# Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy 

## AN ANTHEM

for a Mezzo-Soprano Solo, with Chorus and accompaniment for the organ or piano forte

MWV B 33

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№ 1.









* Adaptions in favor of English edition (1841) and German version of later op. 96, see last page.
№ 2. Choral






 lest the scor-ner hear my wail-ing, and he_tri-umph in may woe.

A


B


 glad to singthy hal-low'dpraises, aye_re-joic-ing_ inthy love,


















The Anthem MWV B 33 was commissioned by Dr. Charles Bayles Broadley (1800-1866), Deputy Queen's professor of civil law at Trinity College, Cambridge, who asked Mendelssohn for a setting of one of his own metrical Psalm paraphrases (for 20 guineas). Broadley also studied composition under Mendelssohn's friend Ignaz Moscheles, who lived at that time in London and acted as an intermediary. His son Felix described Broadley as "ein excentrischer, reicher Musikliebhaber, der selbst unglückliche Compositionsversuche machte".

Mendelssohn accepted the commission in September 1840 at his 6th visit to England. He could choose between versions of Psalm 13, 100 or 126; Broadly described the first as "suitable for a solo Anthem", the other two as "for a Full or Choral Anthem".

In December Mendelssohn selected Psalm 13 ("Why, O Lord, delay for ever"), sent the finished work to Moscheles on 20 December 1840 and wrote:
"You will receive with this letter my Psalm for Broadley (isn't it his name), and a letter to him. ...
If he can give me the date of publication in England, maybe I'd issue it here on the same day in German words too, I wrote to him. ...
I do not know if I preserved the tone of the English Anthem, but I made an effort and worked with more pleasure in the matter, as I had previously thought. ... "

As planned, the English version appeared at Cramer \& Co. in London 1841 at the same time as the German version at Simrock in Bonn with the titles:
"An Anthem for a Mezzo-Soprano Solo, with Chorus and accompaniment for the organ or piano forte" and „Drei geistliche Lieder für Solo, Chor und Orgel", respectively. The German title could give the false impression of a certain independence of the songs.

In October 1842 Moscheles wrote again on behalf of Broadley to Mendelssohn concering the Anthem:
"Mr. Broadley authorised me to ask you to orchestrate the Psalm that you wrote for him and to send him the MS score, for which he is asking you to accept 10 guineas."

Once again Mendelssohn accepted and was able to write on 16 January 1843:
"Enclosed you will receive a score for Mr Broadley. I have added him a extra fugue, and think this is now the best part of the whole. ... "
This orchestral version was printed finally five years after the composer's death as a "hymn" op. 96 (Simrock, Bonn 1852, now labeled MWV A 19).

Mendelssohn died at the age of 38 .

[^0]№ 1 measure 53: quater note, 61: higher E flat,
№ 2 measure 20: quater note, 29: quater note, 30: B flat instead of E flat, 32: higher F
№ 3 measure 21: A instead of A flat, 26: quater notes, 28: text assignment
For ease of readability in limited space slurs were left out in the vocals, if the notes are already connected by beams, for example:

instead of:



[^0]:    Essentially this edition follows the Print by Breitkopf \& Härtel, Leipzig 1874-82, Plate M.B. 102.
    For the English version the first edition of Cramer \& Co., London 184 was used, for comparison purposes the print of the orchestrated version, Op. 96, Breitkopf \& Härtel, Leipzig 1875, Plate M.B. 95.
    Deviations in favor of the English version and the German orchestrated version are marked with * at the following locations:

