

Ludvig Norman
Jordens oro viker
Erdenhast muß weichen
Motette op. 50

Coro (SATB/SATB) a cappella

herausgegeben von/edited by
Eskil Hemberg

Partitur/Full score

 Carus 23.403

Foreword

Ludwig Norman, a Swedish composer and conductor (born 28.8.1831 in Stockholm, died there 28.3.1885), was one of the foremost figures in Swedish musical life during the second half of the 19th century. As Court Director of Music and a composer he contributed greatly to a re-orientation of the repertoire, both at the opera and in concerts. Outstanding among his compositions are, above all, his 3rd Symphony, art songs and chamber music, as important expressions of his personal brand of "Leipzig romanticism."

After studying in Stockholm, under teachers including Adolf Fredrik Lindblad, Norman completed his training between 1848 and 1852 at the Leipzig Conservatory; there his instructors included J. Rietz in composition, M. Hauptmann in counterpoint, and I. Moscheles in piano playing. Norman returned to Stockholm, where he worked initially as a piano teacher. In 1854 he made his debut as a composer. At the same time he wrote music reviews and articles for the *Ny tidning för musik* (New journal for music) and the *Tidning för teater och musik* (Journal for theatre and music); his writings published in the latter included a series of articles on Franz Berwald's chamber music.

In 1857 Norman became a member of the Royal Academy of Music, and during the next year he was appointed teacher of composition and instrumentation at the Stockholm Conservatory, where he founded a student orchestra. In 1861 he succeeded I. Lachner as Court Director of Music, and in 1865 he conducted the first Stockholm performance of Wagner's *Rienzi*. In 1864 he married the violinist Wilhelmina Neruda, with whom he founded a concert agency which for two years presented chamber music performances.

From 1872 until 1874 Norman strove at the Academy of Music to promote Swedish operas and symphonic works, including Hallström's *Vikingarna* (The Vikings), Ölander's *Blenda*, Byström's Symphony in D minor and Franz Berwald's Symphony in E flat. On the initiative of Vilhelm Svedbom he founded the Music Association, a new choral body, which together with the Royal Court Orchestra performed, among other things, works by G. F. Handel and J. S. Bach.

The style of Norman's youthful works, inspired by the Viennese classics, changed radically after his student years in Leipzig, where he was influenced by the romantic taste in music which was predominant there. This was reflected both in the choice of scoring and in the fashioning of his music. The piano music of that period consists principally of single-movement pieces, while the chamber music arouses reminiscences of Robert Schumann and Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy.

The original manuscript of the motet *Jordens oro viker* op. 50 (The world's unrest subsides) appears to have been lost; it is not to be found in the Norman collection at the Statens Musikbibliotek in Stockholm. This work, written for "two choirs a cappella," was probably completed in

1879, six years before the composer's death, and it was dedicated to the chorus of the Royal Theatre. The words are by the 19th-century Swedish bishop and author Johan Olof Wallin: "The world's unrest subsides / Peace is come to pass / All is one in the grave / Heaven reconciles all."

Norman's compositional style in this double-choir motet is quite clearly modelled on Mendelssohn's sacred works for double choir, e.g., *Ehre sei Gott in der Höhe* and Psalm 43 *Richte mich, Gott*. Even the tempo indications, with the addition "ma non troppo lento!," point in this direction.

It can be assumed, for good reasons, that the work was sung by the Stockholm Music Society, which was co-founded by Norman and of which he was a member. Today this group still plays a role in the musical life of Stockholm, although it is now a chamber music and choral music society. It awards a prize annually to an outstanding composer of choral works.

Norman also wrote other choral works, e.g., nine cantatas with orchestra, seven songs for mixed-voice choir op. 15 (1851), songs for male voices op. 23 (undated), and five songs for mixed-voice choir op. 66 (1884–1885).

Nacka, Sweden, summer 1999

Eskil Hemberg

Translation: John Coombs

This work has been recorded on Carus CD 83.147 by the Junge Vokalensemble Hannover, conducted by Klaus-Jürgen Etzold.

For those interested in other works in our Scandinavian choral music series, a "Music from Scandinavia 2000" brochure may be obtained from Carus.

Jordens oro viker

Motett, op. 50

Ludvig Norman
1831–1885

Aufführungsdauer/ Duration: ca. 5 min.

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p **mf** > **f**

Him - len allt, him - len allt, allt - för - kla - rar, allt - för -
Him - mel al - les, Him - mel al - les, al - les er - klä - ren, al - - - för - les

p **mf** > **f**

Him - len allt, him - len allt, allt - för - kla - rar, allt - för -
Him - mel al - les, Him - mel al - les, al - les er - klä - ren, al - - - för - er -

p **mf** > **f**

Him - len allt, him - len allt, allt - för - kla - rar, allt - för -
Him - mel al - les, Him - mel al - les, al - les er - klä - ren, al - - - för - er -

p **mf** > **f**

Him - len allt, him - len allt, allt - för - kla - rar, allt - för -
Him - mel al - les, Him - mel al - les, al - les er - klä - ren, al - - - för - es

p **mf** > **f**

Him - len allt, him - len allt, allt - för - kla - rar, för - kla - rar.
Him - mel dann, him - mel al - - för - kla - rar, för - kla - rar.

p **mf** > **f**

Him - len allt, him - len allt - för - kla - rar, för - kla - rar.
Him - mel dann, him - mel al - - les - klä - ren, er - klä - ren.

p **mf** > **f**

Him - len allt, him - len allt - för - kla - rar, för - kla - rar.
Him - mel dann, him - mel al - - les - klä - ren, er - klä - ren.

mf

li - ker, Him - len allt - för - kla - rar, allt - för -
glei - chen, Him - mel al - les - klä - ren, al - - - för - les

mf

cresc.

51

va - rar, för den frid som va - rar. Him - len allt,
wäh - ren, daß nun Fried mag wäh - ren. Him - mel al - les,

va - rar, för den frid som va - rar. Him - len allt,
wäh - ren, daß nun Fried mag wäh - ren. Him - mel al - les,

va - rar, för den frid som va - rar. Graf - ven allt,
wäh - ren, daß nun Fried mag wäh - ren. Grab wird al - les,

va - rar, för den frid som va - rar. Graf - ven allt,
wäh - ren, daß nun Fried mag wäh - ren. Grab wird al - le

va - rar, för den frid som va - rar. Him - len allt,
wäh - ren, daß nun Fried mag wäh - ren. Him - mel al - les,

va - rar, för den frid som va - rar. Him - len allt,
wäh - ren, daß nun Fried mag wäh - ren. Him - mel al - les,

- ker för den frid som va - rar. Graf - ven allt,
- chen, daß nun Fried mag wäh - ren. Grab wird al - les,

p p pp f> pp

