

Brightly Dawns Our Wedding Day (Madrigal) - Arthur Sullivan

This four part brass arrangement is of the song “Brightly Dawns Our Wedding Day” from Act 2 of Gilbert and Sullivan’s comic opera “The Mikado”. It is a clever pastiche by Arthur Sullivan of a 16th Century ballet type of madrigal with its “fa-la-la” refrain, typical of composers such as Thomas Morley and his contemporaries. In the Mikado, it is sung in two verses by the ridiculously named Yum-Yum, Pitti-Sing, Nanki-Poo and Pish-Tush (SATB).

As with any polyphonic composition of this type, it sounds very well on brass quartet. A good combination is 2 Bb Cornets or Trumpets, Bb Baritone and Bb Euphonium, but extra parts are provided for Eb Horn, Trombone, and Tubas.

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November 2009