

ANTHEM

(A Riff on the missing second half of Obama's Campaign Slogan)

We Can and We Must

Instructions:

This score can be printed or downloaded to an iPhone or smart phone and distributed through Twitter and Facebook so people can participate by tweeting the score so a large group of people could have it at their disposal and it can be used spontaneously. If enough feet on the ground know the process and have the notes in front of them, it should be fairly easy to put together in the same way that the human microphone works.

First, the group of singers should agree upon a "tonic" note. The individual lines are all written in C but can be sung centering on whatever note the group agrees upon. This could be dictated by the "caller" or could be arrived at through some kind of exhalation exercise in which the group exhales on pitch until the whole group is singing one pitch.

Once a pitch has been agreed upon, the whole group should hum the pitch at around a mezzo piano dynamic for a time. After the tonic is established, you may start alternating between humming the tonic and a third above thought the tonic should still be the principal note hummed. The fifth should also be added occasionally.

Once the whole group is creating a scintillating major triad, the "caller" sings the first line on the following page as loud as possible. Then the group responds also on the first line. After the call and the response, the group should go back to humming and in fact, certain members of the group should just continue humming. It is really up to you whether to sing the response or hum at any time. For the calls and response, it is probably easiest if the "caller" cues the response (like what happens in Church for those of you who were raised going to church of just about any faith).

This call and response should occur a few times, each time, the response comes in after the "caller" has finished their call.

After 3-5 iterations like this, the "responders" can choose between line 1 or 2 creating a harmony in the response. This should also be repeated 3-5 times. Note that when I say to repeat something 3-5 times, that means that each individual is deciding for themselves how many times to repeat and not a decision that must be agreed upon by any one member of the group.


After this, each individual adds the third line as a potential response. This process continues so eventually we end up with the following additive pattern of the call and response, each being repeated 3-5 times


Call	Response
1	1
1	1, 2
1	1, 2, 3
1	1, 2, 3, 4
1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5


At this point, the responses should begin to start coming in gradually earlier and earlier. The caller still indicates the proper time for the response but the responders should gradually come in earlier and earlier until they are coming in barely after the caller starts to call, like a shorter and shorter delay.


1, 2	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
1, 2	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
1, 2, 3	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
1, 2, 3	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
1, 2, 3, 4	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
1, 2, 3, 4, 5	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11


At this point, the line between caller and responder becomes blurred as pretty much everyone is a caller and everyone a responder in some way. Depending on the context in which this is occurring, the crowd of chanters can either disperse as the anthem disintegrates, or gradually crescendo into a growing cacophony encouraging others in the crowd to join in.


1. 
and we mu - - - - -st

2. 
and we mu - - - - - st.

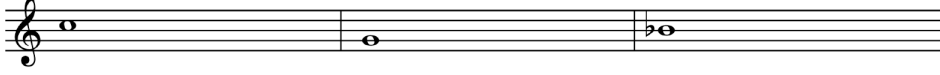
3. 
and we mu - - - - - st.

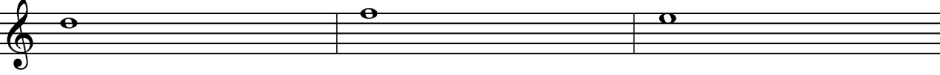
4. 
and we mu - - - - - st.

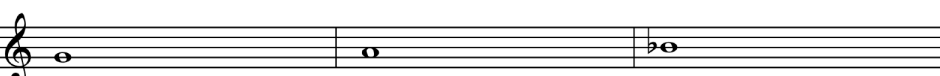
5. 
and we mu - - - - - st.

6. 
and we mu - - - - - st.

7. 
and we must

8. 
and we must

9. 
and we must

10. 
and we must

11. 
and we must