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SUGGESTIONS FOR PERFORMANCE

A Canon is an economical and flexible musical form. The melody can be easily learned and then transformed into a piece full of harmonies. Part of the charm of a canon is its simplicity and often just singing the canon with the parts entering in order is all that is needed. However when using these canons feel free to experiment and try different arrangements.

An arrangement might include some of the following ideas:

- * The canon can be sung in unison first before dividing into parts.
- * The different parts can all enter on the first time through the song or one part can be added on each repetition.
- * A 4 part canon could be sung first as a 2 part canon (with the second voice entering where the 3rd entrance is marked), and then as a 4 part canon with the voices entering at the usual places.
- * If men's voices are used they could be saved for a later entrance.
- * A unison version could be included in the middle or at the end.
- * The canon can end by the parts trailing off one by one or a short coda could be added.

As an example, the canon "Warmed by the Sun" is written out in its simplest form (page 34) and also in one of many possible arrangements (pages 36 - 39). The form of the arrangement is as follows:

- 1. 1st part alone, one time through.
- 2. 1st and 2nd parts enter, one time through.
- 3. 1st, 2nd and 3rd parts enter (3rd part is the men's voice) and sing two times through. Parts trail off, one by one.
- 4. All parts unison, one time through.
- 5. 2 measure coda.