troupe known for its inclusion of both black and white performers, and for its advocacy of progressive causes. Freedom Theatre was based at and performed in the Czechoslovak House, on Manhattan's Upper East Side, and also toured the United States. With the Freedom Theatre, De Cormier conducted a small ensemble of singers and did some arranging of labor and folk songs.

It was through the Freedom Theatre that De Cormier met Louise Dobbs, his wife and frequent artistic collaborator from the late 1940s through the present. Louise De Cormier trained and worked as an actress and singer. As a singing duo, Louise and Robert De Cormier recorded nine record albums from the 1950s-1970s, with duet arrangements by Robert. Highlights of these include *Songs Children Sing: Italy* (1958),

Songs Children Sing: France (1958), and *Woody Guthrie Children's Songs* (1972), all of which contained a great deal of folk and folk-style material.

Louise has long been Robert's manuscript copyist, and the performing editions of most full scores and parts are in her hand (even in cases in which the choral scores are printed). She has served as lyricist for many of his works, often composing poetic translations of foreign-language texts. Robert De Cormier's most recent composition at the time of this writing, "Sing Everyone, Sing Me" (2011) for mixed chorus unaccompanied, is on a text by Louise De Cormier. Louise and Robert had two children, Robin (born 1952) and Christopher (1954-1978).

In 1951, De Cormier began teaching choral music at Elizabeth Irwin High School, the upper school of the Little Red School House in Manhattan, where he would teach until 1957. In the summer of 1955 De Cormier was music director at Camp Woodland in Phonecia, New York. For performance at the camp, he wrote a cantata, now lost, based on the life of Sojourner Truth.

The Belafonte years and Europe

In the late 1950s De Cormier sang in The Neighbors, a folk singing group founded by Fred Hellerman (formerly of The Weavers). After one of The Neighbors' performances at The Blue Angel in Manhattan in 1957, Harry Belafonte, who was already an established recording artist, invited De Cormier to work with him as music director and arranger. De Cormier wrote arrangements for tenor-bass vocal ensemble for the Belafonte Folk Singers (later the Belafonte Singers). Their repertoire included African-American, American, Caribbean, and European folk and folk-inspired music.

De Cormier's first publication with the Lawson-Gould publishing company was "One and Seven Pennies," (1962) for TTBB chorus. The work was cross-listed as a publication of the Robert De Cormier Choral Series and the Belafonte Folk Singers Choral Series. De Cormier's association with Lawson-Gould resulted in over two hundred publications of his arrangements and compositions. Robert Lawson Shaw and Walter Gould founded Lawson-Gould in 1953. Walter Gould's brother, the composer Morton Gould, collaborated with De Cormier through his later work with the New York Choral Society.

De Cormier arranged music for the Belafonte Singers and conducted them on tour. His association with Belafonte continued through 1961, and resulted in dozens of arrangements, nine records with RCA Victor, and hundreds of tour performances. Examples of De Cormier's arrangements for the group include "One and Seven Pennies," "We'll Have Another Drink," and the spiritual "Poor Boy." In 1960, a televised concert by Harry Belafonte and the Belafonte Singers under De Cormier's music directorship won an Emmy award.

De Cormier's directorship of the Belafonte Singers ended in early 1961. Later that year, he, Louise and their two children moved to Europe for an extended stay. They hoped to immerse themselves in the arts and culture of Paris and others cities in Europe. They resided in Paris and Haut-de-Cagnes. While there, De Cormier wrote *The Jolly Beggars*, his first major work. The text by Robert Burns is a sequence of alternating recitatives and songs. For the songs, Burns indicates particular Scottish tunes. Thus, De Cormier's work combines free composition (in the recitatives) and arrangement (of the songs). Scored for full orchestra, soloists, and chorus, the work has pervasive Scottish

elements, present in both the recitatives and songs. He had desired to set Burns's cantata for several years, and living abroad provided both time and inspiration.

Television and Musical Theater

The early 1960s saw a concentration of De Cormier's work in television, both in the United States and in England. During four summers of the early 1960s in London he arranged, prepared, and conducted music for the George Mitchell Choir (distinct from the blackface group the George Mitchell Minstrels) for weekly broadcasts on the BBC of the programs *Around the World in Song* and *Words and Music*. The George Mitchell Choir, conducted by De Cormier, released three record albums, with selections in the American folk style. They included "The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy," "This Train is Bound for Glory," and "Sixteen Tons." A typical review in the September 28, 1963 *Billboard* speaks to De Cormier's approach and interpretation: "The 'classical' full chorale approach is most unusual and will no doubt even please those who don't particularly like folk songs. De Cormier's arrangements give the simple folk melodies a highly universal flavor that can spell top sales at the commercial level." In the United States, he arranged and prepared choral pieces for the Ed Sullivan Singers on the eponymous television program.

Two of De Cormier's suites of arrangements had their origin as television programs. The original version of *Rainbow 'Round My Shoulder*, a ballet score that included male chorus and was based on arrangements of African-American work gang songs, was composed for broadcast on CBS Television's *Camera Three* on June 14, 1959. The concept and choreography were by Donald McKayle. The ballet is still performed today, as is the music in a suite arranged from the ballet for mixed chorus and improvised percussion. In 1962, in another collaboration with Donald McKayle for *Camera Three*,

De Cormier arranged and adapted African-American folk material for a collaborative work called *They Called her Harriet*, based on the life of Harriet Tubman.. It was renamed *They Called Her Moses*, a cantata, for publication in 1969.

De Cormier's work in the field of musical theater included Broadway and Off Broadway productions, and work as a conductor, vocal arranger, and one stint as a performer. In 1954, he appeared in and prepared choruses for *Sandhog*, by Earl Robinson. In 1960, De Cormier was arranger and musical director for *The Wall*, which ran at the Rose Theater for five months from October 1960 to March 1961. In 1960, he completed the vocal arrangements and served as music director for *The Happiest Girl in the World*, with lyrics by E. Y. "Yip" Harburg, adapting music of Jacques Offenbach. *The Happiest Girl in the World* saw some commercial success; after tryouts in New Haven, Boston, and Philadelphia, it opened at the Martin Beck Theater in April, 1961 and ran for 98 performances. De Cormier also completed vocal arrangements for *Milk and Honey* (1961, music and lyrics by Jerry Herman) and *110 in the Shade* (1963, music by Harvey Schmidt, lyrics by Tom Jones).

The De Cormier Singers

The De Cormier Singers, a professional ensemble of eight to twelve singers, gave their first performance in 1963 under De Cormier's direction. Walter Gould (of Lawson-Gould) was instrumental in the founding of the De Cormier singers, and through Gould's work, the ensemble signed with Columbia Artist Management, which represented the De Cormier singers throughout their tenure. The De Cormier singers was a touring ensemble that sang music from the folk traditions of America and the broader world, chiefly in De Cormier's arrangements, as well as some repertoire from the classical canon. The group

toured once or twice annually, presenting as many as seventy concerts on each tour, from 1963 through 1987. It was notable, especially in its early years, for its inclusion of both black and white singers in an era in which many performance venues were segregated, or transitioning from segregation to integration. The venues, and thus the cities, in which the singers could perform without incident were thus restricted.

The De Cormier singers recorded for Command Records and for Arabesque, producing twelve albums in total, listed below:

Command RS 45-4034		Single: A. Amen, B. Dance, Boatman Dance (single)
Command Records	1963	<i>The Robert De Cormier Folk Singers</i>
Command Records	1964	<i>Dance, Gal, Gimme the Banjo</i>
Command Records	1965	<i>Heritage</i>
Command Records	1966	<i>The Folk Album</i>
Command Records	1967	<i>Walking in the Sunshine</i>
Arabesque 6525	1984	<i>A Victorian Christmas</i>
Arabesque 6526	1985	<i>The First Nowell</i>
Arabesque Z6684	1986	<i>Children Go Where I Send Thee: A Christmas Celebration Around the World</i>
Arabesque 6588	1988	<i>The Man on the Flying Trapeze</i>
Arabesque Z6622	1991	<i>Awake, Sweet Love: The Music of John Dowland</i>
Arabesque ABQ 6527	1992?	<i>Christmas Eve</i>
Arabesque Z6675	1996	<i>Oh! You Beautiful Doll: A Celebration of Tin Pan Alley</i>

The De Cormier Singers were active in tours from xxxx through 1987 and recordings through 1996. At the time of this writing, albums recorded for Arabesque have been made available digitally, downloadable via iTunes.

The New York Choral Society and The Eastman School

The New York Choral Society, founded in 1958, is a prominent symphonic choir in Manhattan. In 1970, the Choral Society hired Robert De Cormier as its second music

director. His first affiliation with the ensemble was conducting one of their “Summer Sings,” communal readings of choral repertoire that served as fundraisers for the organization. De Cormier's leading of the Summer Sing, at which he conducted *Missa Luba*, led to his being hired as music director for the following season. The *New York Times* regularly covered De Cormier's performances with the Choral Society at Avery Fisher Hall and Carnegie Hall, and reviewed them positively. With the New York Choral Society, De Cormier programmed and conducted the New York premieres of Bartold Brecht and Kurt Weill's *Ocean Flight*, Heinrich Ignaz Franz von Biber's *Requiem*, and Hans Werner Henze's *Moralities* (with Harry Belafonte as narrator). The New York Choral Society, under De Cormier's direction, commissioned Morton Gould's *Quotations* (1984), which the composer cited as among his favorite works, and Paul Alan Levi's *Mark Twain Suite* (1983). The New York Choral Society performed and recorded audio and video with Peter, Paul and Mary, through De Cormier's long-standing connection with the folk trio. These included the album *A Holiday Celebration with Peter, Paul & Mary* (Gold Castle/Warner Brothers, 1988), and the videos *Peter, Paul & Mary 25th Anniversary Concert* (Rhino Home Video, 1986) and *Peter, Paul & Mary Holiday Concert* (Rhino Home Video, 1988).

De Cormier composed commissions for the New York Choral Society on several occasions. These included *Shout for Joy* (1978), a suite of Christmas spirituals for solo baritone, chorus, and orchestra; *Four Sonnets to Orpheus* (1985), for unaccompanied chorus and *Under a Greenwood Tree He Died* (1989), for chorus and full orchestra. The New York Choral Society commission *Legacy* (1981) has great personal significance for the composer. He wrote the work, for baritone solo, mixed chorus, wind orchestra, and

percussion, for the New York Choral Society in memory of his and Louise's son Christopher De Cormier (1954-1978).

Concurrently with his initial work with the New York Choral Society, De Cormier was on the faculty of the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York. Beginning in 1972, he was associate professor of ensembles and conducting. He taught conducting and choral arranging, and conducted the Eastman Chorale. He left the Eastman school in 1977, and continued as music director of the New York Choral Society through 1987. His association with the New York Choral Society has continued, and he retains the title of Music Director Emeritus.

