

Peace, Peace

The song “Peace, Peace” was composed in 1962 by Rick & Sylvia Powell, and arranged by Fred Bock. Information about the song and the composers could not easily be found online or in libraries. The Fred Bock publishing house was contacted by phone. Fred Bock’s son, Stephen Bock, put the author of this report (Steve Glanz) in contact with Sylvia Powell.

A large part of the information in this report is transcribed from a phone interview of Sylvia Powell by Steve Glanz on November 8, 2008. The section on “BrainRobics™” is in reference to a project designed by Rick and Sylvia to enhance the educational experience of children through the arts and music.

This report is divided into the following sections:

Lyrics

I. “Peace, Peace” Song History

II. Rick and Sylvia Powell

III. BrainRobics™

IV. Fred Bock

Audio Links and Discography

References

Lyrics

Peace, Peace, Peace on earth

And good will to all.

This is a time for joy.

This is a time for love.

Now let us all sing together of

Peace, peace, peace on earth

I. Peace, Peace

The song “Peace, Peace” was composed by Rick and Sylvia Powell in 1962, while they were both students at Florida State University (FSU). The song, whose title was taken from the lyrics, was written as a companion piece for “Silent Night.” It was written in an upstairs garage while

Rick was improvising on his guitar. Daughter Priscilla was sitting on the floor. Also present was music publisher Fred Bock, a close friend of the family. Fred liked the piece so much, he asked the Powell's, "Can I use it?" They consented, and Fred arranged the piece for chorus.

The first performance of "Peace, Peace" was by the FSU Women's Glee Club, directed by Mary Jane Grimm, for their 1962 Christmas concert. It was later performed by the Bob & Joy McKenzie gospel group in the late 1960's. The song was published in 1969 by the Powells' publishing company, Matterhorn Publishing. Over a million sheet music copies have been sold. Mattel Toy Company offered to buy exclusive, in-perpetuity rights to the song for their Barbie Doll line of CD's. The offer was rejected.

The Fred Bock arrangement includes the following instructions:

"Note: Sing Part I alone, then on the repeat. Sing Parts I & II together. After the key change, have the audience/congregation sing "Silent Night" along with Parts I & II. Or, make up your own routine: have handbells, flute, violin or some solo instrument play one of the Parts. Or have chimes play the upstem notes in the introduction and modulation. There are any number of ways this can be done – use your imagination!" Fred Bock.

Alternate arrangements of "Peace, Peace" have been written, the most striking of which is the "Angel Choir" arrangement by Rick Powell. The song has been performed all over the world, including at the White House and Disneyland. The Powells have received numerous requests over the years for custom albums, which now include "Peace, Peace." Among these are the 1970's albums:

- A Christmas Album, by Michael Crawford (stage actor – "Phantom of the Opera")
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Crawford
- Camp Kirkland's gospel album, and performed at the "Praise Gathering"
- Psalm

II. Rick and Sylvia Powell

Rick Powell is an arranger, composer, and record producer. He has earned a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education, a Master's Degree in Composition and has completed all coursework toward a Doctor of Music in Composition. He has also done considerable postgraduate study in neuroscience. He received military training in electronics and subsequently taught electronics in the United States Army. He has taught at Vanderbilt/Peabody University, Florida State University and was Professor of Music at Lee University. Recently he created the musical artificial intelligence program for the Van Koevering Digital Piano.

Rick Powell suffered from Parkinson's disease for 13 years, and died in 2006. The disease inspired him, in-part, to develop the "Brainrobics" project (see below).

Sylvia Powell is an Art Specialist, Grades K-12. She has earned a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary and Early Childhood Education and a Master's Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies

and Curriculum Design. Her Thesis dealt with " using the Arts to teach Writing" In her teaching, for both children and adults, she frequently uses expressive music, expressive art, creative movement, visualization and drama. Currently, Sylvia teaches at Tampa college. Sylvia has not composed music since Rick's passing in 2006, but plans to resume in the near future, and will be using the synthesizer. She has lived in Tampa, Florida since 1981.

Rick and Sylvia were agnostic when they married, but later experienced a conversion to Christianity, and became involved with various churches. Their religious journey began with bible schools and the Episcopal Church in 1972. Among other denominations, they explored Baptism, Pentecostal churches, the child evangelist fellowships, the Campus Crusade for Christ, the Wood of Life Camp, and the Messianic Jewish movement. As a result, much of their music composition has been devoted to the religious and gospel tradition. In the early years, this included a gospel video with Irvin "Shorty" Yeaworth, also known as the director of the classic Science Fiction film "The Blob." http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Irvin_Yeaworth

They are currently developing curriculum material to support the Brain Compatible Learning Movement for BRAINROBICS (TM). The Brainrobics project was put on hold after Rick's death in 2006, but is expected to be resumed. A CD and Lesson Plans were produced with the help of the Powell's daughter.

