916-2

This Is the Day

A text from the Bahá'í Scriptures



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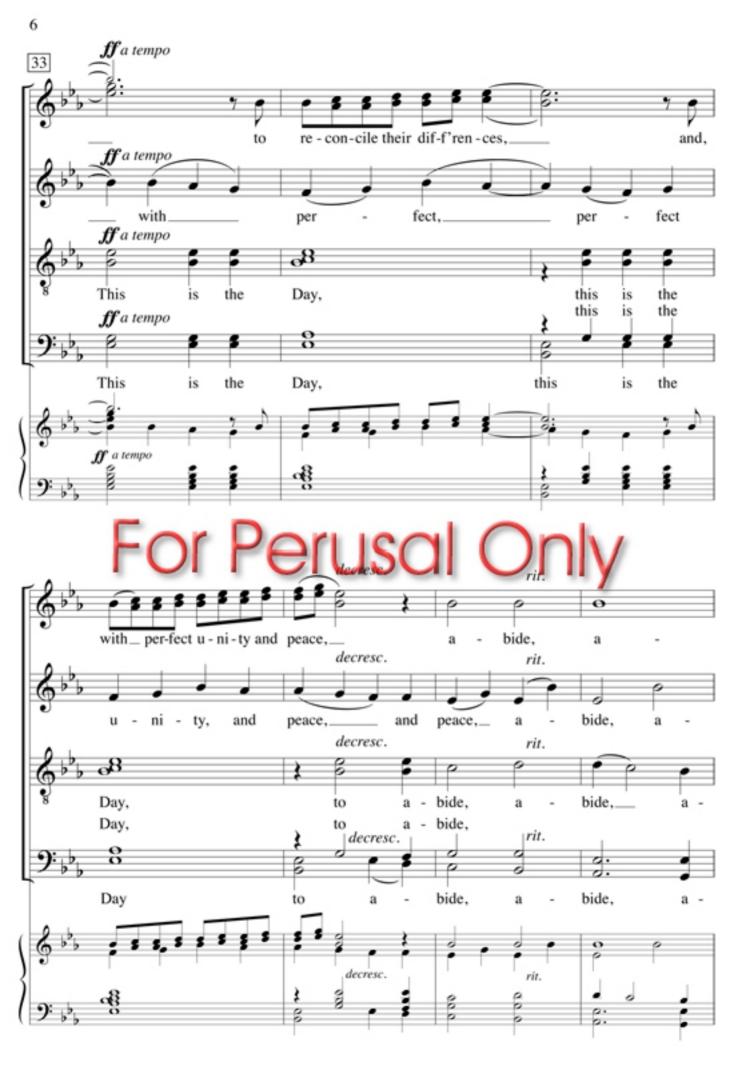
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About the composer

Stanford E. Schien, b. 1988, trew up in Beaverton Oregon and is now entering his junior year at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota, where he is pursuing a Bachelor of Music degree in both Vocal Performance and Music Education. He is an avid composer as well as performer, and currently sings in the St. Olaf Choir. Stanford was the 2008-2009 recipient of the Minnesota Music Educators Association Collegiate Composer of the Year Award.

Note from the composer

The inspiration for *This is the Day* originated with a friend of mine, Khashiar Shahbazi, who with great excitement shared this passage he had read as part of his daily devotional. I was instantly touched by the sheer magnitude and power of the message, as well as its elegance and grace. This piece is my best musical translation of that sensation.

The first part of the piece (mm. 1-33) was composed with a sense of awe at God's power, and should be sung accordingly. The latter part of the piece is meant to give a sense of peaceful rest to the singer and listener, with an air of intimacy in mm. 40-46.

This is the Day in which God's most excellent favors have been poured out upon men, the Day in which His most mighty grace hath been infused into all created things. It is incumbent upon all the peoples of the world to reconcile their differences, and, with perfect unity and peace, abide beneath the shadow of the Tree of His care and loving-kindness.

From Gleanings from the Writings of Bahá'u'lláh, a scripture of the Bahá'í faith

Listen to a recording at www.sbmp.com

performed by Magnum Chorum at Nativity Catholic Church, St. Paul, MN. Christopher Aspaas, conductor



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