

# MEETING THE SUN

## Movement 4: 'Wipe Away Your Tears'

### Listening Guide

**Australian composer Elena Kats-Chernin** was asked to write *Meeting The Sun* to commemorate the centenary of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps, or 'Anzac', landings at Gallipoli in 1915. It is a piece of music that has been composed for children's choir and concert band, which is a large group of woodwind, brass and percussion instruments. *Meeting The Sun* is in five sections (or movements) and lasts for about 18 minutes in total.

The fourth movement of *Meeting The Sun* by Elena Kats-Chernin is called 'Wipe Away Your Tears'. It is a musical setting of a message from Mustafa Kemal Atatürk to the mothers whose sons had died fighting in Gallipoli, Turkey. The music has a constant, flowing figure throughout much of it. This, and a three-note figure introduce the choir who sing the words quietly to a melody that moves in small intervals. After an interlude in which the choir hum while the band plays, the words of the message are repeated and the movement ends with a peaceful chord played by the low-pitched woodwind and brass instruments. Atatürk's message used in this song is:

### ATATÜRK'S TRIBUTE

Those heroes that shed their blood and lost their lives... You are now lying in the soil of a friendly country. Therefore rest in peace. There is no difference between the Johnnies and the Mehmets to us where they lie side by side now here in this country of ours...

**you, the mothers, who sent their sons from faraway countries wipe away your tears; your sons are now lying in our bosom and are in peace. After having lost their lives on this land they have become our sons as well.**

## Activity 1: Research

**Mustafa Kemal** was born in 1881 to a family who spoke the Turkish language. He graduated from military college in 1905 and was soon arrested by the police for his political activities. After his release, he joined the army and fought against the Italians in 1911 in Libya. In 1912, he took command of the Turkish forces at Gallipoli. This narrow peninsula had high military importance because it guards a narrow stretch of water called The Dardanelles.

In 1915, the Allied Forces in the First World War tried to take control of the Gallipoli peninsula. They landed Australian and New Zealand Army Corps or 'Anzac' and other Allied troops on 25 April 1915 in the hope of capturing the Turkish positions. In defending their homeland, Mustafa Kemal's troops resisted strongly and, after several months, drove the Allied Forces away. The Turkish troops had over 50,000 men killed during this campaign. Despite the Turkish and Allied forces being on opposing sides of the Gallipoli campaign, they developed a great sense of respect for each other.

After the First World War, Mustafa Kemal led Turkey's independence from the Ottoman Empire and the establishment of the modern Turkish republic in 1923. He was the nation's first President, and held this office until his death in 1938. In 1934, Mustafa Kemal was given the surname 'Atatürk' which means 'Father of Turks'. Nobody else will ever be able to receive this honour. There are many memorials to Atatürk in Turkey, as well as in Wellington, New Zealand, and Canberra, Australia. Many of these contain the words of his message that is set to music in 'Wipe Away Your Tears'.



*Image Caption:  
Formal portrait of Kemal  
Pasha (later known as  
Atatürk), wearing the  
Gallipoli Star and Balkan  
Medal, (photograph),  
Turkey, c1919, courtesy  
Australian War Memorial*

## Activity 2: Listening

First, listen to the whole of 'Wipe Away Your Tears'.



Next, listen to bars 1-10 at least five times while reading the score.



### Wipe Away Your Tears

Mustafa Kemal Attatürk

Elena Kats-Chernin

The image shows a musical score for the piece "Wipe Away Your Tears". The score is written for a full orchestra and includes parts for Flutes, Clarinets, Alto Saxophones and Clarinets, Euphonium, Piano, Fl. (Flute), Cl. (Clarinet), Alto Sax., Euph. (Euphonium), and Pno. (Piano). The tempo is marked as quarter note = 94. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into two systems. The first system covers measures 1-10, and the second system covers measures 11-13. The piano part is marked with "pp" (pianissimo) and "legato". The flute and clarinet parts are marked with "p" (piano) and "legato". The alto saxophone part is marked with "mp" (mezzo-piano). The euphonium part is marked with "8va" (octave). The piano part is marked with "8va" (octave) and "legato". The score is written in a standard musical notation style with staves, clefs, and various musical symbols.

