

Leaf Peepers

by David Gunn

Text (“Leaf Peepers”) by Geof Hewitt
from *Only What’s Imagined/poems by Geof Hewitt*

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for soprano solo, chorus, quartet, and a bunch of attractive leaves

written for Social Band

Helpful Instructions

Chorus 1 is comprised of a standard array of SATB singers plus a soprano soloist. The soloist may wear a giant leaf costume, if available. Chorus 2 consists of four singers – the proverbial leaf peepers – sitting in two rows of two chairs as if they’re in an automobile. For added realism, task the Chorus’s Arts and Crafts Department to construct the side of an automobile (working crank windows not necessary). To avoid the design challenges of a hardtop, I recommend a convertible. The front left singer plays the role of driver; two others provide the Doppler effects. All should act like tourists by gawking out a “window” or occasionally pointing at something. Feel free to employ leaf peepery props and, of course, improvise!

Here’s the entire text:

New Mercedes van with Jersey plates, stuffed with tourists scowling at a conifer: “Damn. We got here too early!”

Leaf Peepers

duration: 3 min.

David Gunn

 = 84

Soprano solo

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

do do do do do do do do
pp

do do do do do do do do
cresc. poco a poco

Peeper 1

Peeper 2

Peeper 3

Peeper 4

[illegible]

[illegible]

7

Sop solo

S

A

T

B

P 1

P 2

P 3

P 4

do do do do do do do do do do do do do do do do

do do do do do do do do do do do do do do do do

ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba

do do do do do do do do do do do do do do do do

Passing car Doppler effect

p *f*

Passing car Doppler effect

p *f*

9

Sop solo

S

A

T

B

P 1

P 2

P 3

P 4

do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba

mf

do do do do do do do do

f

mp

do do do do do do do do

f

mp

ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba

f

mp

do do do do do do do do

f

mp

do do do do do do do do

p

p

p

p

11

Sop solo *f*

S

A

T

B

P 1

P 2

P 3

P 4

The musical score is for a piece titled "leaf peepers". It features five vocal parts and a piano ensemble. The vocal parts are Soprano solo (Sop solo), Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). The piano ensemble consists of four parts labeled P 1, P 2, P 3, and P 4. The score is divided into two measures. The first measure is marked with a forte (f) dynamic. The vocal parts have lyrics: Sop solo: "do ba ba do do ba ba do do ba do ba"; S: "ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba"; A: "do do do do do do do do"; T: "ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba"; B: "do do do do do do do do". The piano parts have rests. The second measure continues the vocal parts: Sop solo: "do do do do"; S: "ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba"; A: "do do do do do do do do"; T: "ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba"; B: "do do do do do do do do". The piano parts continue with rests.

13

Sop solo

do do ba - ba do do do ba - ba do *mf*

ba do ba do ba do do ba ba do ba do *f*

S

ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba do *p* ba *mf*

A

do do do do do do do do do do do do do do do

T

8 ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba

B

do do do do do do do do do do do do do do do

P 1

P 2

P 3

P 4

15

Sop solo

mf

S

A

T

B

P 1

P 2

P 3

P 4

The musical score is for a piece titled "leaf peepers". It features five vocal parts and a piano ensemble. The vocal parts are Soprano solo (Sop solo), Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). The piano ensemble consists of four parts labeled P 1, P 2, P 3, and P 4. The score is divided into two measures. The first measure starts at measure 15. The Soprano solo part begins with a melodic line and the lyrics "do ba ba do do ba ba do do ba do". The Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass parts provide harmonic support with rhythmic patterns and the lyrics "ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba", "do do do do do do do do", "ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba", and "do do do do do do do do" respectively. The piano parts (P 1, P 2, P 3, P 4) are marked with a fermata, indicating they are silent during this section. The second measure continues the vocal parts with similar rhythmic patterns and lyrics. The Soprano solo part has the lyrics "ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do". The other vocal parts continue their respective patterns. The piano parts remain silent, marked with a fermata.

[illegible]

19

Sop solo

f

do do do do do ba do ba do ba do ba ba do ba do do ba do ba

S

ba do ba ba do ba ba do ba ba do ba ba do ba ba do ba ba do ba

A

ba do ba ba do ba ba do ba ba do ba ba do ba ba do ba ba do ba

T

do do do do do do do do do do do do do do do

B

do do do do do do do do do do do do do do do

P 1

P 2

P 3

P 4

21

Sop solo

S

A

T

B

P 1

P 2

P 3

P 4

do do do do

do

do ba do

do do do do do do do do

do do do do do do do ba do

do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do

do do ba do ba do do ba do ba do ba do

do ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba

ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba

do do do do do do do do

do do do do do do do do

23

Sop solo

S

A

T

B

P 1

P 2

P 3

P 4

The musical score is for a piece titled "leaf peepers". It features five vocal parts: Soprano solo (Sop solo), Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). There are also four piano parts labeled P 1, P 2, P 3, and P 4. The score is divided into two measures. The first measure starts at measure 23. The vocal parts have lyrics: "do ba do ba do ba do ba do do ba ba do" for Sop solo, "do do do do do do ba ba do" for S, "do do do do do ba do ba do ba do" for A, "ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba" for T, and "do do do do do do do do" for B. The piano parts have rests. The second measure continues the vocal parts with lyrics: "do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba" for Sop solo, "do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba" for S, "do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba" for A, "ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba" for T, and "do do do do do do do do" for B. The piano parts have rests. Dynamics include *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *mp* (mezzo-piano). The tempo is marked with a quarter note.

