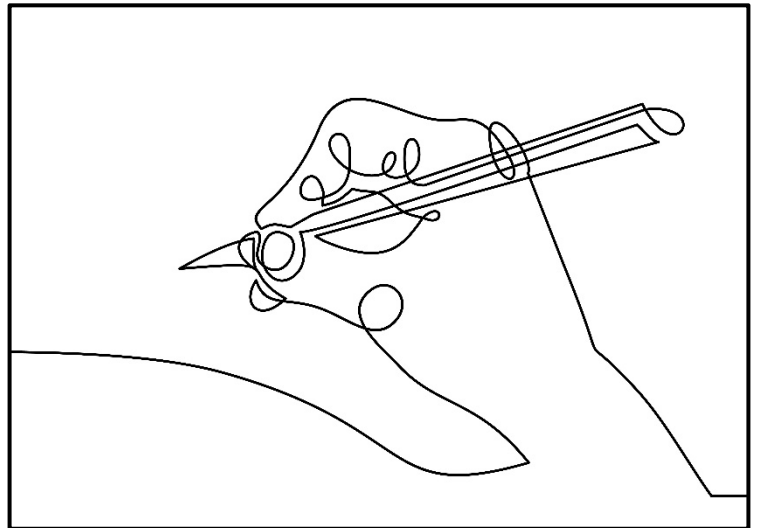


Richard Lambert

Letters Home

for mixed choir & piano
(with optional guitar)

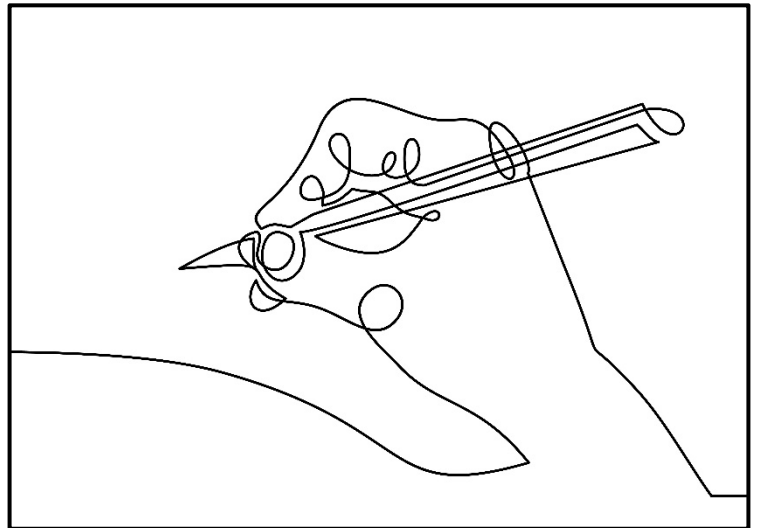


& ump
UNITED MUSIC
PUBLISHING LIMITED

Richard Lambert

Letters Home

for mixed choir & piano
(with optional guitar)



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Letters Home, composed in 2011, is a secular part-song for mixed choir (SSAATBB) and piano with an optional guitar part. It depicts the pressures of separation brought about by war-time posting in distant regions.

*Wind skips along the pavements
In the dying hours of night;
The waking city stirs itself,
In milky morning light.
And dreams dissolve as sun breaks through
And warms the tears I weep for you.*

*I watch the busy crowds
As they hurry heedless by
And scan each face that passes
For a shadow of your smile
But all I see are empty eyes
No trace of you beneath these skies.*

*I clutch your letters to my aching heart
I learn each precious word you write
For here is peace, and here is ease
Your words a whisper on the breeze.*

*So many miles apart
So many sleepless nights and tears
So many dangers faced
So many secret, hidden fears
But my smile is always bright
I save my sorrows for the night.*

*I clutch each letter like a drowning soul
Each line a testament to hope
And here is peace, and here is ease
Through winter's chill to summer's breeze.*

*I send my loving thoughts
Across the deserts and the seas
I picture you beneath the stars
That both of us can see
'Til my return, I count the days
Rehearse that moment many ways.*

*We place the letters in a memory box
A ribbon serves them as a lock
Now here is peace, and here is ease
Safe home at last, we need no keys.
Now here is peace, and here is ease
Safe home at last, we need no keys.*

Hilary Spiers (2011)

Duration: 3'45".

