

## No More Shakespeare Songs? (2000)

**Ensemble :: Kokoonpano** SSATBB  
**Duration :: Kesto** 2 min  
**Publisher :: Kustantaja** Sulasol S621  
**Text :: Teksti** William Shakespeare EN  
**Commissioned by :: Tilaaja** Kampin Laulu Chamber Choir  
**Premiere :: Kantaesitys** Kampin Laulu / Timo Lehtovaara  
Helsinki, Finland xi.2000

As the Kampin Laulu Chamber Choir was coming up to its 10th anniversary in 2000, its founder and conductor Timo Lehtovaara approached me to write one of ten commissioned pieces for the anniversary concert. He half-jokingly suggested the title **No More Shakespeare Songs** to follow up my **Four Shakespeare Songs** and **More Shakespeare Songs**. I took up the idea, although I took the liberty of appending a question mark – I may well one day write *Even More Shakespeare Songs...*

The text is Puck's epilogue from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The music sounds maddeningly simple (although it contains some fairly complex harmonies), and the piece simply consists of racing through the text at a breakneck speed. And then again a semitone higher and faster. And then **again** a semitone higher and even faster. Despite its brevity, the piece manages to incorporate influences from a number of sources, for instance Jukka Linkola and Gilbert & Sullivan.

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Kampin Laulun lähestyessä 10-vuotisjuhlaansa v. 2000 sen perustaja ja johtaja Timo Lehtovaara tilasi minulta yhden kymmenestä juhlakonsertissa kantaesitettävästä teoksesta. Hän ehdotti puoliksi vitsinä teoksen nimeksi **No More Shakespeare Songs**, olinhan aiemmin kirjoittanut teokset **Four Shakespeare Songs** ja **More Shakespeare Songs**. Otin vihjeestä vaarin, mutta laitoin varmuuden vuoksi kysymysmerkin nimen perään – eihän sitä tiedä vaikka tässä vielä syntyisi *Even More Shakespeare Songs...*

Tekstinä on Puckin epilogi näytelmästä *Kesäyön unelma*. Musiikki on raivostuttavan simppelein kuuloista (vaikka sen harmoniat ovatkin aika mutkikkaita), ja koko kappale koostuu siitä, että teksti roiskitaan läpi pikavauhtia. Ja sitten puoli sävelaskelta korkeampaa ja nopeammin. Ja sitten **vielä** puoli sävelaskelta korkeampaa ja vielä nopeammin. Lyhydestään huolimatta kappale sisältää vaikutteita lukuisista eri lähteistä, joista mainittakoon Jukka Linkola ja Gilbert & Sullivan.

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*Tekstiä saa lainata käsiohjelmaa tai vastaavaa käyttöä varten kunhan lähde mainitaan.*

Duration: 2'

Commissioned for the 10th anniversary of Chamber Choir Kampin Laulu

## No More Shakespeare Songs?

William Shakespeare: A Midsummer Night's Dream, Epilogue

Jaakko Mäntyjärvi (2000)

**Almost as fast as possible** ♩ = 144

*mf* *f ma leggiero*

S1 I - - - - if we shad-ows have of - fend - ed, Think but this, and all is mend - ed, That you

S2 If - we shad-ows have of - fend - ed, Think but this, and all is mend - ed, That you

A I - - - - if we shad-ows have of - fend - ed, Think but this, and all is mend - ed, That you

T I - - - - if we shad-ows have of - fend - ed, Think but this, and all is mend - ed, That you

B1 If - we shad-ows have of - fend - ed, Think but this, and all is mend - ed, That you

B2 I - - - - if we shad-ows have of - fend - ed, Think but this, and all is mend - ed, That you

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have but slumb - er'd here While these vis - ions did ap - pear. If we shad - ows have of - fend - ed, Think but

have but slumb - er'd here While these vis - ions did ap - pear. If we shad - ows have of - fend - ed, Think but

8 have but slumb - er'd here While these vis - ions did ap - pear. If we shad - ows have of - fend - ed, Think but

have but slumb - er'd here While these vis - ions did ap - pear. If we shad - ows have of - fend - ed, Think but

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this, and all is mend - ed, That you have but slumb - er'd here While these vis - ions did ap - pear. And this

this, and all is mend - ed, That you have but slumb - er'd here While these vis - ions did ap - pear. And this

8 this, and all is mend - ed, That you have but slumb - er'd here While these vis - ions did ap - pear. And this

this, and all is mend - ed, That you have but slumb - er'd here While these vis - ions did ap - pear. And this