Peter, Paul and Mary

The origins of De Cormier's musical relationship with the folk trio Peter, Paul and Mary were at Elizabeth Irwin High School, where Mary Travers was De Cormier's student. In 1960, toward the end of his tenure with Harry Belafonte, Peter, Paul and Mary asked De Cormier to be their music director. Because of his commitments with Belafonte, he suggested Milt Okun, who had done some arranging for Belafonte, in his stead. In 1979, when the trio was re-forming after a hiatus, De Cormier became their music director. His musical duties included vocal arranging, conducting, and orchestrating for concerts and recordings. For their last album, *The Prague Sessions* (2010), De Cormier orchestrated and conducted many of their signature songs.

The Vermont Symphony Orchestra Chorus and Counterpoint

Robert and Louise De Cormier have owned a farm in Belmont, Vermont since 1955. Since his 1987 retirement from the New York Choral Society, he has become increasingly active as a choral artist in Vermont. In 1993 he became the founding director

of the Vermont Symphony Orchestra Chorus, preparing and conducting choral orchestral masterworks for that orchestra, and incorporating an element of folk music as well. In 2000, he founded Counterpoint, a professional chorus based in Vermont that employs a collective approach to programming and some activities of governance. Counterpoint has recorded a total of nine recordings, both studio and live, including the standard recordings of many of De Cormier's works. De Cormier conducted a series of farewell concerts throughout the state in 2010; the group remains active after his retirement. The program for these farewell concerts was composed chiefly of De Cormier's works, and included *Four Sonnets to Orpheus* and *Legacy*, as well as the newer, shorter works *Everything is Music* (2006) and *All the Pogroms, All the Wars* (2010).

De Cormier has received several honors and awards. In 2002, he received the state of Vermont's Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts, and he has received lifetime achievement awards from the New England Choral Arts Foundation (2006) and the New York Choral Society (2008). He received honorary doctorates from Middlebury College (2007) and the University of Vermont (2012).

CHAPTER II: An annotated catalogue of Robert De Cormier's complete compositions

The format of this catalogue is as follows:

Title

Subtitle (year published)

Choral requirements, Solo requirements

Instrumental requirements

Text source

Publication information

Commissioning information

Annotation

Key to publisher abbreviations:

LG Lawson-Gould

EHD E. Henry David

TRO The Richmond Organization

HL Hall Leonard

HL:MC Hal Leonard: Music of Counterpoint

This catalogue is arranged chronologically.

The Jolly Beggars

Cantata (1962)

SATB, SATB

1.p 1d 1 1 perc hps single strings

Text by Robert Burns

LG (formerly)

EHD

Based on Burns's nineteen-movement cantata libretto "Life and Liberty," this work alternates "Recitativo" and "Song" movements (following Burns's terminology). The recitative movements, for soloists, are composed using Scottish style-signals, while the songs, for soloists and choir, are arrangements of Scottish tunes that Burns indicated. De Cormier worked on and completed the work in France. He recorded it in 1998 and it appears on Bobby Burns (Arabesque Records, 1998).

They Called Her Moses

Cantata (1962)

SATB, SATB, narrator

Piano

Based on traditional African-American material

LG 51485

This cantata is based on the life of Harriet Tubman. Its origins were a collaboration with the choreographer Donald McKayle in 1962 that resulted in a ballet with incidental choral music. The original title was They Called Her Harriet. For publication, De Cormier revised the arrangements and added narration. The spirituals include "Go down, Moses," "Follow the drinkin' gourd," "Little lamb," "To the darlin' day," "Wade in the water," and "I been in the storm so long." The final movement combines "Follow the drinkin' gourd," "Slavery chain done broke at last," and "Free at last" to great dramatic effect. At the time of this writing, De Cormier is at work on a version for soprano and alto chorus.

Dance, Gal, Gimme the Banjo (1965)

SATB

Piano

Words and music by Robert De Cormier and Eric Weissberg

LG 51243

This collaboration of Eric Weissberg is based upon a fragment of an old folk tune. Weissberg is best known for his recording of "Deuling Banjos" (1973).

Since Singing is So Good a Thing (1968)

SATB, Optional Narrator

Piano

Text by William Billings

LG 51404

A setting of Billings's prose text that lauds the personal and societal benefits of singing.

Revolutionary Portrait

Songs of the American Revolution (1974)

SATB, Incidental solos

Piano

Traditional American songs

Narration by Louise Dobbs

LG 51836

Highlights of the eight-movement work include lesser-known Americana such as "The Toast," on a 1778 text by Francis Hopkins praising George Washington, as arrangements of two pieces by William Billings, "David's Lamentation and Assurance" and "Chester." Some of the movements were published separately, and are listed in the next chapter.

With a Band of Music

Songs of the Hutchinson Family (1978)

SATB, SATB, Narrator

Piano (optional harmonium), violin, cello and percussion (wood block, sandpaper blocks, tambourine)

LG 52054

This work comprises six arrangements of songs composed and performed by the Hutchinson Family, a popular singing group of the mid-nineteenth century. The songs reflect their zeal as abolitionists and members of the temperance movement. They include: "Uncle sam's farm" (1849), "King alcohol" (1843), "Eight dollars a day" (1848), "Don't stay away," "Get off the track," and "Old granite state." Two movements are unaccompanied, and the violin is obligatory in two movements.

