

The Silver Swan

For unaccompanied* mixed chorus (SAATB†)

Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)
ed. Drew Collins

1 2 3

Soprano
The sil - ver swan, who liv - ing had no

Alto
The sil - ver swan, who liv - ing had no note,

Tenor†
The sil - ver swan, who liv - ing had no

Baritone†
The sil - ver swan, who liv - ing had no

Bass
The sil - ver swan, who liv - ing had no

Piano

* The keyboard reduction has been provided for rehearsal use only. However, instruments may be used *colla parte* if desired (any combination of recorders, flutes, oboes, bassoons, lute, harp, and bowed string instruments would work best).

† The original voice parts from highest to lowest were: Soprano, Quintus, Alto, Tenor, Bass. The middle three parts have been renamed by the editor, and their clefs changed accordingly (though all parts are written in their original octaves). The range of the Tenor part (as assigned above) makes it singable by both tenors and altos. The range of the Baritone part is also singable by most tenors. Depending on the numbers in your ensemble, consider assigning an equal number of singers to each of the five parts to aid in balance, though each part must be sung in its written octave.

Performing this piece a semi-tone higher may result in more consistent intonation.

4

note, When death ap - proached un - locked her si - lent

5

6

When death ap-proached un - locked her si - lent

note, When death ap - proached un - locked her si - lent

note, When death ap - proached un - locked her si - lent

note, When death ap-proached un - locked her si - lent, si - lent

7

throat, Lean - ing her breast a -

8

9

throat, Lean - ing her breast a - gainst the reed - y

throat, Lean - ing her breast a - gainst the

throat, a - gainst the reed - y shore,

throat, Lean - ing her breast a - gainst the reed - y

10 11 12 13

against the reed - y shore, Thus sung her first and last, and sung no
 shore, Thus sung her first and last, and sung no more, no
 reed - y shore, Thus sung her first and last, and sung no
 Thus sung her first and last, and sung no more, and sung no
 shore, Thus sung her first and last, and sung no

14 15 16

more, Fare - well all joys, O
 more, Fare - well all joys, O death come close mine
 more, Fare - well all joys, O death come
 more, Fare - well all joys, O death
 more, Fare - well all joys, O death come close mine

17 18 19

death come close mine eyes, More geese than swans now
 eyes, More geese than swans now live, more fools than
 close mine eyes, More geese than swans now live, more
 come close mine eyes, More geese than swans now live, more fools
 eyes, More geese than swans now live, more

20 24

live, more fools than wise.
 wise, than wise.
 fools than wise.
 than wise.
 fools than wise.