

Simon Biazeck

# The Oxen

for S.A.T.B. & Organ

*Quire* EDITIONS

# THE OXEN

Carol-Anthem for SATB and Organ

Text  
THOMAS HARDY  
(1915)\*

Music  
SIMON BIAZECK  
(2003)

Measured ♩ = 62

SOPRANO  
ALTO

TENOR  
BASS

ORGAN

*mp*

Christ - mas Eve,

Measured ♩ = 62

*mp*

*poco dim.*

*p*

Ped.

6

*più forte*

— and twelve of the clock. — 'Now — they are all — on their knees,'

11

An el-der said as we sat in a flock — By the em-bers in hearth-side

\* Published in The Times on Christmas Eve, 1915.

16 *poco* *S. & A. mf (dolce)*

ease. We pic-tured the

*mp*

21

meek mild crea - tures where They dwelt in their straw - y pen;

27

Nor did it oc - cur to one of us there To

Nor did it oc - cur to one of us there To

*poco rubato*

SOP.

TEN.

32

doubt they were kneel-ing then. So fair a

doubt they were kneel-ing then. So

*mp espress.*

*mp espress.*

Solo

37

fan - cy few would weave In these\_ years! Yet, I feel, If

fair a fan - cy few would weave In these\_ years! Yet, I feel, If

**A tempo**  
*f (ma dolce)*

*cresc.*

*rit.*

*f (ma dolce)*

*rit.*

**A tempo**

*cresc.*

*f*

40

some-one said on Christ-mas Eve, 'Come; see the o - xen

some-one said On Christ-mas Eve, 'Come; see the

44

*mf* kneel In the lone-ly bar - ton by yon - der coomb.

o - xen kneel In the lone - ly bar - ton by yon - der

*mf*

2:3

49

*p* Our child - hood used to know,\'

coomb Our child - hood used to know,\'

(starry)

*p*

*p*

53 *sost.* *rit.*  
 I should go with him in the gloom,  
 I should go with him in the gloom,

55 *As at the start*  
 Ho - ping it might be so.  
 Ho - ping it might be so.

*As at the start*  
*p*

58 *molto rall.*  
*pp*