Letters Home

Text by Hilary Spiers

Richard Lambert (b.1951)

Allegro vivo

♩ = 69

p *mf*

Soprano 1
Aa__ bop ba__

Soprano 2
Aa__ bop ba__

Alto 1
Aa__ bop ba__

Alto 2
Aa__ bop ba__

Tenor
Aa__ bop ba__

Bass 1
Aa__ bop ba__

Bass 2
Aa__ bop ba__

Piano

mf

Guitar

mf Bb Eb Abmaj7 Bb

(freestyle strumming)

6

S. 1 *p*
 bop ba__ bop ba__ ba__ Aa__

S. 2 *p*
 bop ba__ bop ba__ ba__ Aa__

A. 1 *mf*
 bop ba__ bop ba__ ba__ Wind skips a-long__ the pave-ments In the

A. 2 *mf*
 bop ba__ bop ba__ ba__ Wind skips a-long__ the pave-ments In the

T.
 bop ba__ bop ba__ ba__

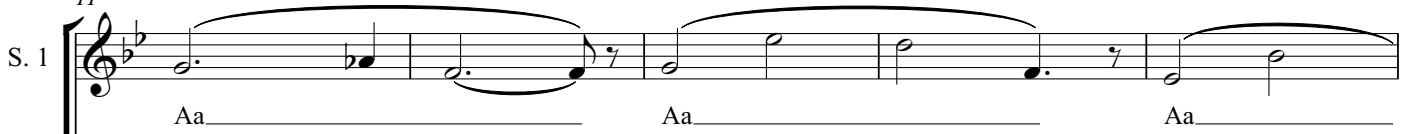
B. 1
 bop ba__ bop ba__ ba__

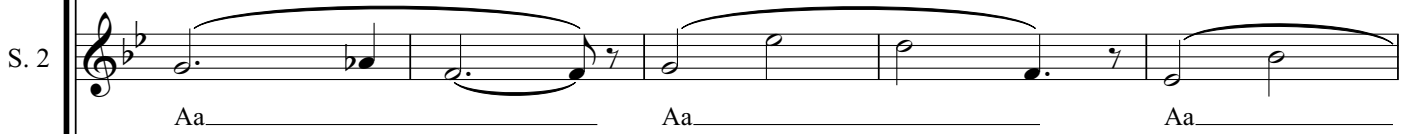
B. 2 *p*
 bop ba__ bop ba__ ba__ Aa__

Pno.

