

“Carol of the (New Zealand) Birds”

words and music by Philip Norman

An extract from 'Wenceslas' (1992) a cantata for choir and orchestra by Philip Norman, commissioned by the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra, setting the words of the traditional Czech carol, 'Carol of the Birds'.

First performed in the New Zealand version by The Cathedral Grammar School Choir at the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra's 2005 Christmas Proms.

$\text{♩} = \text{c. } 76$

The musical score is written for a piano and voice. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part is in 6/8 time and features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some rests. The vocal line is in a soprano or alto range and includes lyrics in both traditional Czech and New Zealand English. Dynamics include *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *p* (piano). The key signature has four flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat, D-flat).

mf *p*

5 *mf* *p*

trad words: A - cross the Pa - ci - fic a god - wit flies, Kua - ke, Kua-ke, kua - ke, kua-ke, —
From out of a wood did a cuck - oo fly, Cuck - oo, Cuck-oo, Cuck - oo, Cuck-oo He

mf *p*

10 *mf* *p* *mf*

Carr - y - ing news to the south ern skies, Kua ke, kua ke, kua ke, kua ke In
came to a man - ger with joy - ful cry, Cuck - oo, cuck-oo, cuck - oo, cuck-oo, He

mf *p*