Shout for Joy

A Suite of Christmas Spirituals (1979)

SATB, T, Incidental S

Piano or orchestra 2222 2220 tmp cel hrp str

LG 52095

Commissioned by Holly Drew and the New York Choral Society.

Includes "Rise up shepherd," "What month was my Jesus born in?," "The Virgin Mary had-a one son," "Shout for Joy," and "Go tell is on the mountain." The tenor soloist is featured extensively in two movements; the soprano soloist sings only briefly. The tenor solo may also be sung by high baritone.

Go Gently from Me, Lover (1980)

LG

SATB

Piano

Text from an old Gaelic blessing

Additional text by Louise Dobbs

LG 52146

A mostly syllabic setting of the text that begins "May the road rise up to meet you."

Legacy (1982)

SATB, Bar

Wind orchestra: 2222 sop sax, 2221, tmp, perc, mandolin

Reduced orchestration (2011): 1111 0000 perc pf

Text by John. M Dobbs

LG 52220, 52221, 52222, 52223

Commissioned by Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Drew for the New York Choral Society in memory of Christopher De Cormier (1954-1977), son of Robert and Louise De Cormier. *This work is in four movements: Reminder, The Formula, Harlequinade, and Legacy. The text by John Dobbs, father of Louise De Cormier and father-in-law of Robert, examine the arc of a lifetime and the remembrance of a life lost. The result is an intensely personal work, and the defining work of De Cormier's career as a composer. De Cormier completed the version for small ensemble for his farewell concerts with the Vermont chamber choir Counterpoint. The full version requires a large chorus.*

Do Not Go Gentle into that Good Night (1982)

SATB

Piano

Text by Dylan Thomas

LG 52255

Commissioned by the First Congregational Church of Springfield, Vermont in celebration of their two hundredth anniversary

Four Sonnets to Orpheus (1985)

SATB

Unaccompanied

Text by Rainer Maria Rilke (Sonnets No. 19, 21, 22, 24 part 1)

unpublished

Commissioned for the New York Choral Society in memory of Natalie Dichter by her family and friends

Unique in De Cormier's compositional output, these four a cappella miniatures reflect a German Romantic influence. The pieces are chiefly homophonic and are characterized by changes of meter in service to the text.

Fosterama (1987)

SATB, T

Unaccompanied

LG 52442

These four arrangements of songs by Stephen Foster were published as a set by Lawson-Gould. The pieces included are "Ring the Banjo," "Gentle Annie," which features the tenor soloist throughout, "Some Folks," and "Camptown Races."

Under a Greenwood Tree He Died (1990)

SATB

2.d1 222 2220 tmp perc hrp str

Text by Sean O'Casey, adapted by Louise Dobbs

Lawson Gould

Commissioned by John Alicea and the New York Choral Society

Although the piece is through composed and in one continuous movement, it is divided into four major sections, reflecting divisions of the text as adapted from O'Casey's essay of the same title. It is thematic and stylistic companion to Legacy.

Spiritual Suite (1992)

SATB, A T

Orchestra 01.eh01 0100 perc piano

African-American Spiritual sources

Commissioned by the West Village Chorale, Gwen Gould, conductor. Its five movements are: "Sister Mary Had-a But One Child/Little Boy," "Honor," "He Never Said a Mumbalin' Word," "Lily of the Valley," and "Ride Up in the Chariot." These were all published separately, and available Roud Index numbers appear in the individual listings in the next chapter.

Sing a New Song (1996)

SATB, Bar

Unaccompanied

Text by Mark Van Doren, by permission of Dorothy Van Doren

For William Mayer on his seventieth birthday

LG 52837

In this work, De Cormier sets three poems by Mark Van Doren in three short movements. The poems included are Good Morning, Sing a New Song, and Farewell, My Little.

Everything is Music (2006)

SATB

Unaccompanied

Text adapted from the writings of Romain Rolland

Commissioned by the Vermont Arts Council for their fortieth anniversary.

HL:MC

All the Pogroms, All the Wars (2011)

SATB

Unaccompanied

text by John M. Dobbs

Unpublished

De Cormier returned to the poetry of his father-in-law for this recent short work.

Sing Everyone, Sing Me (2011)

SATB, S

Piano

Text by Louise Dobbs

EHD

CHAPTER III: A catalogue of Robert De Cormier's Published Choral Arrangements

The format of this catalogue is as follows:

Title (year published)

Choral requirements, solo requirements

Instrumental requirements

Attribution

Secondary attribution (if any)

Roud number* (if available)

Publisher No.

Note (when applicable)

This catalogue is arranged alphabetically.

*Because so many of De Cormier's arrangements are of English-language folk songs, this index will include numbers from the Roud Folksong Index, when available. This database assigns a unique number any English-language folk song lyric, and cross-lists early appearances in print publications. The Index is part of the Vaughan Williams Memorial Library's website.

