

# **DRINKING SONG**

for tenor, baritone and bass

by JENNIFER FOWLER

Text taken from a 13th century Motet, in a mixture of French and Flemish.  
Translated and adapted by the composer.

Duration: 5 - 6 mins

# DRINKING SONG

by Jennifer Fowler

*Programme note.*

**Drinking Song** is part of a collection of songs with the overall title of “Eat and Be Eaten”. The collection revolves around the subject of food and drink in all their significance.

Several themes recur, and the subject of greed and the dangers of over-indulgence feature in a number of items. This song, is part of a venerable tradition of drinking songs and the text is taken from a 13th century French/Flemish motet, translated and adapted by the composer. It is scored for Tenor, Baritone & Bass.

The cycle of songs of which this is an item, was commissioned by The Song Company of Sydney.

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Preview File Only

# DRINKING SONG

NOTES: The text is taken from a 13th century Motet in a mixture of French and Flemish. The bits of the original text which are embedded in this version, should be sung sotto voce, on the same level as the "be-be-be"s, whereas the English text should be projected.

## TEXT:

The brewers have done well this year,  
They've made a really good strong beer,  
Everybody's boozing!

Englishmen, they make a mint,  
They charge a ha'penny a pint!  
They're certainly not losing.

Although they rake the money in,  
At least they haven't made it thin,  
The devil himself's carousing.

Those Normans, they can lap it up,  
I wonder it doesn't rot their gut,  
They're certainly not choosy!

It sure does me no good at all,  
One moment I am standing tall,  
The next, my knees go woozy.

# DRINKING SONG

Jennifer Fowler

Tempo 1 (e = 132)

Tenor

Baritone

Bass

Be - be be - be bi - bip bip      bee\_\_ bee be

Bee be-ip    bi bip    bee

5

T.

Bar.

B.

Be - be be - be - be    bee\_\_    be be be be bee be      Be - be

Be - be    be be be be    bee\_\_    be

Be be be be    Bee\_\_

Tempo 2 (e = 120)

10

T.

Bar.

B.

be      \*Goud      \*a -      le

The brew - ers have done well    this

be be be    be - be - be - be    \*Goud \*al -    le      It's

\* Flemish pronunciation, including guttural "g"

Tempo 1

13

T. *p* The brew - ers have done well this year, Be - be be

Bar. year, well They've

B. been a good year\_ Be be be be bee\_ Be be be real

Tempo 2

Tempo 1

18

T. *mp* A good, strong beer\_

Bar. made a real - ly good strong beer\_ Ev - 'ry bod - y's

B. - ly A good strong beer\_ Bee - be - be be

23

T. *mp* Ev - 'ry bo - dy\_ Be - be bi - bi - be be - be

Bar. booz - ing\_ Be - be - bi - bi - bi

B. Ev - 'ry bo - dy's booz\_ ing\_

27 **Tempo 2** *mf* **Tempo 1**

T. boo, boo, boo booz-ing

Bar. Bee Chas-cuns ba-ba en-bal

B. *mp* be-bi-be *mp* Ev-ry bod-y's booz-ing, Chas-cuns en-ba-le *p* ba-ba

32 *p* **Tempo 2** *mp* **rall.** (e = 108) *mf*

T. ba-le Eng-lish men they make a mint, They charge ha'-pen-ny a

Bar. — le ba-ba ba ba bababa *mp* *mf* They charge ha'-pen-ny a

B. ba-le ba-ba Eng-lish men they make a mint *mp* *mf* They charge ha'-pen-ny a

37 **Tempo 2 (e = 120)** *mp*

T. pint! They're cer-tain-ly not cer-tain-ly not los-ing

Bar. pint! cer-tain-ly not los-ing be-be

B. pint! They're cer-tain-ly not *mp* they're not los-ing

41 mp

T. be - be - be Though they rake the

Bar. be - be be - be - be be - be be - be - be Al - though they rake the

B. ils font leur tai - lle

44 mf

T. mo - ney in, At least they have - n't made it thin The Dev - il him - self, the

Bar. mon - ey in, At least they have - n't made it thin The Dev - il him - self, the

B. mp they have - n't made it thin The Dev - il him - self, the

48 mf

T. Dev - il him - self's ca - rous - ing, The Dev - il him - self's ca - rous rou

Bar. mf Dev - il's ca - rous - ing, The Dev - il him - self's ca - rou - ca - rous -