E_b | A_b maj7 | B_b | E_b

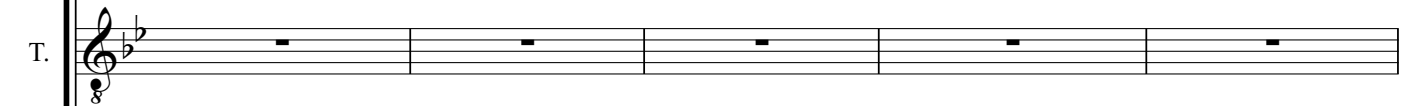
11

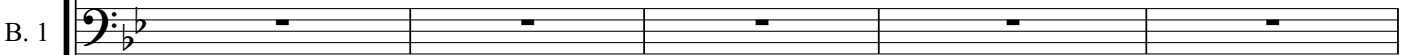
S. 1 

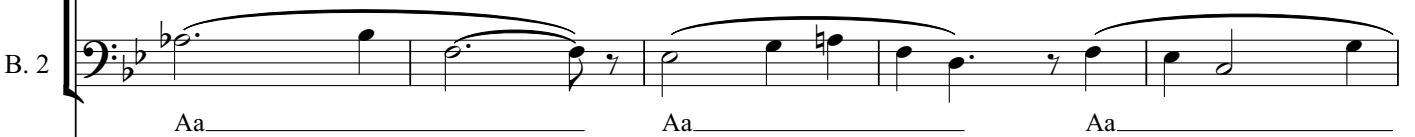
S. 2 

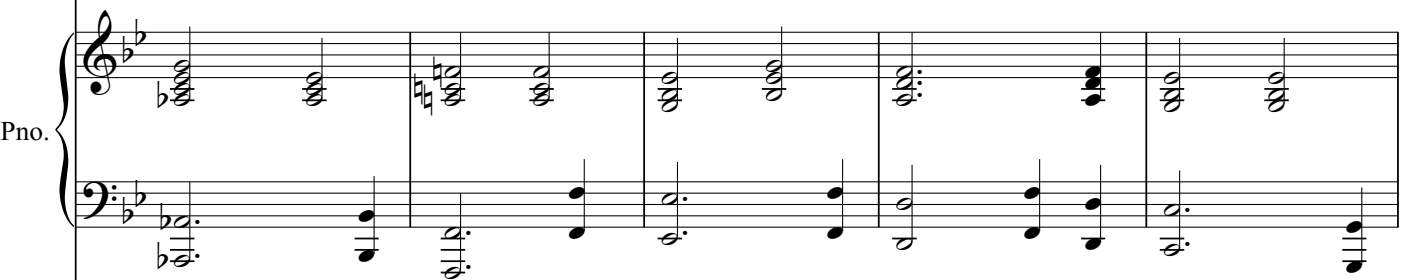
A. 1 

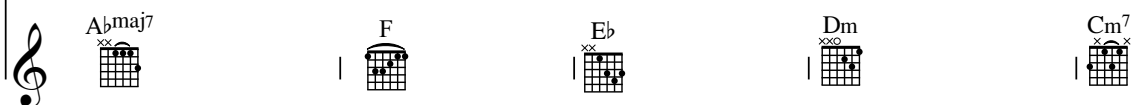
A. 2 

T. 

B. 1 

B. 2 

Pno. 



S. 1

Aa

S. 2

Aa

A. 1

light. And dreams dis - solve as sun breaks through And warms the tears I weep for

A. 2

light. And dreams dis - solve as sun breaks through And warms the tears I weep for

T.

B. 1

B. 2

Aa

Pno.

F | Eb | Cm⁷ | Ab

S. 1 *mp*
 Bop ba___ bop ba___ ba___ Aa

S. 2 *mp*
 Bop ba___ bop ba___ ba___ Aa

A. 1 *mf*
 you. I watch the bu-sy crowds_ as they

A. 2 *mf*
 you. bop ba___ ba___ I watch the bu-sy crowds_ as they

T. *mf* *p*
 Bop ba___ bop ba___ ba___ bop ba___ bop ba___

B. 1 *mf* *p*
 Bop ba___ bop ba___ ba___ bop ba___ bop ba___

B. 2 *mf* *p*
 Bop ba___ bop ba___ ba___ bop ba___ bop ba___

Pno.

E \flat A \flat maj7 B \flat E \flat

S. 1

Aa Aa Aa

S. 2

Aa Aa Aa

A. 1

hur-ry heed-less by And scan each face that pass-es_ For a sha-dow of your

A. 2

hur-ry heed-less by And scan each face that pass-es_ For a sha-dow of your

T.

bop ba_ ba_ ba ba bap bap ba ba bap bap bop ba_

B. 1

bop ba_ ba_ ba ba bap bap ba ba bap bap bop ba_

B. 2

bop ba_ ba_ ba ba bap bap ba ba bap bap bop ba_

Pno.

Abmaj7 | F | Eb | Dm | Cm7

S. 1 *mf* Bop ba ba

S. 2 *mf* Bop ba ba

A. 1 smile But all I see are emp-ty eyes, No trace of you be-neath these skies.

A. 2 smile But all I see are emp-ty eyes, No trace of you be-neath these skies.

T. *mf* ba Bop ba ba

B. 1 *mf* ba Bop ba ba

B. 2 *mf* ba Bop ba ba

Pno.