A La Claire Fontaine (1969)

SATB

Unaccompanied

French Canadian Folk Song

LG 51544

Ahrirang (1969)

SATB

Piano

Korean Folk Song

LG 51540

English lyrics by Louise Dobbs

Ain't You Got a Right (2007)

SATB

Piano

Guy Carawan

African-American Spiritual (adapted), from John's Island, South Carolina

Roud: 12352

EHD

accompaniment by David Ralph

Ain't-a That Good News! (2006)

SATB

Unaccompanied

African-American Spiritual

Roud: 12218

HL:MC

Alouette (1965)

SATB

Unaccompanied, optional piano

French Folk Song

LG 51233

All My Trials (1994)

SATB

Piano

West Indian Spiritual

LG 52772

Amen (1966)

SATB, Solo

Piano

Joseph Crawford

LG 51275

Away in a Manger (2001)

SA

Flute, guitar, keyboard

American Christmas Carol

Attributed to James R. Murray

EHD

Bayeza (2010)

SATB, S or T

Piano or guitar, drums

South African Ceremonial Song

HL

Beautiful River (1987)

SATB

Piano, optional brass and handbells

Robert Lowry (1886)

LG 52395

Bella Bimba (1965)

SATB

Piano

Italian Folksong

LG 51256

Bella Bimba (1997)

2 part

Piano

Italian Folksong

LG

Black Sheep (1997)

SATB

Unaccompanied

African-American Lullaby

Roud: 4282

LG 52987

Blessed Be that Maid Marie (2003)

SATB

Unaccompanied

English Christmas Carol

From William Ballet's *Lute Book*, 1594

EHD

By 'n By (1993)

SSA

Piano

African-American Spiritual

LG 52694

By the Beautiful Sea (2003)

SATB

Flute, and guitar or keyboard

Harry Carroll

American popular song (1914)

EHD

Casey Jones (1909) (1997)

SATB

Unaccompanied

Eddie Newton

LG 52953

Chanuke, Oi Chanuke (2004)

SATB

Piano or chamber orchestra

Traditional Yiddish Melody

English text by Louise Dobbs

LG 53068

Christmas Cheer (Four Songs for Christmas) (1969)

1. Welcome Here, Roud: 18274

2. Merry Christmas

3. Dame Get Up and Bake Your Pies, Roud: 12817

4. Christmas is Coming, Roud: 12817

SA

Organ or piano

LG 51476

Christmas is Coming (1973)

SATB

Unaccompanied

Traditional English

Roud: 12817

LG 51752

Coulter's Candy (1972)

SA

Piano
Scottish Lullaby (Glasgow)
Roud: 19019, 19146
LG 51621

Dance, Boatman, Dance (1989)
SATB
Piano
American Folk Song
Roud: 5898
LG 52525

Dance ti' thy Daddy (1973)
SATB
Unaccompanied
Folks Song from Northumberland
LG 51753

David's Lamentation and Assurance (1968)
SATB
Unaccompanied
William Billings
LG 51372

Deep Blue Sea (1973)
SATB
Piano
American Folk Song
Roud: 3119
LG 51754

Deep River (1991)
SATB
Piano or orchestra
African-American Spiritual
Roud: 12332
LG 52607
Arranged by Robert De Cormier and Eddie Sauter

Der Rebe Elimelekh (2005)

SATB

Piano, tambourine, with optional clarinet or violin

Yiddish Folksong

HL:MC

Dormi, Dormi, O Bel Bambin (2002)

SATB, S

Unaccompanied

Italian Christmas Carol

English text by Louise Dobbs

LG 53052

Dortn, Dortn (2004)

SATB

Yiddish Folksong

English lyrics by Louise Dobbs

HL:MC

Duerme, Negrito (1990)

SATB

Cabasa

Cuban Lullaby

LG 52571

Écoutons donc les aubades (2005)

SATB

Fute and guitar or keyboard

French Christmas Carol

EHD

Eres Alta (1972)

(Lovely as the Morning)

TBB

Guitar

Spanish Folk Song

Alternate English text by Louise Dobbs

LG 51620

The Erie Canal (1978)

2 part

Piano and percussion

American Folk Song

Roud: 6598

LG 52073

Ezekiel Saw the Wheel (1991)

SATB, S (obbligato) Bar

Unaccompanied

Spiritual

Roud: 12241

LG 52571

The Four Marys (2000)

SSA, S

Guitar or keyboard

Scottish Folk Song

EHD

Frankie and Johnny (1978)

SATB , S A Bar T

Unaccompanied

Roud: 254

LG 52040

Free, My Lord, Free At Las' (1969)

SATB

Piano

Based on Traditional Negro material

LG 51743

from *They Called Her Moses*

Glory and Honor to the Newborn King (2008)

SATB

Piano or orchestra (1011 1000 bass)

Roud: 12207

HL: Gospel Choral Series

Glory and Honor to the Newborn King (2008)

SSAA

Piano or orchestra (1011 1000 bass)

Roud: 12207

HL: Gospel Choral Series

The Glory Manger (2006)

SATB

Unaccompanied

African-American Spiritual

HL:MC

Good Christian Men Rejoice (1992)

SATB

Unaccompanied

Fourteenth century German-English carol

LG 52630

Good Mornin' It's Christmas (2007)

SATB

Percussion (Claves, agogo bells) and optional brass (1211)

Caribbean Christmas Song

Collected and arranged by Cracita Faulkner

HL:MC

Grandfather's Clock (2005)

SATB, S

Unaccompanied

Henry Clay Work

American Popular Song (1875)

EHD

Great Grandad (1978)

Two part

Piano

American Folk Song

Roud: 4446

LG 52074

Hallelujah (1966)

SATB

Unaccompanied

Spiritual

Roud: 12203, 12204, 7992

LG 51272

He Never Said a Mumbalin' Word (1992)

SATB, T

Piano or orchestra

African-American Spiritual

Roud: 10068

LG 52693

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands (1975)

SATB

Unaccompanied

Spiritual

Roud: 7501

LG 51921

He's the Man For Me (1976)