do ba do ba do ba do ba do do ba ba do *mf*

do do do do do do ba ba do *mf*

do do do do do ba do ba do ba do *mf*

ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba

do do do do do do do do

do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba *mp*

do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba *mp*

do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba *mp*

ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba

do do do do do do do do

25

Sop solo

do *f* *mp*

S

ba do ba - ba ba - ba do *f* *mf*

A

ba do ba - ba ba - ba *f* *mf*

T

do ba ba ba ba ba ba ba 8

B

do do do do do do do do do do do do do do

P 1

P 2

P 3

P 4

27

Sop solo

S

A

T

B

P 1

P 2

P 3

P 4

The musical score is for a piece titled "leaf peepers". It features a vocal soloist (Sop solo) and a piano ensemble (P 1, P 2, P 3, P 4). The score is divided into two systems. The first system (measures 27-32) includes vocal entries for Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). The Soprano part has lyrics "ba do do do do do ba" with dynamics *f* and *mf*. The Alto part has lyrics "ba do do do do do ba" with dynamics *f* and *mp*. The Tenor part has lyrics "ba ba ba ba ba ba ba" with a piano number 8. The Bass part has lyrics "do do do do do do do do". The piano ensemble parts (P 1, P 2, P 3, P 4) are marked with rests. The second system (measures 33-38) continues the vocal parts. The Soprano part has lyrics "ba do do do do do ba" with dynamics *f* and *mp*. The Alto part has lyrics "ba do do do do do ba" with dynamics *f* and *mp*. The Tenor part has lyrics "ba ba ba ba ba ba ba" with a piano number 8. The Bass part has lyrics "do do do do do do do do". The piano ensemble parts (P 1, P 2, P 3, P 4) are marked with rests.

29

Sop solo

S

A

T

B

P 1

P 2

P 3

P 4

do do do do - - - - - *mp*

do do do do do do do do

do do do do do do do do

do ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba

do do do do do do do do do do do do do do

f *mp*

fz *p*

fz *p*

Passing car Doppler effect

Passing car Doppler effect

The musical score is for a piece titled 'leaf peepers'. It features a vocal soloist (Sop solo) and four vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass). The vocal parts are accompanied by four percussion parts (P 1, P 2, P 3, P 4). The score is written in 4/4 time and includes dynamic markings such as *f* (forte), *mp* (mezzo-piano), *fz* (forzando), and *p* (piano). The vocal parts have lyrics: 'do', 'ba', and 'ba'. The percussion parts include a 'Passing car Doppler effect'.

31

Sop solo

do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba

mf

S

do do do do do do do do do do do do do do do do

mf

A

do do do do do do do do do do do do do do do do

mf

T

ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba

B

do do do do do do do do do do do do do do do do

Passing car Doppler effect

P 1

fz *p*

P 2

Passing car Doppler effect

P 3

fz *p*

P 4

The musical score is for a piece titled "leaf peepers" on page 16. It features five vocal parts: Soprano solo (Sop solo), Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). The Soprano solo part begins with a melodic line of eighth notes, followed by a rest and then a few more notes. The other vocal parts enter with sustained notes. The Soprano solo part has a dynamic marking of *mf* and a crescendo hairpin. The Soprano part also has a dynamic marking of *mf*. The Alto part has a dynamic marking of *mf*. The Tenor and Bass parts have a dynamic marking of *fz* and a crescendo hairpin. The Soprano solo part has a melodic line of eighth notes, followed by a rest and then a few more notes. The other vocal parts enter with sustained notes. The Soprano solo part has a dynamic marking of *mf* and a crescendo hairpin. The Soprano part also has a dynamic marking of *mf*. The Alto part has a dynamic marking of *mf*. The Tenor and Bass parts have a dynamic marking of *fz* and a crescendo hairpin. The Soprano solo part has a melodic line of eighth notes, followed by a rest and then a few more notes. The other vocal parts enter with sustained notes. The Soprano solo part has a dynamic marking of *mf* and a crescendo hairpin. The Soprano part also has a dynamic marking of *mf*. The Alto part has a dynamic marking of *mf*. The Tenor and Bass parts have a dynamic marking of *fz* and a crescendo hairpin.

Sop solo

do
fz *mf*

S

do do do do do ba do
f

A

do do do do do do ba
mf

T

ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba

B

do do do do do do do do do do do do do do do

P 1

dim.

