ARIRANG

Question: what song has a gymnastics festival named after it, more than 3,500 versions, and is more than 600 years old? The answer is 'Arirang', a Korean folk song sung in both North Korea and South Korea as a symbol of unity. What it is about depends on which version one is looking at: Craig has included an English version within our Young Voices arrangement, and whilst at first it may look challenging, I am certain that very quickly you will see how simple and beautiful this song is. It is in four four-bar phrases, and we'll take a breath between each phrase. We sing in Korean, English, then Korean to the end of the song. As with so many traditional Asian folk songs, it uses the pentatonic scale and thus singing it in a round is easy, and very satisfying to the ear. We have included in the resources a spoken track prepared by Daeun Song, a Korean singer, so you know precisely how the lyrics should be pronounced.

The final time through is going to be special in three ways, and it is important that from bar 71 you know all three things which happen to signal the end of the song:

1. The second half of the verse is repeated
2. It is followed by some chanting
3. It is sung in a three-part round!

Thus, once we start to sing in a round, we sing an entire verse, repeat from *"Cheongcheon"*, then begin to chant *"susimdo manta"* (pron. *"su-shim-do man-ta"*) until everyone catches up. If you go last in the round, you will have less chanting to do, as we all want to finish at the same time!

The round does not appear on the main learning track, but we have provided you with a three-part track if you want your choir to hear how this will sound before the day. You could also just teach them the single line and wait for them to experience the effect for the first time on the day of the concert. I hope you can imagine how spectacular this will sound!

ARIRANG

Korean Folksong

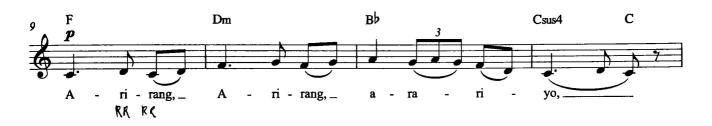
A - ri - rang, _ A - ri - rang, _ a - ra - ri - yo, _
RR RC

A - ri - rang _ go - ge - ro _ neo - meo - gan - da.
ᵣNO MO

Cheong - cheon ha - neu - ren Byeol - do _ man - ko, _
noo yul

I - neh _ ga - seu - men _ su - sim - do man - ta.
seh sh

Lyrics beneath the staves:

m. 33–36: A - ri - rang,_ A - rir - rang,_ a - ra - ri - yo,_

m. 37–40: o - ver the hills_____ of _____ A - ri - rang.

m. 41–45: Voi - ces call me from far_____ a - way,_____ I_____ must_

Faster ♩ = 106

m. 46–51: fol - low _ I _ can - not stay.

m. 52–55: A - ri - rang,_ A - ri - rang,_ a - ra - ri - yo,_

m. 56–: A - ri - rang _ go - ge - ro _ neo - meo - gan - da.

60

Cheong - cheon ha - neu - ren Byeol - do___ man - ko,___

64

I - neh___ ga - seu - men___ su - sim - do man - ta.

71 *3 part round at 1 bar intervals*

A - ri - rang,___ A - ri - rang,___ a - ra - ri - yo,___

75

A - ri - rang___ go - ge - ro___ neo - meo - gan - da.

79

Cheong - cheon ha - neu - ren Byeol - do___ man - ko,___

83

I - neh___ ga - seu - men___ su - sim - do man - ta.

87 *p*

Su - sim - do man - ta, su - sim - do man - ta,

89 *ff*

su - sim - do man - ta, su - sim - do man - ta.