

SKALLAKAN, Meyn
SBMP 1803

Two-Part
piano



Words and Music by
Till Meyn



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About the composer

Till Meyn is Professor of Theory and Composition at Texas Christian University. He earned degrees from U.C. San Diego, Indiana University, and USC's Thornton School of Music. Till's music has had international performances in Sweden, Switzerland, France, Italy, Cuba, China, Spain, Ukraine, and Slovenia. Performances of his music in the United States include those at Carnegie Hall, Bass Performance Hall, Clarinet Fest, the Biennial Saxophone Congress, The Florida State University Festival of New Music, the Society for Composers, Inc. National and Regional Conventions, National Flute Association Conventions, the College Music Society National Convention, at the Manhattan School of Music, and at the Intercollegiate Men's Choruses National Seminar at Harvard, among others. Till is often commissioned to compose new works, including one to open the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra's 2019 – 2020 season. His recent choral commission *Oculi in Astra* was premiered by the Singing Girls of Texas in Stockholm, Sweden in 2024. He has been a featured composer at the Cliburn at the Modern series, a finalist in the NFA Newly Published Music Competition for 'Urban Ragas,' and earned first prize in the NACUSA Texas Composition Contest for 'Celestial Mechanics.' Till's music is published by Alliance Music Publications, ALRY Publications, C. Alan Publications, ECS Publishing, GIA Publications, Santa Barbara Music Publishing, Walton Music, and self-published by Muse Worthy Music. Website: tillmeyn.com.



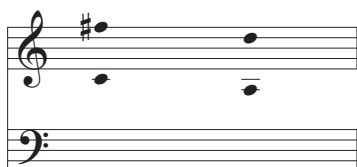
Program Notes

Skallakan was composed for the HEB Elementary Honor Choir directed by Linda Ford. The seafaring song tells the tale of a ship carrying treasure and its brave crew. The vessel is overcome by a furious storm, out of which emerges a terrible sea monster. Yo-ho! Come with us on this adventure to find out what happens!

Performance Notes

- Part 1 occasionally divides, but Part 2 does not.
- The optional shakers and/or rain sticks are only used at the opening, singers can put them down when finished, if they will be reading from the score.
- The text declamation at measure 155 is designed to be in the style of a rap.
- The importance of the dynamics cannot be overstated, as they drive the emotional content of the music.

Ranges



Part 1

Part 2



recording and rehearsal tracks
available at sbmp.com

Commissioned by the HEB Elementary Honor Choir,
Hurst-Euless-Bedford, TX, under the direction of Linda Ford

Skallakan

Till Meyn

With excitement ♩. = 112

optional shakers and/or
rain sticks for some singers

The musical score is arranged in three systems. The first system includes Part 1 and Part 2 staves at the top, with a piano accompaniment below. Part 1 and 2 have a wavy line indicating shakers or rain sticks. The piano part starts with a forte (f) dynamic and moves to mezzo-piano (mp). The second system begins at measure 5, with a 'Ped. ad lib.' instruction. It features a mezzo-piano (mp) vocal line and piano accompaniment with mezzo-forte (mf) and mezzo-piano (mp) dynamics. The third system begins at measure 9, with a mezzo-forte (mf) vocal line and piano accompaniment with mezzo-piano (mp) dynamics. A large 'PREVIEW' watermark is overlaid diagonally across the piano accompaniment staves.

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1803-3

18

Musical score for measures 18-21. The system includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part features a dynamic marking of *mp* (mezzo-piano) and a hairpin crescendo. The vocal line has a wavy line above it in measure 18, indicating a tremolo or a specific vocal effect.

22

Tutti, unis.

f

Musical score for measures 22-25. The system includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part features a dynamic marking of *f* (forte). The vocal line has the lyrics: "Oh, hear me friends, the sto - ry's told, —".

26

Musical score for measures 26-29. The system includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part features a dynamic marking of *mf* (mezzo-forte). The vocal line has the lyrics: "of a ship so brave and a crew so bold, —".

