Spirit of Africa
Liz Lane

A twelve minute choral work for
Soprano Soloist
SATB Choir
Piano
Three Percussionists (optional)
also available for chamber orchestra

“Spirit of Africa is beautifully written for the chorus and soprano soloist, with lovely textures and atmospheric sonorities from the ensemble of piano and percussion. This work deserves to be widely performed by choral societies up and down the country.”
Richard Blackford – Composer and Conductor

“Liz Lane's Spirit of Africa is a haunting and lovely work, full of simple but effective harmonic shifts and lively rhythms – ideal for the amateur chorus looking for something brand new and approachable to present as a 'pendant' to a bigger work.”
Gavin Carr – Chorus Master, Bournemouth Symphony Chorus

“A wonderful piece of music to feed the soul and lift the heart.”
Bournemouth Symphony Chorus Member

www.lizlane.co.uk
**Spirit of Africa**, for soprano soloist, SATB choir, piano and three optional percussionists, was commissioned by the Cheltenham Festival in 2012 and première by the Bournemouth Symphony Chorus, Maureen Brathwaite, BackBeat Percussion, conductor Gavin Carr, at the Cheltenham Town Hall on 12 July 2012.

Originally composed as a companion piece to David Fanshawe’s *African Sanctus*, *Spirit of Africa* is inspired by the colours and symbolic meanings of the flags of Egypt, Sudan, Uganda and Kenya, the countries visited by David during his travels recording music for *African Sanctus* in 1969-1973. The words and music of the five movements trace a journey through the day, with the colour white for daybreak mist, green for morning freshness, red for midday heat, gold for sunset and black for night; each with its own mood and character, hopes and fears.

*Spirit of Africa*, with words especially written by Jennifer Henderson, can be learnt and performed with minimal rehearsal time. The atmosphere is often reflective and thoughtful, emulating the haze and beauty of the African landscape; lyrical melodies and rich harmonies are paramount whilst a rhythmic background is never far from the surface. With its universal subject matter and immediate appeal, this twelve minute work would compliment any concert programme.