

## SOLSTICE

come sit in the dark with me  
and look at that moon that  
is so at home in the night  
let us reach deep into the  
pockets of our souls for  
scraps of hope and wonder

come gaze at the firefly stars  
sing softly into this silent night  
oh that we had a ladder to make  
a constellation of ourselves  
a consolation of ourselves  
come sit in the dark with me

*Milton Brasher-Cunningham*

What is a winter piece in times of a pandemic? And what is a season of connection when we can't connect? After receiving this commission from VOCES8, I reached out to my friend, Milton Brasher-Cunningham, whose poetry and writings and theology have resonated in my soul for more than two decades. I needed his words on the project. This bespoke text starts with a lonely invitation to 'come sit in the dark with me', yet the phrases that follow are, like watching friends come into the frame, filled with warmth and aspiration. I sincerely hope you and I, weary from the journey, will find each other there.

*Taylor Scott Davis, October 2020*

*Commissioned by VOCES8 for their LIVE from London – Christmas 2020 festival,  
and first performed by them at the VOCES8 Centre, London, on 5th December, 2020  
and live-streamed globally as part of a set of six new works.*

Duration: 3'00"

Dedicated to my father, Vincent Almond, who instilled in me a sense of wonder at the universe and infused me with a passion for great music.

# Solstice

Milton Brasher-Cunningham

Taylor Scott Davis

$\text{♩} = 50$   
*p rubato*

Soprano 1  
Come sit, come sit in the dark with

Soprano 2  
Come sit come sit in the dark with

Alto 1  
*p* in the dark with

Alto 2  
*p* in the dark with

Tenor 1  
*p* in the dark with

Tenor 2  
*p* in the dark with

Baritone  
*mp* in the dark with

Bass  
*mp* in the dark with

5  
rit. *pp*  $\text{♩} = 66$  *mp*

S  
me, moon so at

S  
me, moon so at

A  
*p* me and look at that moon, look at that moon, at that moon at

A  
*p* me and look at that moon, look at that moon, at that moon so at

T  
*p* me and look at that moon, look at that moon so at

T  
*p* me and look at that moon, look at that moon so at

B  
*p* me and look at that moon, look at that moon so at

B  
*p* me and look at that moon, look at that moon so at