

COMPOSED FOR THE PRESTO PROJECT BY LAURA SHEILS



Sum-mer's com - ing 'round the cor - ner. Can you see the sun?



Ris - ing ov - er tree - tops, lift - ing ev' - ry - one!

choir



## SUMMER'S COMING

### USING THIS CANON

Compiled for the Presto project  
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Dublin City University, 2023

## FOR DEVELOPING YOUR POLYPHONIC SKILLS

In this canon we find challenges relating both to rhythmic independence of parts, and precise tuning of the voice in the sing-and-play task. Analyse the intervals of the two-part texture, take particular care with moments of unison between the parts, and use the notes of the tonic triad (d-m-s) to help maintain a strong feeling for the overall tonality.

## WITH YOUR CHOIR OR SINGING GROUP

When teaching the melody, ensure the second degree (re) is high enough, and take care with the placement of the fifth degree (so) in relation to the first degree (do), making sure the fifth degree is active, energetic, and well-shaped so that it contributes to momentum and good tuning, and serves as a pillar of the tonality throughout. In bar 5, we encounter the notes of chord IV, descending (d'-l-f). Draw attention to this triad, encouraging the singers to place the notes carefully while remaining relaxed so as not to strain the pitch or over-sing in this higher section of the melody.

This canon works best in two or four parts. An accompaniment is provided. You can play the accompaniment on an instrument, or play or download a backing track on the Presto website.



## IN THE MUSIC LESSON

Creative activities: Composer Laura Sheils provides the following ideas for responding creatively to this canon:

- Have a discussion using questions such as *how does summer make you feel, and what do you like to do in the summer?*
- Draw a picture of the sun rising over treetops.
- In pairs, add actions to suit the words of the canon. Act them out while singing the canon.
- Make up a new rhyme about a different season coming (*Spring, Autumn/Fall, Winter*). Draw a cartoon to represent the season.
- Create a simple rhythm to perform with the canon. Use different parts of your body to perform the rhythm (e.g. *clap, click, stamp*).

## LEARN MORE

To learn more about challenges and solutions for tuning in this canon, see the 'Intonation Awareness' section of the Presto Choral Resources.