F Eb Cm Ab Eb

35

S. 1 *f* *mf*
 bop I clutch your let - ters to my ach - ing heart, I learn each

S. 2 *f* *mf*
 bop I clutch your let - ters to my ach - ing heart, I learn each

A. 1 *f* *mf*
 I clutch your let - ters to my ach - ing heart, I learn each

A. 2 *f* *mf*
 I clutch your let - ters to my ach - ing heart, I learn each

T. *f*
 bop I clutch your let - ters to my ach - ing heart,

B. 1 *f*
 bop I clutch your let - ters to my ach - ing heart, my ach - ing heart.

B. 2 *f*
 bop I clutch your let - ters to my ach - ing heart, my ach - ing heart.

Pno. *f*

Ab Gm Dm Eb

S. 1 *mp* *p*
 pre-cious word you write. For here is peace, and here is ease

S. 2 *mp* *p*
 pre-cious word you write. For here is peace, and here is ease

A. 1 *mp* *p*
 pre-cious word you write. For here is peace, and here is ease

A. 2 *mp* *p*
 pre-cious word you write. For here is peace, and here is ease

T. *mp* *pp*
 I learn each pre-cious word you write. here is peace,

B. 1 *mp* *pp*
 I learn each pre-cious word you write. here is peace,

B. 2 *mp* *pp*
 I learn each pre-cious word you write. here is peace,

Pno.

Cm7 F Eb Gm

S. 1
 Your words a whis-per on the breeze.

S. 2
 Your words a whis-per on the breeze.

A. 1
 Your words a whis-per on the breeze.

A. 2
 Your words a whis-per on the breeze.

T.
p
 here is ease Your words a whis-per on the breeze.

B. 1
p
 here is ease Your words a whis-per on the breeze.

B. 2
p
 here is ease Your words a whis-per on the breeze.

Pno.
mf

Chord diagrams for Cm7, F, Bb, Eb, and Abmaj7.

S. 1 *mf*
Aa_____ Aa_____

S. 2 *mf*
Aa_____ Aa_____

A. 1 *p* \curvearrowright *mf*
Aa_ bop ba_ bop ba_ bop ba_ ba_

A. 2 *p* \curvearrowright *mf*
Aa_ bop ba_ bop ba_ bop ba_ ba_

T. *p* \curvearrowright *mf*
Aa_ bop ba_ bop ba_ bop ba_ ba_

B. 1 *p* \curvearrowright *mf*
Aa_ bop ba_ bop ba_ bop ba_ ba_

B. 2 *p* \curvearrowright *mf*
Aa_ bop ba_ bop ba_ bop ba_ ba_

Pno.

B \flat | Eb | A \flat maj7 | B \flat

S. 1 *p*
Aa

S. 2 *p*
Aa

A. 1 *p*
Aa

A. 2 *p*
Aa

T. *mf*
So ma-ny miles— a - part, So ma-ny sleep-less nights and tears. So

B. 1 *mf*
So ma-ny miles— a - part, So ma-ny sleep-less nights and tears. So

B. 2 *mf*
So ma-ny miles— a - part, So ma-ny sleep-less nights and tears. So

Pno.

E \flat A \flat maj7 F

61

S. 1
 ba bop ba bop ma-ny se - cret hid-den

S. 2
 bop ba__ ba bop ba__ ba bop ba ma-ny se - cret hid-den

A. 1
 ba bop ba bop ba_____ ba bop But

A. 2
 bop ba__ ba bop ba__ ba bop ba_____ ba bop But

T.
 ma-ny dan - gers faced, So ma-ny sec - ret, hid-den fears

B. 1
 ma-ny dan - gers faced, So ma-ny sec - ret, hid-den fears But

B. 2
 ma-ny dan - gers faced, So ma-ny sec - ret, hid-den fears But

Pno.
 Musical accompaniment for piano, showing chords and melodic lines in both hands.

