

I CAN'T THE **HMD.T**
SING! SATURDAY **music**
PERFORMING ARTS **PROGRAMME**
ENSURING A MUSICAL FUTURE

JUNIOR 2

Spring/Summer 2020

WE'LL MEET AGAIN

Commemorating VE Day

I'll Be Seeing You

Alasdair Middleton Libretto Matthew King Music

The Hackney Chronicles

Alasdair Middleton Libretto Jonathan Dove Music

Operation Dynamo

Stephen Plaice Libretto Matthew King Music

Hear Our Voice

Tertia Sefton-Green Libretto Jonathan Dove & Matthew King
Compiled from writings by children of the Holocaust Music

D-Day

Stephen Plaice Libretto Matthew King Music

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OPERATION DYNAMO

6. Come All Ye

Calling butchers and bakers and candlestick-makers,
Calling bankers and plumbers, bookies and runners,
Builders and roofers and chorus-line hoofers,
Sparks, clerks and parkies, whatever you lark is:

*If you can sail
Get down to the yard.*

Calling all bosses, adjusters of losses,
Calling cabinet makers and pale undertakers
Bus-drivers, conductors, PE instructors,
Parsons and masons and hospital matrons:

*If you have a boat,
Get down to the yard.*

Sloop, yacht and ferry, barge, skiff or wherry,
Shrimp, cockle, cruiser, we'll be able to use her.
Captains of steam-packets don your life-jackets,
Muster your sailors, fit out your whalers,

*Hurry to Ramsgate
To sign yourself on.*

Steeplejacks, jockies, writers of fair copies,
Dentists, apprentice, anyone compos mentis
There's jobs a plenty, bilges to empty,
Engines to oil, kettles to boil,

*All hands on deck
All present and correct.*

Leave your desks and your lobbies, park your traps and jalopies,
Pens down, shut up shop, tell the foreman to stop.
It's the great adventure, the British indenture,
The island's defences won't wait on excuses.

Steady on the tiller, this is the thriller,
The people's flotilla, the amateur armada,
Miss it, regret it,
You'll never forget it.
Be British, be early,
Provisioned, seaworthy,

*We're catching the first tide
To bring our men home!*

7. Dunkirk Calling

The dead don't sing: it's just imagination,
There's a signal down the wire from a bombed out station
Maybe it's the moon or is the pressure falling?
If you were there, then you know - it's Dunkirk calling.

*Take us off the mole, take us off the beaches,
We're not fodder for newsreel, nor the stuff of speeches.
We're tapping out a message from Dover round to Yarmouth,
Don't forget the dead men who didn't make the harbours*

*We're lying here in foxholes, waiting to be evacuated,
Twenty feet below the dunes the Stukkas devastated.*

S.O.S. S.O.S. S.O.S.
Save our Souls Save our Souls Save our Souls
Save our Souls (spoken x 5)

The dead don't sing: it's just imagination,
There's a signal down the wire from a bombed out station
Maybe it's the moon or is the pressure falling?
If you were there, then you know - it's Dunkirk calling.
It's Dunkirk calling
Dunkirk calling, calling.....

THE HACKNEY CHRONICLES

10. Blitz Scene

a. When It Starts

Junior 2/Seniors

When it starts
It starts quite quiet
An angry hive of distant bees
Then it starts
To growl the sky.
Howling planets
And barking stars

When they start to drop
The bombs
The sky falls down
In shrieking shards.
When it's loudest you're most quiet,
When it's loudest you're so small.

You think
You think about things
About things like
Like Rosy and Twinkle
Who are the loveliest rabbits in the world.
You think
Did I leave the oven on?
Did I lock the door?
Did I take the kettle off?
Should I have cleaned the floor?
You think, you think
Don't drop it on our house. Not this time. Not now.
Drop it on Number 57. She's a proper cow.
You think
I beat the carpets
Scrubbed the steps
Hung the curtains on the line
What a waste of time
You think, you think
How do bombs explode
How do planes fly?
You think anything but
Am I going to die?

Bombs bark.
In the dark
Through the night
Smashed houses fall
Underground
Safety.

b. Dear Daddy

Junior 2

CHILD 1 Dear Daddy
 Fighting in France.
 Today we looked up France on the map.
 I hope you are safe

CHILD 2 Dear Daddy
 Fighting in France
 Those skates that you made me to skate in
 Victoria Park
 Well, I'm too big
 For them now

CHILD 1 Dear Daddy
CHILD 2 Dear Daddy

CHILD 3 Dear Daddy
CHILD 4 Dear Daddy

CHILD 1 Fighting in France.
CHILD 2 Fighting in France.
CHILD 3 Fighting in France.
CHILD 4 Fighting in France.

CHILD 3 If I don't stop thinking about you
Then I know you are safe,

CHILD 4 I often dream about you at night.
You smile in my dreams.

CHILD 1 Dear Daddy
CHILD 2 Dear Daddy
CHILD 3 Dear Daddy
CHILD 4 Dear Daddy

c. In America

Junior 2/Seniors

CHILDREN In America,
My sister says,
All of the ladies are glamorous.
They all wear stockings
Not made of pencils and tea.
All day long
My sister says
They sit on red sofas eating
Eating, eating bananas.
Bananas
My sister says
I've eaten bananas
I remember
They're purple,
Magenta
Or gold.
Bananas
I don't remember
Bananas.
Where do they grow?
Where do they grow?]

d. Mothers

Seniors

A GROUP OF
MOTHERS
HOLDING THEIR
CHILDREN

I love it when he squeezes my hand so tight.
It makes me feel safe
Knowing he's safe
Because he is safe
When he's squeezing my hand tight

He could have gone off but it didn't feel right.
A load of strangers.
He's never liked farms,
Hope I did right.