B. mf Dev - il's ca - rous - ing, The Dev - il him - self's ca - rou - rous -

53

T. *mp* *mf* *mp*  
 ca - rous - ing ca - rou - ou ca - rous -

Bar. *mf* *mp*  
 - rous - ing ca - rou - - rous -

B. *mp*  
 - ing

58

T. *mp*  
 - ing l'ass - ail Those Nor - mans! hé - hé

Bar. *mp*  
 - ing l'ass - ail

B. *mp*  
 Pas - sion l'ass - ail - le

63

T. *mp*  
 hé - hé - hé hé hé he he he he hé - hé - hé - hé

Bar. *mp*  
 Those Norm - ans! hé - hé - hé - hé he - he - he he - he

B. *mp*  
 hé - hé - hé - hé Those Nor - hé



67

T. *mf*  
 he - he - he he Those Nor - haw - haw - haw

Bar. *mf*  
 he - he - he Those Nor - haw - haw - haw Nor - \*gghaw gghaw haw haw

B. *mf*  
 hé - hé Those Nor - haw - haw - haw - \*gghaw gghaw Nor - or - haw -  
 \* plenty of croaking sound

71 *mf*

T. *mf*  
 Nor - haw - haw - haw

Bar. *mf*  
 Nor - or haw - or - or - or Nor - haw - or Nor - mans They can lap it up, -

B. *mf*  
 Nor - or - or - Those Nor - mans They can lap it up -

74 *mf*

T. *mf*  
 u - u - u - u - u I won - der it does - n't rot their gut,

Bar. *mf*  
 u - u - u - u - u

B. *mf*  
 u u u u - u - up

Drinking

78 **Slower (e = 108)**

T. *mf* *f*  
rot their gut, They're

Bar. *mp* *mp* *cresc.* *mf* *f*  
rot rot rot their gut, They're

B. *mp* *mp* *cresc.* *mf*  
rot rot rot

84 *f*  
sher - tain sher - tain - ly not sher - sher - tain - ly not

Bar. *f*  
sher - tain sher - tain - ly not sher - sher - sher - tain not

B. *mf* *f*  
sher tain - ly sher - tain - ly not sher tain sher no-

**Tempo 2 (120)**

88 *mp*  
Elle trop ma - le

Bar. *mp* *mf* *mp*  
sher - tain - ly not, ch - choos - y! Elle m'est trop ma - le

B. *p* *mp* *mf*  
-ó-ó sher - tain - ly not choos - y!-

93

T. *mp*  
 be be - be be - be be - be be - be - be It sure does me no

Bar. *mp* *mp*  
 mes\_ \*ge - nous m'a - va - le Mm

B. *mp*  
 Be - be be - be be - be - be - be - be - be - be - be - be - be Mm

\* Flemish "g"

97

T. *p* *mp*  
 good at all, Mm no good at all, Mm One

Bar. *p* *mp*  
 It sure does me no good at all, no good at all, Mm One

B. *p*  
 Mm It sure does me no good no good at all, Mm

104

T. *mp*  
 mo - ment I am stand - ing tall, The next my knees

Bar. *mp*  
 mo - ment I am stand - ing tall, The next my knees, my knees go

B. *mp* *mp*  
 Mm my knees go woo - zy woo -

109

T.

Bar.

B.

Dynamic markings: *p*, *mp*, *mf*, *f*, *mf*, *mp*

Articulation: *tr*, *acc*, *tr*, *acc*, *tr*, *acc*, *tr*, *acc*

Figured bass: *3*, *3*, *3*, *3*, *3*, *3*

112

T.

Bar.

B.

Dynamic markings: *mp*, *mf*, *mp*, *mf*, *mp*

Articulation: *tr*, *acc*, *tr*, *acc*, *tr*, *acc*, *tr*, *acc*

116

T.

Bar.

B.

Dynamic markings: *p*, *mp*, *p*, *p*, *p*, *mp*

Articulation: *tr*, *acc*, *tr*, *acc*, *tr*, *acc*, *tr*, *acc*

Figured bass: *3*, *3*

\* falsetto

Slower (e = 108)

122

T. *p*  
woo - zy

Bar. — my knees go woo - zy woo - zz - y woo - zy

B. *p*  
woo - zy woo - zz - y woo - zz - y

126

T. *p* *pp*  
zzz - - y wooz - - zz - y.

Bar. *p*  
zz - - zz - y zz - - y.

B. *p*  
zz - zz - woo - zy.

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