30

Musical score for measures 30-33. The system includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part features dynamic markings of *f* (forte) and *mf* (mezzo-forte). The vocal line has the lyrics: "who sailed the seas through wind and wave, —".

34 *mf* hushed

with a car - go of gold and their souls to

f *mf*

38 save.

mf *mp*

42

46 *f*

1 They

2 They weighed the an - chor in old Dun-dee,

f *mf*

8va

Leg. *

49

weighed the an-chor in old Dun-dee, _____ and they
 _____ and they raised the top-sail at Ab - er-deen. _____

Ped. * *Ped.* *

53

raised the top-sail at Ab - er-deen. _____ On o - pen wa-ter they
 _____ On o - pen wa-ter the gal-lants they flew. _____

Ped. * *Ped.* *

57

flew, _____ their spir-its un shak - a-ble, bear - ing
 _____ their spir - its un-shak - a-ble, bear - ing

Ped. * *f*

62

true. Sing-ing way, ho,
true. Sing-ing way, ho,

mf *f*

Red. ad lib.

66

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PREVIEW

70

raise, ho, raise the Miz-zen,
raise, ho, raise the Miz-zen,

mf *f*

74 **rit.**

o - ver the seas we go.

o - ver the seas we go, ho, ho, ho.

Ped. *

77 **mf**

One

One

Ped. * Ped. * Ped. * Ped. *

81 **Hushed but with energy** $\text{♩} = 88$

foul and fu - ri - ous night they faced, they faced a

foul and fu - ri - ous night they faced a

mf

Ped. * Ped. * Ped. *

84

mon - ster des-tined to lay them to waste;

mon - ster des-tined to lay them to waste;

Ped. * *Ped.* * *Ped.* * *Ped.* *

88

f Skal - la - kan *mp echo* (al - la - kan) *mf* vowed to drag them down in - to the

mf echo (al - la - kan) *mf* vowed to drag them down in - to the

Ped. * *Ped.* * *Ped.* *

91

deep, and steal the treas-ure,

deep, and steal the treas-ure,

Ped. * *Ped.* * *Ped.* *

94 *mp* *p*

their shad - ow - y souls to keep.

mp *p*

their shad - ow - y souls to keep.

mp

Lea. * Lea. * Lea. * Lea. * Lea. * Lea. * Lea. *

98 **Brief reminiscence, subito** ♩. = 112

mf *mp*

p *mp*

Lea. *ad lib.*

102 **rit.**

Powerfully, with full voice ♩. = 88

106

f

The light - ning flared and

f

The light - ning flared and

mf *sub. f* 7

Lea. *

109

thun - der crashed, _____ in the rag - ing tem - pest the ves - sel did

thun - der crashed, _____ in the rag - ing tem - pest the ves - sel did

Lea. * Lea. * Lea. * Lea. * Lea. * Lea. *

113

thrash. *mf* A - midst _____ the

thrash. *mf* A - midst _____ the cha - os _____

mf

Lea. * Lea. * Lea. * Lea. * Lea. * Lea. *

117

cha - os the crea - ture a - rose,

the crea - ture a - rose,

Leo * *Leo* * *Leo* * *Leo* *

121

with swords for

with swords for

f

f

Leo * *Leo* * *Leo* *

124

teeth and ter - ri - ble

teeth and ter - ri - ble

Leo * *Leo* *

126

eyes that froze.

eyes that froze.

130

ff Crash - ing waves and roars did col - lide,

ff Crash - ing waves and roars did col - lide,

134

their spir - its fal - tered, un - moored by the

their spir - its fal - tered, un - moored by the

137

tide. Yet they rose with val - our, full hearts a -

ped. * *ped.* *

141

blaze, fight - ing the storm and its

ped. * *ped.* * *ped.* * *ped.* * *ped.* *

145

Faster, with steady beat ♩ = 112

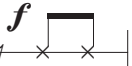
mon - strous maze.