They said bring his gas mask, some clothes, food for the train
And meet at the school.
His scared little face
I might never have seen him again.

CHILDREN

Bananas
My sister says
Is foreign
For lovely
For everything you've ever wanted
Bananas
After the war
We'll all eat
Bananas
My mum will wear stockings
Not made of pencils and tea.
All day long
We'll sit on red sofas
Eating bananas
Purple,
Magenta
And gold, And gold
And gold, And gold.

e. When It Stops

Seniors

When it stops the skies sigh
A silence, Immense as the sky
When it stops the ash falls
In silence immense as grief.
When it stops
The skies lie under your feet
You crunch the starts on the ground
Sparkling the glass that held them.

All around me
All I see
Smoking homes
Futility.
All around me
I have seen
Wreckage where
Our lives have been.
All around me
Past the fires
Tomorrow comes
Dawn desires.

f. This piece of wood

Junior 2/Seniors

This piece of wood
Black and charred
This heap of stones
Cold and hard.
This smoking pile
Dull and grey
This load of rags
You'd sweep away.

All this rubbish that you see
Used to be everything in the world to me
My chair, My house
My home, my past.

It will never be the same
But we can build it up again
My house, my home, my past are dead
We can build something new instead
Clear the ashes and somehow
Build ourselves the future now.

All around me
I can see
Everything that's going to be
I can see another me
Who I'm holding
By the hand.
All around me I can see
Everything that's going to be.

HEAR OUR VOICE

17. Towards an Unknown Port

ALL

Listen!

The boat whistle has sounded now

And we must sail

Out towards an unknown port.

We'll sail a long, long way

And dreams will turn to truth.

The wind sings songs of far away,

Just look up to heaven

And think about the violets.

Listen!

Now it's time.

I'LL BE SEEING YOU

18. Finale

ALL (groups singing different words)

JUNIOR 2

There'll be bluebirds over the white cliffs of Dover....

Bless 'em all, Bless 'em all.
The long and the short and the tall.

We're gonna hang out the washing on the Siegfried line,
Have you any dirty washing Mother dear?

Bless 'em all, Bless 'em all.
The long and the short and the tall.

Roll out the barrel
We'll have a barrel of fun.

We'll meet again, Don't know where, Don't know when,
But I know we'll meet again some sunny day.

Keep smiling through
Just like you always do
Till the blue skies drive the dark clouds far away.

We'll meet again, Don't know where
But I know we'll meet

There'll be love and laughter
And peace ever after.

There'll be love and laughter
And peace ever after.

And I know we'll meet again some sunny day.

Run, rabbit, run, rabbit run, run, run.
Run, rabbit, run, rabbit run, run, run.

And I know we'll meet again some sunny day.

While you are singing the words above, the other groups will be singing the words below:

SENIORS

There'll always be an England
While there's a country lane,
Wherever there's a cottage small
Beside a field of grain.

There'll always be an England
While there's a busy street;
Wherever there's a turning wheel
A million marching feet.

There'll always be an England
While there's a country lane,
Wherever there's a cottage small
Beside a field of grain.

There'll always be an England
While there's a busy street;
Wherever there's a turning wheel
A million marching feet.

Red, white and blue,
What does it mean to you?
Surely you're proud, shout it aloud,
Britons awake.
The Empire too, we can depend on you.
Freedom remains, these are the chains nothing can break.

There'll always be an England
And England shall be free
If England means as much to you as England means to me.

Red, white and blue,
What does it mean to you?
Surely you're proud, shout it aloud,
Britons awake.
The Empire too, we can depend on you.
Freedom remains, these are the chains nothing can break.

There'll always be an England
And England shall be free
If England means as much to you as England means to me.

There'll always be an England
And England shall be free
If England means as much to you as England means to me.

Red, white and blue,
What does it mean to you?
Surely you're proud, shout it aloud,
Britons awake.

Roll out the barrel

We're gonna hang out the washing on the Siegfried line!

Roll out the barrel
We're gonna hang out the washing on the Siegfried line,
On the Siegfried line!

Red, white and blue,
What does it mean to you?
Surely you're proud, shout it aloud,
Britons awake.

JUNIOR I

Run, rabbit, run, rabbit run, run, run.
Don't give the farmer his fun, fun, fun,
He'll get by without his rabbit pie.
So run rabbit, run, rabbit, run, run, run.

Bless 'em all, Bless 'em all.
The long and the short and the tall.

We're gonna hang out the washing on the Siegfried line,
Have you any dirty washing Mother dear?

Bless 'em all, Bless 'em all.
The long and the short and the tall.

Underneath the spreading chestnut tree
Neville Chamberlain said to me:
'If you want to get your gas-mask free,
Join the blinking A. R. P.

There'll always be an England
And England shall be free.
We'll meet again, don't know where
Don't know when.
But I know we'll meet [again]

[Whistle while you work.]

Hitler is a twerp.
He is barmy; so's his army;
Whistle while you work.
Whistle while you work.
Hitler is a twerp.
He is barmy; so's his army;
Whistle while you work.
Whistle while you work.
Hitler is a twerp.

MINIS

Hitler is made of sausage meat.
Whistle while you work.
Hitler is a twerp.
He is barmy, so's his army:
Whistle while you work.

Hitler is made of sausage meat
Goering is fat with smelly feet
Himmler is rather sim'ler
And Goebbels does nothing but cheat.

Hitler is made of sausage meat
Goering is fat with smelly feet
Himmler is rather sim'ler
And Goebbels does nothing but cheat.

Hitler is made of sausage meat.
Hitler is made of sausage meat.
Hitler, Hitler, Hitler is made of sausage meat.
Hitler is made of sausage meat.