SAB, or SA with solo Bar

Violin

Tune: Rosin the Beau

Roud: 1192

LG 51974

Hello, My Baby (1990)

SATB

Unaccompanied

Joseph E. Howard (1899)

LG 52545

Heeneh Ma Tov, Oomah Nahyeem (2007)

(Behold, How Good and How Pleasant)

SATB, T or Bar

Percussion

Israeli song

Text from Psalm 133:1

EHD

Hold On! (2006)

SSAA

Unaccompanied

African-American Spiritual

Roud: 3620

New lyrics by Louise Dobbs

HL:MC

Hold On! (2006)

SATB

Unaccompanied

African-American Spiritual

Roud: 3620

New lyrics by Louise Dobbs

HL:MC

Honor (1992)

SATB, T

Piano or orchestra

African-American Spiritual

Roud: 21334

LG 52666

Hunter's Song (1962)

TTBB

Unaccompanied

Traditional American

Roud: 283

LG 51088

Belafonte Folk Singers Choral Series

I've Been Workin' on the Railroad (1986)

SATB

Unaccompanied

American Folk Song

Roud: 12606

LG 52386

I Been in the Storm So Long (1967)

SATB, S

Unaccompanied

African-American Spiritual

Roud: 15325

LG 51282

I'se the B'y (1978)

SATB, ATB

Piano

Folk Song from Newfoundland

Roud: 4432

LG 52051

If I Had a Hammer (2002)

SATB

Piano

Lee Hays and Pete Seeger

Recorded by the Weavers

TRO

If I Had a Ribbon Bow (1973)

SA

Flute, guitar, bass

Southern Mountain Folk Song

Roud: 18413, 16789

LG 51756

Ilkley Moor Baht 'At (1968)

SATB, Bar

Piano

Yorkshire Folksong

Roud: 19808

LG 51403

In that New Jerusalem (1962)

TTBB

Unaccompanied
Spiritual
LG 51091
Belafonte Folk Singers Choral Series

In the Good Old Colony Days (1967)

SATB
Unaccompanied
Early American Song
Roud: 130
LG 51281

The Island Queen (1996)

SATB
Piano
American Folksong
Roud: 1934
This song is also known as “Revolutionary Tea.”
LG 52856

Israeli Medley (2002)

1. **Tzena**, by Issachar Miron
2. **Agadat Ha-Kineret**, Hebrew Folk Song
3. **Heyveynu Shalom Aleychem**, Hebrew Folk Song
SATB
Keyboard
EHD

Ja-Da (2000)

SATB
Unaccompanied
Bob Carleton
LG

John Henry (1984)

SATB, Bar
Unaccompanied
American folk song
Roud: 790

LG 52310

Johnny Has Gone for a Soldier (1967)

SATB, SA

Piano

Song from the American Revolution

Roud: 911

LG 51279

Joy to the World! (2003)

SATB

Brass quartet and organ

adapted from G. F. Handel by Lowell Mason

by Lowell Mason

EHD

Kissin's No Sin (1966)

SATB

Unaccompanied

Scottish Folk Song

Roud: 2579

LG 51252

Ku-Ku (1995)

SA

Piano

Polish Folk Song

LG 52795

La Trulla (1996)

SATB

Guitar (or keyboard), flute and percussion

Puerto Rican Christmas Song

LG 52997

La Virgen Lava Pañales (1982)

(The Virgin Washes the Swadling Clothes)

SATB

Piano or orchestra

Traditional Spanish

English text by John Dobbs

LG 52227

Arranged by Robert De Cormier and Eddie Sauter of the Sauter-Finnegan Band

La Virgen Lava Pañales (1990)

SSA

Piano

Traditional Spanish

English text by John Dobbs

LG 52580

Let Me Fly (1984)

SATB, Bar

Tambourine

Spiritual

Roud: 18174

LG 52311

Let Me Fly (200)

SSAA, Solo

Tambourine

Spiritual

Roud: 18174

HL:MC

Let Us Break Bread Together (1969)

SATB

Unaccompanied

Spiritual

Roud: 16667

LG 51425

Light One Candle (1983)

SATB

Piano and guitar

Peter Yarrow

Recorded by Peter, Paul and Mary

LG 52347

Lily of the Valley (1992)

SATB, A

Piano or orchestra

African-American Spiritual

Roud: 12146

LG 52663

Little Boy (2009)

SSAA

Unaccompanied

African-American Spiritual

EHD

Little Boy (2012)

SATB

Unaccompanied

African-American Spiritual

EHD

Little Lamb (1969)

SATB

Unaccompanied

Adaptation and original music by Robert De Cormier

Additional text by Robert De Cormier

LG 51426

Lolotte (1965)

SATB

Unaccompanied

Creole slave song

LG 51261

Lullay My Liking (1994)

SATB

Organ or orchestra

Middle English Carol

LG 52748x

Mangwani Mpulele (1993)

2 part

Piano, optional percussion suggested: bongos, cabasa, etc.

