

CJ Madsen

# Lines and Squares

CJ MADSEN MUSIC



**CJ Madsen (b. 1993)**

Christopher Jed “CJ” Madsen is a second-year master’s student at Brigham Young University, with an emphasis in choral conducting. CJ recently received a Bachelor of Music degree in piano performance from BYU.

As a composer and arranger, CJ has had his works performed by all the auditioned BYU choirs. CJ is the composer of *One Fold, One Shepherd*, a sacred work for choir and orchestra released in 2019.

CJ grew up in West Jordan, Utah, and was a volunteer missionary for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints from 2012 to 2014 in North Carolina. Much of CJ’s inspiration as a conductor, composer, and pianist come from his belief in Christ, his passion for people, his thirst for powerful music, and his love for his wife (Samm) and three children (Hollis, Charlotte, and Jonathan). For more information, see [cjmadsonmusic.com](http://cjmadsonmusic.com).

### **Notes from the Composer**

During the summer of 2021, I had the wonderful opportunity of taking composing lessons from Jake Runestad. He encouraged me to find a poetic text and do a choral setting of that work. This piece was the result.

I have always loved the four Winnie-the-Pooh works (two books of prose and two collections of poetry) writing by A. A. Milne in the 1920s. This poem describes how a child seeks to avoid stepping on the cracks of the sidewalk, because as soon as they do, bears will come to gobble them up. In this setting, the sopranos and altos represent the child, and the tenors and basses represent the bears. The key for successful execution of this piece is to make it as funny and wonky as should be expected from a poem from the viewpoint of a young child. I love the imagination of children – my wife often comments I am a 6-year-old and an 86-year old in a 28-year-old body.

# Lines and Squares

for SATB Choir and Piano

A. A. Milne (1882-1956)  
from *When We Were Very Young* (1924)

CJ Madsen

SA - Carefree, TB - Livid ♩ = 112

*mp* *rubato*

Soprano  
La la — la la...

Alto  
La la — la la...

Tenor  
*f* *a tempo*  
Huh - roomph, huh-roomph, huh - roomph, huh-roomph!

Bass  
*f*  
Huh - roomph, huh - roomph, huh - roomph, huh-roomph!

Piano  
*p* *f*  
pedal during legato sections

4 *rubato*

S  
La la — la la...

A

T  
*a tempo*  
Huh - roomph, huh - roomph, huh - roomph, huh -

B  
Huh - roomph, huh-roomph, huh - roomph, huh -

Pno.  
*p* *f*

## Lines and Squares

On the second note of each "ruh", close the mouth nearly all the way, creating a sound that is like a muted "ur". Also have a few basses give loud bear growls.

6

T  
roomph! Ruh, ruh, ruh, ruh, ruh, ruh roomph!

B  
roomph! Ruh, ruh, ruh, ruh, ruh, ruh roomph!

Pno.  
6 *mf* *mp*

9 *mf*  
S  
When-  
A *mf*  
When-

Pno.  
9 *sfz*  
*8va*

13 *blithe and buoyant*  
S  
e - ver I walk in a Lon - don street, I'm e - ver so care - ful to watch my  
A  
e - ver I walk in a Lon - don street, I'm e - ver so care - ful to watch my

Pno.  
13 *mp*

17

S  
feet; And I keep in \_\_\_ the squares,

A  
feet; And I keep in \_\_\_ the squares, *mp* *ff*

T  
8  
And the mas - ses \_\_\_ of bears, *mp* *ff*

B  
And the mas - ses \_\_\_ of bears,

Pno.  
*mp*

21

T  
8  
*f*  
Who sit at the cor-ners all rea - dy to eat the

B  
*f*  
Who sit at the cor-ners all rea - dy to eat the

Pno.  
*f*

Lines and Squares

25

T  
8  
sil - lies who tread on the lines of the street go back to their lairs.

B  
sil - lies who tread on the lines of the street go back to their lairs.

Pno.  
25  
8va

28

S  
*mp rubato*  
And I say to them, "Bears, Just

A  
*mp*  
And I say to them, "Bears, Just

T  
*mp* *f*  
Huh - roomph!