P 2

P 3

dim.

P 4

35

Sop solo

do

mf

f

do ba do ba do ba do do do do ba do

S

do ba ba do ba do do ba ba do ba do

f

do

mp

f

do ba do

A

do do do do do do do do

do do do do do do do ba do

f

T

do ba ba ba ba ba ba ba

ba ba ba ba ba ba ba

B

do do do do do do do do

do do do do do do do do

P 1

P 2

P 3

P 4

37

Sop solo

do do do ba na na na na do do do do do do do do

S

do do do do do do do do do do do do

A

do na na na na na na na do do do do do do do do do do

T

do ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba

B

do do do do do do do do do do do do do do do do

Passing car Doppler effect

P 1

fz *p*

P 2

P 3

Passing car Doppler effect

P 4

39

Sop solo

S

A

T

B

P 1

P 2

P 3

P 4

The musical score is for a piece titled "leaf peepers" on page 20. It features five vocal parts and a piano ensemble. The vocal parts are Soprano solo (Sop solo), Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). The piano ensemble consists of four parts labeled P 1, P 2, P 3, and P 4. The score begins at measure 39. The Soprano solo part has a melodic line with lyrics "do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba". The Soprano, Alto, and Tenor parts have similar melodic lines with lyrics "do ba", "do ba", and "ba ba" respectively. The Bass part has a rhythmic line with lyrics "do do do do do do do do". The piano parts (P 1, P 2, P 3, P 4) are mostly silent, with a few notes in the first measure.

Sop solo

S

A

T

B

P 1

P 2

P 3

P 4

42

♩ = 76

Sop solo

S

A

T

B

P 1

P 2

P 3

P 4

The musical score is written for a vocal soloist (Sop solo) and a piano ensemble (P 1, P 2, P 3, P 4). The tempo is marked as 76 beats per minute (♩ = 76). The key signature has one sharp (F#). The score is divided into two systems, each with two measures.

Vocal Soloist (Sop solo):

- Measure 1: Rest.
- Measure 2: New Mer - ce - des van Mer -

Soprano (S):

- Measure 1: New Mer - -
- Measure 2: ce - des

Alto (A):

- Measure 1: Mer-ce-des van Mer-ce-des
- Measure 2: van new Mer - ce - des

Tenor (T):

- Measure 1: Mer-ce-des van Mer-ce-des van
- Measure 2: Mer-ce-des van Mer-ce-des van

Bass (B):

- Measure 1: New new
- Measure 2: new new

Piano Ensemble (P 1, P 2, P 3, P 4):

- Measure 1: Rest.
- Measure 2: Rest.

44

Sop solo

S

A

T

B

P 1

P 2

P 3

P 4

ce - des van Mer - ce - des with with Jer - sey plates New Jer - sey

new new new Mer - ce - des with Jer - sey plates New Jer - sey

van new Mer - ce - des van Jer - sey Jer - sey

Mer - ce - des van Mer - ce - des van with Jer - sey plates

new new Jer - - - sey

P 1

P 2

P 3

P 4

46

Sop solo

stuffed with tour-ists scow-wow-wow-wow-wow-wow-wow-ow - ling at a

S

stuffed with tour - ists scow - wow - wow scow-ling at a

A

stuffed with tour-ists stuffed scow - ling scow-ling

T

8 New Jer - sey New Jer - sey scow - ow - ling scow-ow - ling

B

new new scow - - - - - ling

P 1

P 2

P 3

P 4

48

Sop solo

S

A

T

B

P 1

P 2

P 3

P 4

ooo

scow - ling at a ooo

scow - wow - ling scow - wow - wow - ling

scow - ling at a ooo a

scow - ling at a

scow - ling at a

scow - wow - ling scow - wow - ling

scow - wow - ling scow - ling at a

scow - - - ling

oh, scow - ling at a

[illegible]

[illegible]

$\text{♩} = 80$

54

Sop solo

S

A

T

B

P 1

P 2

P 3

P 4

tour - rists - ba do ba ba do ba do ba do ba - - - - scow - wow-wow-wow-ling at a *f*

do do do do do do do ba do scow - ling ooo

ba do ba ba do ba ba do ba ba do ba scow-wow-wow-ling *f* scow-wow-wow wow

ba ba ba ba ba ba ba ba scow-ling at a scow-wow-wow-wow-ling at a

do do do do do do do scow-ling at a scow - - - ling

57

Sop solo

con - i - fer con - i - fer oh damn!

S

con - i - fer *f* con - i - fer

A

con - i - fer con - i - fer

T

8 con - i - fer *f* con - i - fer

B

con - i - fer *f* con - i - fer

P 1

Damn! *ff* Damn, we got here too ear - ly!

P 2

Damn, *ff* we got here too ear - ly!

P 3

8 Damn! *ff* Damn, we got here too early!

P 4

Damn! *ff* Damn, we got here too ear - ly!