Zulu

English text by Louise Dobbs

LG 52716

March Down to Jordan (1995)

SATB, T or Bar

Piano

African-American Schedule

Roud: 18710

LG 52796

May There Always be Sunshine (1993)

SATB

Melodica, guitar and harpsichord (or piano)

Russian Folksong

English lyrics by Louise Dobbs

LG 51641

May There Always be Sunshine (1993)

SSA

Piano

Russian Folksong

English lyrics by Louise Dobbs

LG 52717

Mayim, Mayim (2006)

SATB

Piano, or Flute, Accordion, Guitar, Contrabass, Percussion

Traditional Hebrew

HL:MC

Miner's Lament (1976)

SATB, T

Unaccompanied

Tune: Lily Dale

Roud: 2819

LG 51975

My Lord, What a Mornin' (2006)

SATB

Unaccompanied

African-American Spiritual

Roud: 3408

HL:MC

Music of Counterpoint

My Lord's A-writin' All the Time (1965)

SATB, T or Bar

Unaccompanied

African-American Spiritual

LG 51226

Noel we Sing (1968)

SATB

Organ or piano

L. C. Daquin

English text by Louise Dobbs

LG 51436

arr. Robert De Cormier & E. P. Biggs

O Little Town of Bethlehem (2004)

SATB, ST

Flute and guitar or keyboard

Lewis H. Redner

American Christmas Carol

EHD

Obey the Spirit of the Lord (1974)

SATB

Piano

Spiritual

Additional text by Louise Dobbs

LG 51619

Ol' Dan Tucker (1978)

2 part
Piano
American Folk Song
Roud: 390
LG 52075

One and Seven Pennies (1962)

TTBB
Optional accordion, guitar and string bass
Traditional German
LG 51085
Belafonte Folk Singers Choral Series

The One Horse Open Sleigh (Jingle Bells) (2002)

SATB
Keyboard, flute, and sleigh bells
James Pierpont
The version as published by Oliver Ditson, 1957
EHD

Ox Driver's Song (1990)

TTBB, T (or Bar) B
String bass
American Folk Song
LG 52572

Patapan (1969)

SATB
Organ
French
LG 51484

Pick a Bale of Cotton (1968)

SATB
Piano
Traditional Work Song
Roud: 10061
LG 51375

Pine Apple Rag (2000)

SATB

Piano

Scott Joplin

1910 Version

EHD

Play Party (1967)

SATB, ad lib solo

Piano

American Folk Song

Roud: 735

LG 51274

Plenty Good Room / Sit Down, Servant (1990)

SATB, A or T and Bar

Piano

African-American Spirituals

Plenty Good Room, Roud: 11620

Sit Down, Servant, Roud: 10076

LG 52544

Rainbow 'Round My Shoulder (1962, 1973)

TTBB

Four ad-lib percussion instruments

African-American Chain Gang Song

Roud: 4299

LG 51757

Raise a Ruckus (1966)

SATB

Piano and guitar or banjo

Roud: 10054

LG 51277

Ride On, King Jesus (1968)

SATB, T

Piano

Spiritual

Roud: 12110

LG 51402

Ride up in the Chariot (1992)

SATB, A

Piano or orchestra

Roud: 15300

LG 52630

Ritsch, Ratsch, Filibom! (1996)

SATB

Piano

Swedish Christmas Carol

LG 52916

Rocky, Rocky Road (1975)

SATB

Unaccompanied

Christmas Spiritual from the West Indies

Additional text by Louise Dobbs

LG 51920

Rounds of Israel (1970)

Shalom Chaverim

A Kum Bachur Atsel

Hiney Matov

SATB

Piano

LG 51542

Rozhinkes mit Mandlen (1968)

SATB

Piano

Yiddish Folk Song

LG 51412

Run, Come, See Jerusalem (1995)

SATB, Solo

Unaccompanied

Blind Blake
As recorded by The Weavers
LG 52833, TRO (2005)

Sakura (1997)
Two part
Piano
Japanese Folksong
LG 52941

She'll Be Coming 'Round the Mountain (1975)
SATB
Unaccompanied
American Folk Song
Roud: 4204
LG 51919

The Singing School (1969)
SATB
Piano
Traditional Round
LG 51539

Sister Mary Had-a But One Child ()
SATB, Solo
Piano or orchestra
LG 52664

So Long It's Been Good to Know Yuh (Dusty Old Dust) (2001)
SATB
Piano
Woody Guthrie
Recorded by The Weavers
TRO

Soldier, Soldier, Won't You Marry Me? (1967)
SATB
Unaccompanied
Early American Song

Roud: 489

LG 51280

Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child (1969)

SATB, S A

Piano

Spiritual

Roud: 10072

LG 51479

Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child (1969)

SA, S

Guitar or piano

Spiritual

Roud: 10072

LG 51480

Stars Shinin' By n' By (1973)

SATB

Unaccompanied

African American Spiritual

Roud: 11963

LG 51751

Stars Shinin' By n' By (1993)

SSA

Unaccompanied

African American Spiritual

Roud: 11963

LG 52694

(Last Night I Had) The Strangest Dream (2003)

SATB

Piano

Ed McCurdy

As recorded by The Weavers

TRO

(Last Night I Had) The Strangest Dream (2003)

SSA
Piano
Ed McCurdy
As recorded by The Weavers
TRO

The Streets of Laredo (The Cowboy's Lament) (1994)

SATB
Piano
American Folksong
Roud: 23650
LG 52773

Study War No More (1969)

SATB
Piano
Spiritual
Roud: 11886
LG 51478

Study War No More (1969)

2 part
Piano
Spiritual
Roud: 11886
LG 51478

Suliram (1973)

SATB
Flute, Piano
Indonesian Lullaby
English text by Louise Dobbs
LG 51755

Sweet Betsy from Pike (1980)

SATB
Piano
Roud: 3234
LG 52133

Tail Toddle (1965)