B  
*mp* *f*  
Huh - roomph!

28

Pno.  
*mp* *sfz*  
8va a tempo

32 *mp* *mp* *mp*

S look how I'm walk - ing in all the squares!"

A look how I'm walk - ing in all the squares!"

T Huh - roomph!

B

Pno. *mp* *mp* *8va*

35 *mf*

T And the

Pno. *f* *8va*

From here through m. 47, tenors should sing with a nasally, blatantly-bright sound.

38 *f*

T lit - tle bears growl to each o - ther, "He's mine, As

Pno. *8va*

41

S *mp* La, la!

A *mp* La, la!

T *p* soon as he's sil - ly and steps on a line." Roo um!

B *p*

Pno.

(8va)

44

S La, la! La l la l la, la!

A La, la! La l la l la, la!

T *mp* Roo um! *mf* Roo um! *f* Huh roomph!

B *mp* *mf* *f*

Pno.

*f*

(8va)



48 *mp*

B And some of the big - ger bears try to pre - tend That they

Pno. *p*

*8va* *8va-1* *8va* *8va-1*

Simple ♩ = 88 *mp*

53 *rit.* Saccharine ♩ = 88

T From here through m. 63, basses should sing with a syrupy falsetto. And they

B came round the cor - ner to look for a friend; La la la la...

*mp*

Saccharine ♩ = 88 Simple ♩ = 88

Pno. *p* *mp*

*8va-1*

58 *rit.*

T try to pre-tend that no - bo-dy cares Whe-ther you walk on the lines or the squares.

B La la la la...

Pno. *8va-1* *rit.*

# Lines and Squares

The sopranos and altos do some action (such as head shakes) to indicate they are not fooled.

64 **Tempo I** ♩ = 120 *f*

T  
Huh - roomph, huh - roomph, huh - roomph, huh - ruh - ruh - roomph, roomph!

B  
Huh - roomph, huh - roomph, huh - roomph, huh - ruh - ruh - roomph, roomph!

Pno. *f*

68 **Simple** ♩ = 88 *mp*

S  
Be - lieve their talk. Por - tant, \_\_\_\_\_

A *mp* *mf*  
But on - ly the sil - lies be - lieve their talk; \_\_\_\_\_ It's e - ver so por - tant, \_\_\_\_\_ e - ver so por - tant,

Pno. *mp*

75 *mf* *f* *rit.*

S  
por - tant, e - ver so por - tant how you walk.

A  
e - ver so por - tant how you walk.

Pno. *f* *rit.*

80 Jovial ♩ = 120 *mf* *f* **molto accel.**

S And it's e - ver so jol-ly, jol-ly to call out, "Bears,

A Jol-ly, jol-ly to call out, "Bears,

T Huh -

B Huh -

Pno. *sfz* *mf* *subito p* *8va-* *8va---*

84

S

A

T roomph, huh - roomph, huh - roomph, huh - roomph, huh - roomph, huh - roomph, huh - roomph! Huh -

B roomph, huh - roomph, huh - roomph, huh - roomph, huh - roomph, huh - roomph, huh - roomph! Huh -

Pno. *ff* *8va-----* 4 4

86 Smiling ♩ = 100 *mp*

S Just *mp*

A Just

T roomph!

B roomph!

86 Smiling ♩ = 100

Pno. *mp*

*8va- (lower)*

*sfz*

89

S watch me walk - ing \_ in all \_ the

A watch me walk ing \_ in all \_ the

T *mp* Ruh, ruh, ruh, ruh, ruh, roomph!

B *mp* Ruh, ruh, ruh, ruh, ruh, roomph!

89

Pno. *mp*

92 rit. Carefree ♩ = 88

S squares!" La la la la...

A squares!" La la la la...

T mf Huh

B mf Huh -

Pno. mp Carefree ♩ = 88

95 rit.

S La la la la...

A La la la la...

T mp roomph, huh roomph, huh roomph, Huh - roomph...

B mp roomph, huh - roomph, huh - roomph, Huh - roomph...

Huh - roomph...

95 rit.

Pno. p