Commissioned by Sound Ecologies Inc. (Indiana 2024), Luke Garrigus, President Premiered at Choral Reflections: Sacred Music by Indiana Composers at the University of Indianapolis, on March 7, 2024

## Stop Me!

### Patience & Wrath

SATB Chorus, Soprano Solo with Piano

from Virtues & Vices

Music by Daniel Watson Text by Amos Russel Wells



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#### Stop Me! by Amos Russel Wells (1862-1933)

Stop me, good people! Don't you see
My temper is running away with me?
Help, Master Commonsense! Are you afraid?
Good Mistress Prudence, come to my aid!
Stop me, Conscience! Stop me, I pray!
My temper, my temper is running away!
Dear Brother Kindness, snatch after the reins!
Help, or my temper will dash out my brains!
Help, or I'll get a terrible fall!
Help, Shame, Caution, Love, Wisdom, and all!



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#### **Note from the Composer**

Virtues and Vices is a seven-movement choral masterwork that explores the "seven deadly sins" and their parallel virtues. This work uniquely weaves sacred themes through secular texts, incorporating contemporary, folk, and jazz styles. After a decade in the sketchbook, Virtues and Vices invites performers and audiences alike to reflect on the coexistence of holiness and sin in humanity.

"Stop Me!" is the third movement of Virtues and Vices: 7 Pieces for SATB Chorus and Piano and it explores the virtue/vice of patience/wrath. This fiery, fast, and flourishing piece packs a big punch for its short length. Changing meters, dissonant parallels, and heavy accents evoke an angry intensity throughout. This piece bubbles with rage from beginning to end and it is quite the show-stopper! The B section defuses the tension by layering voices one by one before exploding with wrath. Significant piano doubling aids the voices, allowing this piece to be a fast and loud favorite!

**Daniel Watson** is a versatile composer, teacher, and musician from Indianapolis, Indiana. Inspired by the beauty of the natural world, Watson's music challenges performers and audiences to heighten their senses through sound. His first choral masterwork, Virtues and Vices, premiered at the University of Indianapolis in 2024, commissioned by Sound Ecologies Inc. In 2023, he won the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir National Christmas Carol Commission Competition with his work "Good News!". Watson has had the privilege of performing, directing, and premiering compositions at Carnegie Hall, The Kennedy Center, and venues throughout Great Britain, France, Switzerland, Austria, Germany, and the United States. He continues to be commissioned for new works for professional, collegiate, high school, and middle school singers.

Watson has been recognized for his dedication to music education with the Outstanding Future Music Educator of the Year Award (2015) from the Indiana Music Education Association and the National Professional Achievement Award (2014, 2015) from the National Association for Music Education. He is the Director of Choirs at Greenwood Community High School, Associate Faculty of Music at Indiana University Indianapolis, and the owner of Daniel Watson Music LLC (danielscottwatson.com). He maintains an active private music studio (voice, piano, composition) and regularly collaborates in the community through conducting, piano and vocal performance, and composing.



# Stop Me! Patience & Wrath

Amos Russel Wells

062624

**Daniel Watson** 

SATB Chorus, Soprano Solo with Piano Soprano Alto Stop me! Stop me! Stop me! me! Tenor Bass Stop Stop Stop me! Angry and afraid = c. 120Piano



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