SATB

unaccompanied

Roud: 11275

LG 51260

The Connecticut Peddler (1980)

2 part

Piano

Unattributed

Roud: 15533

LG 52126

The Farmer is the Man (1975)

SATB

Unaccompanied

American Folk Song

Roud: 5062

LG 51918

The Frozen Logger (2003)

SATB

Unaccompanied

Words and Music by James Stevens

Recorded by the Weavers

TRO

The Holly and the Ivy (1968)

SATB

Organ (or Piano)

Roud: 514

LG 51435

The Little Sailor (1998)

2 part

Piano

French Folk Song

LG 53025

The Sidewalks of New York (2002)

SATB

Unaccompanied

Charles B. Lawlor and James W. Blake

American Popular Song (1894)

EHD

The Souling Song (1986)

SATB

Unaccompanied

English Christmas Song

Roud: 304

LG 52387

The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy (1966)

SATB, Solo

Bell or finger cymbals

West Indian Spiritual

LG 51271

There is a Tavern in the Town (2004)

SATB

Unaccompanied

William H. Hills

American Popular Song (1883)

EHD

This Land is Your Land (2003)

SATB

Piano

Woody Guthrie

TRO

This Land is Your Land (2004)

SSA

Piano

Woody Guthrie

TRO

This Land is Your Land (2004)

2 part

Piano

Woody Guthrie

TRO

Tra La La (This Time It's Really Love) (2004)

SATB

Flute, guitar or keyboard

George Gershwin

American Popular Song (1922)

EHD

Tumbalalaika (1986)

TTBB

Piano

Yiddish Folk Song

LG 52388

English version by Milt Okun

Tumbalalaika (1996)

SATB

Piano

Yiddish Folk Song

LG 52912

Adapted by Robert De Cormier and Leonard Van Camp

Turn! Turn! Turn! (2008)

SATB

Piano or guitar

Pete Seeger

Includes the note: "The rhythmic notation indicates the way Pete Seeger wishes the song to be sung."

TRO

Turn the World Around (1975)

SATB, Optional solos

Percussion

Harry Belafonte and Robert Freedman
Recorded by Harry Belafonte
LG 52991

Twelfth Night Song (1969)

SATB
Unaccompanied
Russian Carol
English text by Regina Shekerjian
LG 51481

The Twelve Days of Christmas (1994)

SATB
Piano or orchestra
Traditional Christmas Song
Roud: 68
LG 52749

Two White Horses (1966)

SATB, Bar
Piano
Lee Hays, Bernie Kraus
LG 52327

Un Az Der Rebe Zingt (2004)

(And As the Rabbi Sang)
SATB
Piano
Yiddish Folksong
HL:MC

Uncle Sam's Farm (1981)

from Songs of the Hutchinson Family
SA
Violin and piano
Jesse Hutchinson, Jr.
Roud: 5446
LG 52144

Ut'he Wena (2010)

SATB
Piano or guitar, shaker
South African Wedding Song
English lyrics by Pete Seeger
HL

Wake Up, Jacob (1987)

SATB
Unaccompanied
Spiritual
Roud: 6694
LG 52400

Wailie, Wailie (The Water is Wide) (1970)

SATB, T
Unaccompanied
American Folk Song
Roud: 81
LG 51541

Walk Together, Children

SATB, S Bar
Unaccompanied
African-American Spiritual
Roud: 11970
LG 51273

Wayfaring Stranger (1971)

SA
Unaccompanied
Sacred Harp
Roud: 3339
LG 51626

Wayfaring Stranger (1971)

SATB
Unaccompanied
Sacred Harp

Roud: 3339

LG 51625

Welcome Here (1968)

(A Mince Pie or a Pudding)

SATB

Unaccompanied

Shaker Tune

Roud: 18274

Additional words by Regina Shekerjian

We'll have Another Drink (1962)

TTBB

Optional accordiion, guitar and string bass

Traditional Hornpipe

Roud: 9443

LG 51086

Belafonte Folk Singers Choral Series

Were You There? (1971)

SATB

Unaccompanied

Spiritual

Roud: 11409

LG 51613

What Child Is This (1968)

SATB

Organ or Piano

English

LG 51437

When I First Came to This Land (1965)

SATB

Optional piano

Oscar Brand

Roud: 16813

Recorded by Oscar Brand

LG 51935, TRO (2005)

When Johnny Comes Marching Home (1998)

SATB

Piano (or Woodwind Quintet and Percussion)

American Folksong

Roud: 6673

LG 53024

Where Have All the Flowers Gone? (2000)

SATB, ST

Keyboard

Pete Seeger (1961)

EHD

The Whistling Gypsy (1971)

SATB, Bar

Piano and Guitar

Irish Folk Song

Roud: 1

LG 51611

Who Killed Cock Robin? (1972)

SATB, Incidental solos

unaccompanied

English Folksong

Roud: 494

LG 51710

Yankee Doodle (1981)

SATB

Piano

American Folksong

Roud: 4501

LG 52215

Why Can't We Have Christmas the Whole Year Around (2001)

(We Wish You a Merry Christmas)

SATB, optional T

Piano

Verses: Traditional English Carol, Roud: 230

Words and music to introduction and closing by Ronnie Gilbert, Lee Hays, Fred Hellerman, and Pete Seeger

Recorded by The Weavers

TRO

You Made Me Love You (2005)

SATB

keyboard

James Monaco

American Popular Song (1913)

Roud:

EHD

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