E^b
 Chord diagram for Eb

Dm
 Chord diagram for Dm

Cm⁷
 Chord diagram for Cm7

F
 Chord diagram for F

S. 1 *mf* *f*
 fears_____ bop ba_ I clutch each

S. 2 *mf* *f*
 fears_____ bop ba_ I clutch each

A. 1 *f*
 my smile is al-ways bright, I save my sor-rows for the night. I clutch each

A. 2 *f*
 my smile is al-ways bright, I save my sor-rows for the night. I clutch each

T. *mf* *f*
 bop ba_ I clutch each

B. 1 *f*
 my smile is al-ways bright, I save my sor-rows for the night. I clutch each

B. 2 *f*
 my smile is al-ways bright, I save my sor-rows for the night. I clutch each`

Pno.
 Musical accompaniment for piano with treble and bass clefs.

Eb Cm Ab Eb Ab
 Chord diagrams for Eb, Cm, Ab, Eb, and Ab.

70

S. 1 *mf*
 let-ter like a drown- ing soul, Each line a tes- ta-ment to hope.

S. 2 *mf*
 let-ter like a drown- ing soul, Each line a tes- ta-ment to hope.

A. 1 *mf*
 let-ter like a drown- ing soul, Each line a tes- ta-ment to hope.

A. 2
 let-ter like a drown- ing soul,

T. *mp*
 let-ter like a drown- ing soul, Each line a

B. 1 *mp*
 let-ter like a drown- ing soul, a drown- ing soul. Each line a

B. 2 *mp*
 let-ter like a drown- ing soul, a drown- ing soul. Each line a

Pno. *mf*

Gm | Dm | Eb | Cm7 | F

S. 1 *mp*
 And here is peace and here is ease,

S. 2 *mp*
 And here is peace and here is ease,

A. 1 *mp*
 And here is peace and here is ease,

A. 2

T. *pp*
 tes-ta - ment to hope here is peace, here is

B. 1 *pp*
 tes-ta - ment to hope here is peace, here is

B. 2 *pp*
 tes-ta - ment to hope here is peace, here is

Pno.

E♭ Gm

81

S. 1 *mf*
Through win-ter's chill to sum-mer's breeze. bop ba ba

S. 2 *mf*
Through win-ter's chill to sum-mer's breeze. bop ba ba

A. 1 *mf*
Through win-ter's chill to sum-mer's breeze. bop ba ba

A. 2 *mp* *mf*
Through win-ter's chill to sum-mer's breeze. bop ba ba

T. *mp* *mf*
ease Through win-ter's chill to sum-mer's breeze. bop ba ba

B. 1 *mp* *mf*
ease Through win-ter's chill to sum-mer's breeze. bop ba ba

B. 2 *mp* *mf*
ease Through win-ter's chill to sum-mer's breeze. bop ba ba

Pno. *mf*

Cm⁷ F B^b E^b A^bmaj⁷

S. 1 *mp*
 bop ba ba Aa

S. 2 *mp*
 bop ba ba Aa Aa

A. 1 *mf*
 bop ba ba I send my lo-ving thoughts ac-ross the de-serts and the

A. 2 *mf*
 bop ba ba I send my lo-ving thoughts ac-ross the de-serts and the

T. *mf*
 bop ba ba I send my lo-ving thoughts ac-ross the de-serts and the

B. 1 *mf*
 bop ba ba I send my lo-ving thoughts ac-ross the de-serts and the

B. 2 *mf*
 bop ba ba I send my lo-ving thoughts ac-ross the de-serts and the

Pno. *mf*

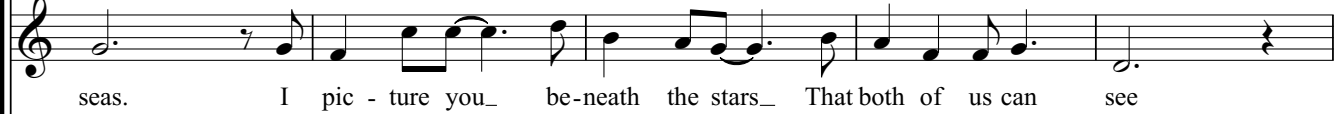
G(sus4) G C F Bbmaj7

91

S. 1  Aa Aa

S. 2  Aa Aa

A. 1  seas. I pic - ture you_ be-neath the stars_ That both of us can see

A. 2  seas. I pic - ture you_ be-neath the stars_ That both of us can see

T.  seas. I pic - ture you_ be-neath the stars_ That both of us can see 'Til

B. 1  seas. I pic - ture you_ be-neath the stars_ That both of us can see 'Til

B. 2  seas. I pic - ture you_ be-neath the stars That both of us can see 'Til

Pno. 