f

rit. *

151

soloist (or small group) declaim the text at a microphone with the given rhythm

f 
 Oh the

snap or clap; precisely together and not too loud

1 *mf* 

stomp with left foot; precisely together and not too heavy

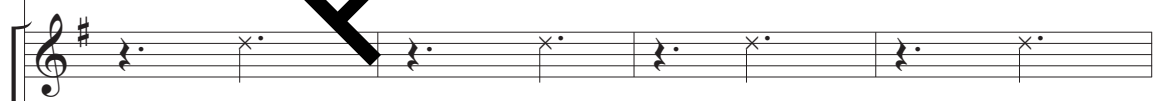
2 *mf* 



155

winds did howl and the waves did roar, as the ship sailed in - to the



1 *mf* 

2 *mf* 



PREVIEW

159

mf echo *mp* echo *f*

thick of the blus-ter-y core. Skal-la-kan (al-la-kan) (al-la-kan) bared his

163

bris-tles and spin-nik-y es, gnash-ing his teeth and flash-ing his fu-ri-ous

Tutti

mf

Skal - la - kan _____ Skal - la - kan _____

167

tails. But the

Skal - la - kan _____ Skal - la - kan _____

Tutti
mf Skal-la-kan, _____

171

crew, they fought and they bat-tled with all their might, through the

Skal - la - kan _____ Skal - la -

Skal - la - kan, _____ Skal - la - kan, _____

Left Foot Right Foot

174

thun - der and light - ning they held the fan - tas - ti - cal fight. The

kan _____ Skal - la - kan _____

Skal - la - kan, _____ Skal - la - kan, _____ Skal - la - kan, _____

177

Suddenly slower $\text{♩} = 88$

sail - ors u - nit - ed, the hid - e - ous mon - ster fell,

Skal - la - kan _____

the hid - e - ous mon - ster fell.

f *f*

Leg. *Vivio* *

181 *ff*

1 their for - tune de - fend - ed, the stag - ger - ing

2 *ff*
their for - tune de - fend - ed, the stag - ger - ing

Lead. * Lead. * Lead. *

185 *With excitement* = 112

sto - ry to tell.

sto - ry to tell.

f

Lead. *ad lib.*

189

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193

Sing-ing way, ho, fair weath-er, ___

Sing-ing way, ho, fair weath-er, ___

197

give us a strong and stead - y blow, ___

give us a strong and stead - y blow, ___

PREVIEW

200

raise, ho, raise the Miz - zen, ___

raise, ho, raise the Miz - zen, ___

204

o - ver the seas, bear - ing true,

o - ver the seas, bear - ing true,

208

ven - tur - ing on we go!

ven - tur - ing on we go!

ff

ff

ff

211

Ho!

Ho!

f

ff

Skallakan

Oh, hear me friends, the story's told,
Of a ship so brave, and a crew so bold,
Who sailed the seas, through wind and wave,
With a cargo of gold and their souls to save.

They weighed the anchor in Old Dundee,
And they raised the topsail at Aberdeen.
On open water the gallants they flew,
Their spirits unshakable, bearing true.

Singing way ho, fair weather,
give us a strong and steady blow,
Raise, ho, raise the Mizzen,
Over the seas we go (ho, ho, ho . . .)

One foul and furious night they faced
A monster destined to lay them to waste;
Skallakan (allakan, allakan . . .) vowed to drag them down into the deep,
And steal the treasure, their shadowy souls to keep.

The lightning flared and thunder crashed,
In the raging tempest the vessel did thrash.
Amidst the chaos the creature arose,
With swords for teeth and terrible eyes that froze.

Crashing waves and roars did collide,
Their spirits faltered, unmoored by the tide.
Yet they rose with valor, full hearts ablaze,
Fighting the storm and its monstrous maze.

Oh, the winds did howl and the waves did roar,
As the ship sailed into the thick of the blustery core.
Skallakan (allakan, allakan . . .) bared his bristles and spinniky scales,
Gnashing his teeth and flashing his furious tails.

But the crew, they fought and they battled, with all their might,
Through the thunder and lightning, they held the fanatastical fight.
The sailors united, the hideous monster fell,
Their fortune defended, the staggering story to tell.

Singing weigh (way) ho, fair weather,
give us a strong and steady blow,
Raise, ho, raise the Mizzen,
Over the seas, bearing true, venturing on we go—Ho!