

Programme notes - One Collective Breath // Sameiginlegur andadráttur

Lost-æti

Lost-æti is the first song to be rehearsed by the choir in the performance work "One Collective Breath". Written using bragfræði, a traditional Icelandic poem structure, it is a song that describes loss, emptiness and existential crisis that results from the discovery that the last slice of cake has disappeared – arguably the worst thing that could happen during a break at choir rehearsal!

The audience is provided with the lyrics in a mystery language: "Ístraliansku" (Icelandic spoken using Australian phonetics) and the meaning of the lyrics becomes apparent as the song is rehearsed - receiving assistance from conductor and ensemble help with pronunciation of the words. After the choir has learnt the song, the music is then distributed in Icelandic, allowing a deeper understanding of the text.

<u>Íslensku</u>	<u>Ístraliansku</u> <i>(Icelandic using Australian phonetics)</i>	<u>English translation</u>
<u>Lost-æti</u>	<u>Lost-eye-tee</u>	<u>Delicacy // Lost-food // Desserted</u>
Einsemd hylur hjarta mitt, Heimurinn er bragðlaus. Lyktin gerði lífið nýtt, Löngunin er marklaus. Farin, síðasta kökusneiðin	Ainsemd herelerh hyaartar mitt, Heymerinn air braagthloise Licktin gairthi leefith knit Lergoonin air markloise Farinn, seethasta kyerrcoosnaythin	Loneliness covers my heart, The world is tasteless. The aroma made life anew, Desire is meaningless. Gone, the last slice of cake

Sameiginlegur andadráttur

Sameiginlegur andadráttur is the second song written for One Collective Breath. Utilising four-part SATB, the song is a short refrain that is looped and is the foundation for an expanding composition. The choral part remains constant, and as the choir moves through space, additional instruments become visible and join the arrangement, the structure developing around the choral refrain.

The text reflects a nostalgia for a time past and situates each audience member in the present. The ambiguity of the text allows for audience members to engage in their own experiences to find meaning while being in it and listening to it at the same time.

<u>Íslensku</u>	<u>Ístraliansku</u>	<u>English Translation</u>
<u>Sameiginlegur andadráttur</u>	Sarmayginlaygher arndardrowrtur	<u>Shared Breathing //</u> <u>One common/collective breath</u>
Og allt verður eins og það var þá	Orh arlt verther aynes orh thath var thow	And everything will be as it was then