S. 1 *p* ba ba bap bap ba ba bap bap ba ba bap bap ba_____ *f* We place the

S. 2 *p* ba ba bap bap ba ba bap bap ba ba bap bap ba_____ *f* We place the

A. 1 *p* ba ba bap bap ba ba bap bap ba ba bap bap ba_____ *f* We place the

A. 2 *p* ba ba bap bap ba ba bap bap ba ba bap bap ba_____ *f* We place the

T. my re - turn, I count the days Re-hearse that mo - ment ma-ny ways._____ *f* We place the

B. 1 my re - turn, I count the days Re-hearse that mo - ment ma-ny ways._____ *f* We place the

B. 2 my re - turn, I count the days Re-hearse that mo - ment ma-ny ways._____ *f* We place the

Pno.

F Dm Bb F Bb

101

S. 1 *mf*
 let-ters in a mem - 'ry box A rib-bon serves them as a lock

S. 2 *mf*
 let-ters in a mem - 'ry box A rib-bon serves them as a lock

A. 1 *mf*
 let-ters in a mem - 'ry box A rib-bon serves them as a lock

A. 2 *mf*
 let-ters in a mem - 'ry box A rib-bon serves them as a lock

T. *mp*
 let-ters in a mem - 'ry box A rib-bon

B. 1 *mp*
 let-ters in a mem - 'ry box, a mem - 'ry box A rib-bon

B. 2 *mp*
 let-ters in a mem - 'ry box, a mem - 'ry box A rib-bon

Pno.

Am Em F Dm7 G

S. 1 *mp*
 Now here is peace, and here is ease

S. 2 *mp*
 Now here is peace, and here is ease

A. 1 *mp*
 Now here is peace, and here is ease

A. 2 *mp*
 Now here is peace, and here is ease

T. *pp*
 serves them as a lock here is peace, here is

B. 1 *pp*
 serves them as a lock here is peace, here is

B. 2 *pp*
 serves them as a lock here is peace, here is

Pno. *mp*

F Am

S. 1 *mp*
 Safe home at last, we need no keys._____ Now here is___ peace___ and

S. 2 *mp*
 Safe home at last we need no keys._____ Now here is___ peace___ and

A. 1 *mp*
 Safe home at last we need no keys._____ Now here is___ peace___ and

A. 2 *mp*
 Safe home at last we need no keys._____ Now here is___ peace___ and

T. *mp*
 ease, Safe home at last we need no keys._____

B. 1 *mp*
 ease, Safe home at last we need no keys._____

B. 2 *mp*
 ease, Safe home at last we need no keys._____

Pno.
 Musical accompaniment for piano, including chords and bass line.

Chord diagrams:
 Dm7 (x02202) | G (320232) | C (x32310) | F (132311)

S. 1 *p* here is ease, Safe home at last, we need no keys.

S. 2 *p* here is ease, Safe home at last, we need no keys.

A. 1 *p* here is ease, Safe home at last, we need no keys.

A. 2 *p* here is ease, Safe home at last, we need no keys.

T. *p* bop ba

B. 1 *p* bop ba

B. 2 *p* bop ba

Pno. *mp*

Am

Dm7

G

C

123

molto rall.
p

S. 1
Safe home at last.

S. 2
ppp
safe home at last.

A. 1
ppp
safe home at last.

A. 2
ppp
safe home at last.

T.
ppp
bop ba bop ba safe home at last.

B. 1
ppp
bop ba bop ba safe home at last.

B. 2
ppp
bop ba bop ba safe home at last.

molto rall.

Pno.



tacet al fine



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