Rick and Sylvia have written many songs for kids to use in the classroom, about subjects like honesty and other principles. They often use embed these principles in animal songs. In addition, they have collaborated on many projects:

Pat Boone Family Christmas Special (shot in Israel) us
Helen O'Connell Christmas Album
Treehouse Club (Children's Television Series)
Sunshine Factory (Children's Television Series)

Rick has produced and/or arranged over 200 albums in the Christian Music Field for such artists as the Bill Gaither Trio, Pat Boone, The Oak Ridge Boys, The Imperials, The Speer Family and Kenneth Copland, among many others. He has 35 Choir Books published. Of these, 16 are Children's Albums.

Rick wrote several Dixieland songs for the band that accompanied the Women's Glee Club on tour in June, 1962. Rick's album "Psalm" put music to the biblical psalms. Rick and Sylvia have collaborated on projects with gospel artist Bill Gaither. For more information on Mr. Gaither, see <http://gaither.com/artists/?v=bi&a=73>

An example of some albums published by the Powells include:

God's Kids
I Am Somebody
Critter Tales (can be found and heard on the Brainrobics™ website).

Many other albums, books and song collections by the Powells can be found online by searching for their pieces under Christian and Children's music. These include:

Orpheus Choir (of Olivet Nazarene College) Celebration of Joy, Rick Powell Conducting
 Powell, Rick 1974 The Rick Powell Choir Book {Word}
 1978 Psalm
 Like as the Hart Desireth the Waterbrooks, 2 Voices Richard Powell
 The Instrumental Resource (book) for Church and School – Camp Kirkland
 At The Cross of Jesus
 In This Poor Stable
 Sweet Word of Consolation
 There’s Something About A Mountain
 Praise Him, Praise Him (The Rick Powell Children’s Choir)
 Something Beautiful Sheet Music (Choral Series No. 2) (Bill and Gloria Gaither)
 The Rick Powell Choir book (1974)
 God's Kids, Inwood Christian School, Barb Johnson
 Rick & Sylvia Powell. "a unison & 2-pt. Collection of Scripture song and other songs from God's
 word... for all God's kids to sing... (any age)." With narration. 1 full score.
 Powell, Rick Children's Choir The-I'm Something SpecialSongs for Children by Bill & Gloria
 Gaither
 Powell, Rick-It's A Miracle...Songs For Children by Bill & Gloria Gaither
 Powell, Rick-The Sound Of America!-sung by The Rick Powell Children's Choir, Broadman
 (sealed)
 Powell, Rick-Praise Him! Praise Him! Sincord/Zondervan (Rick Powell Children's Choir)
 Powell,Rick-God's Kids Everlasting Spring/Zondervan+
 Powell,Rick-Sing of Jesus' Wonderful Love, Standard Publishing (with songbook)

III. Brainrobics™

The Brainrobics™ learning system was developed to provide individuals of all ages with a comprehensive, expressive, multi-sensory experience that is vital to effective learning. The Brainrobics™ learning system accomplishes this through the unique use of art, music, drama, and dance (specific and expressive movement) to integrate the brain for higher-level thinking and performance.

Studies have shown that the brain “downshifts” to survival mode and becomes less efficient when under stress. The Brainrobics™ learning system offers delightful songs, stories, art and creative activities that reduces stress and encourages the desire to learn.

Brain research has shown that emotions cement information into long-term memory. We have found that when designing lessons that are creative, useful and emotional (Kovalik, the Integrated Thematic Instruction Model), children respond positively.

The techniques found in the Brainrobics™ learning system have been shown to have a profound impact on children who have been identified with ADD, ADHD, EMH, SLD, LI (language impaired) and other specific learning disabilities.

Many of the songs we have written for children over the years have been incorporated into the Brainrobics™ learning system. These fun loving song-based lessons have been shown to dramatically increase a child's ability to learn more efficiently. Come and meet [BIG BOBBY BLACK BEAR™](#), [LITTLE BITTY BABY BROTHER BUBBA™](#) and other characters from the Brainrobics™ [CRITTER TALES™](#) series of brain friendly learning modules.

IV. Fred Bock

Fred Bock (1939-1998) was one of the most recognized and respected leaders in the church music world. He was a noted composer, arranger, clinician, studio musician, organist, pianist, choral director, and music publisher.

He was the son of Dr. and Mrs. Fred Bock, Sr. of Great Neck, New York. Mr. Bock attended Ithaca College and received his B.A. in Music Education. It was at Ithaca that he first became involved in the music publishing business. As a college student he published a band arrangement and, with the help of fraternity brothers, "broke even" on his first publishing venture. He earned his Master's and did Doctoral work in Church Music at the University of Southern California.

While still in Graduate School at the University of Southern California, he became founder and Director of Publications for the music publishing division of Word, Inc. He held this position at the young age of 24.

