

Oh Moon
for a cappella SATB choir

2011

(ca. 5:30)

Text:
Michelle Kuo (b. 1981)

Music:
Christopher Gainey (b. 1981)

Oh moon, why must you shine so well?
So bright you seem a distant error.

Confess, old moon, you fear the firefly
Though paltry, her light is sure and warm.
She leaps and darts in orbitless dizzy
A private torch to children in summertime.

Confess, old moon, your doubt is stirred
As you remember how they chase
A flickering fly, thinking nothing
but how to catch her, and hold her fading light.

Not wanting grief, I gave up desire
Yet in so doing, lost tenderness.
Oh moon, so still I ought to hear my heart beat
Never has forgetting been so quiet.

- Michelle Kuo (2011)

To:

The Grinnell College Singers

Special Thanks to:

John Rommereim, Peter Nothnagle, Grinnell College, Michelle Kuo,
Kristin Gainey, David Gompper, Bruno Amato, and Ray Chester

Oh Moon

Michelle Kuo (2011)

Christopher Gainey (2011)

Yearning ♩ = 72

SOPRANO *p*
Oh moon, — (n) Oh moon, — (n) Oh moon, —

ALTO *p*
Oh moon, — (n) Oh moon, — (n) Oh moon, — (n) Oh moon, —

TENOR *p*
Oh moon, — (n) Oh moon, — (n) Oh

BASS *p*
Oh moon, — (n) Oh

Piano Reduction *p*
Yearning ♩ = 72

6 *mf* *p*
— (n) why must you shine — so well? (l) So bright you seem a dis-tant er - ror. —

mf *p*
— (n) why must you shine so well? — (l) So bright you seem a dis-tant er - ror. —

mf *p*
moon, — (n) why must you shine so well? — (l) So bright you seem a dis-tant er - ror. —

mf *p*
moon, — (n) Oh moon, — (n) So bright you seem a dis-tant er - ror. —