After seven successful years at Word, he resigned to start Gentry Publications, an educational music company. With \$1,000 borrowed from his father, he published a choral arrangement of "Scarborough Fair". The piece was extremely popular due to its use in the film, "The Graduate". Most publishers thought the piece to be written by Paul Simon, but Fred knew differently. It was a public domain folk-song and the Gentry edition of it was the only choral arrangement other than Simon's. It sold 50,000 copies in 7 months. His debt was paid back within 90 days.

With those kinds of instincts coupled with his musical ability, Fred Bock guided and expanded his business interests until several publishing companies were formed, the two largest being Gentry Publications, publishers of music for school and concert use; Fred Bock Music Company, publishers of church music for choir, organ, piano, and instruments. Through the years, Fred also acquired the Raymond A. Hoffman Company, a 65-year-old publisher of operettas for elementary school use; the H. T. FitzSimons Company, publishers of the time-honored Hamelle edition of REQUIEM by Gabriel Faure; and Fox Music Publishing.

But Fred was more than a businessman. He was Minister of Music at Hollywood Presbyterian Church, where he served for 18 years. Before that, he served as Minister of Music at Bel Air Presbyterian Church in Los Angeles for 14 years.

In 1976 Fred served as the Editor of Hymns for the Family of God, a revolutionary collection that he began conceiving 15 years earlier. This hymnal has sold over 3 million copies. Fred was also the editor of the new evangelical hymnal, Worship His Majesty, published by Gaither Music Company, as well as the Yes, Lord hymnal. Fred co-authored the book Creating Four Part Harmony with his wife, Lois. A book of practical ideas and help for ministers of music in local churches, it is part of church music curriculum in many Christian colleges and seminaries.

With over 600 compositions and arrangements in print, his works continue to sell to choirs and keyboard players. His piano series (BOCK'S BEST #1, 2, 3, 4 & 5) have sold in excess of 200,000 copies. The touring ensemble, The Norman Luboff Choir, featured his cantata, Song of Triumph!, on many of their tours. His anthems have been sung by leading choral groups around the world and remain strong sellers many years after their initial releases.

In the fall of 1986, Taylor University, Upland, Indiana awarded an Honorary Doctor of Music degree Fred, for his contributions to the field of church music.

Fred was also involved in music industry trade organizations, and served as a member of the Writer's Advisory Board of ASCAP, as well as having been repeatedly elected President and Secretary of Church Music Publishers Association.

Fred was a keyboard-recording artist for both the secular and religious markets. He delighted in being the conductor of the Candlelight Christmas Concerts in Disneyland, which involved two 1,000 voice choirs, a 50-piece orchestra, bell choir and soloist, and thousand in the audiences. His work as a studio musician can be heard on dozens of films and television shows, numerous recordings, and one very Haunted Mansion in Disneyland, USA.

Fred lived with his wife Lois, in Tarzana, a suburb of Los Angeles. He passed away in July 1998 from complications following surgery. He leaves a hole in the lives of his family which includes Lois, Stephen, Jonathan and Sandy. For those who knew him personally, he is remembered for his keen sense of humor, his joy, his music and his deep faith in God. The memories of Fred bring a smile to all our faces. His music lives on through his recordings, his compositions and arrangements. For further information, click here: <http://www.FredBock.com>

Audio Links and Discography

There are no recordings or samples of "Peace, Peace" on iTunes, BuyMusic, Rhapsody or a similar services that could be found.

YouTubes

No recordings of "Peace, Peace" could be found on YouTube

These select recordings can be purchased online:

Recording: <http://www.praisegathering.com/Site/Detail.asp?tid=5661>

Songbook: <http://www.sweet-music.com/POWE-SDC-SBK.html>

See section above on “albums, books and song collections” under “Rick and Sylvia Powell”

References:

The above article about the song “**Peace, Peace**” was extracted from these websites. For more information, please read the articles:

<http://recordmeister.com/children.asp>

<http://www.spinone80.com/others.html>

<http://www.heartlandchristianschools.com/Library%20List.htm>

<http://www.bsnpubs.com/word/word8500.html>

<http://www.antiqbook.com/boox/dah/books2000.shtml>

<http://www.ncweb.com/biz/neighbor/gospel.html>

<http://www.kaysmusic.com/choral.htm>

<http://www.songsfortoday.com/allsongs.php>

<http://www.campkirkland.com/thisthat.htm>

https://www.giamusic.com/product_search.cfm?PageNum_GetResults=4&loc=adv&advanced=1&vocalforces=treble-voices&sort=composer&sortdir=desc

<http://ccmdiscography.150m.com/P-WebSite.html>

<http://www.oldchristianradio.com/artistlistoutofprint.html>

<http://www.FredBock.com>

<http://gaither.com/artists/?v=bi&a=73>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Irvin_Yeaworth

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Crawford