7

Fl.

Cl.

Alto Sax.

Euph.

Pno.

Measure 7: Flute and Clarinet enter with eighth-note patterns. Alto Saxophone and Euphonium play sustained notes. Piano provides a continuous eighth-note accompaniment.

Measure 8: Flute and Clarinet continue their patterns. Alto Saxophone and Euphonium play sustained notes. Piano continues the accompaniment.

9

Fl.

Cl.

Alto Sax.

Euph.

Pno.

Measure 9: Flute and Clarinet continue their patterns. Alto Saxophone and Euphonium play sustained notes. Piano continues the accompaniment.

Measure 10: Flute and Clarinet continue their patterns. Alto Saxophone and Euphonium play sustained notes. Piano continues the accompaniment.

**Answer the following questions about the score and recording.**

1. Which instrument is the quietest?
2. How fast is this music?
3. What does 'legato' mean?
4. Name the composer.
5. Name a brass instrument playing.
6. What is the first note the saxophone plays?
7. What is the last note the euphonium plays?

### **Extension questions**

8. What is the interval between the Euphonium and the saxophone?
9. What do the curved lines above the notes mean?
10. What do the short lines below the saxophone notes mean?
11. Which three pitches does the flute play?
12. What does 8ve in the piano part mean?

# Activity 3: Performance

Play this class arrangement of 'Wipe Away Your Tears'.

## Wipe Away Your Tears

The musical score is arranged in systems. The first system (measures 27-31) includes:

- Part 1 C:** Treble clef, 4/4 time. Notes: B, F, B, A, A, C, B, F, E.
- Part 2 C:** Treble clef, 4/4 time. Notes: B, A, B.
- Part 2 B $\flat$ :** Bass clef, 4/4 time. Notes: C $\sharp$ , B, C $\sharp$ .
- Bass instruments:** Bass clef, 4/4 time. Notes: C F C F C, F C F C F, C F C F C, F C F C F, C F C F C.
- Percussion:** Treble clef, 4/4 time. Notes: C E F C E F C E, F C E F C E F C, E F C E F C E F, C E F C E F C E, F C E F C E F C.
- Pitched percussion or keyboard or guitar:** Treble clef, 4/4 time. Notes: C E F C E F C E, F C E F C E F C, E F C E F C E F, C E F C E F C E, F C E F C E F C.
- Piano:** Treble and Bass clefs, 4/4 time. Notes: C E F C E F C E, F C E F C E F C, E F C E F C E F, C E F C E F C E, F C E F C E F C.

The second system (measures 32-36) includes:

- Part 1 C:** Treble clef, 4/4 time. Notes: C, A, A.
- Part 2 C:** Treble clef, 4/4 time. Notes: A, F, B.
- Part 2 B $\flat$ :** Bass clef, 4/4 time. Notes: B, B.
- Bass instruments:** Bass clef, 4/4 time. Notes: F C F C F, C F C F C, F C F F C F, F E F E D, E E.
- Percussion:** Treble clef, 4/4 time. Notes: E F C E F C E F, C E F C E F C E, F C E F C E F C, E F C E F C E F, C E F C E F C E.
- Pitched percussion or keyboard or guitar:** Treble clef, 4/4 time. Notes: E F C E F C E F, C E F C E F C E, F C E F C E F C, E F C E F C E F, C E F C E F C E.
- Piano:** Treble and Bass clefs, 4/4 time. Notes: E F C E F C E F, C E F C E F C E, F C E F C E F C, E F C E F C E F, C E F C E F C E.

## Part 1 C

27 B F B A A C

31 B F E C A A 2

## Part 2 C

[illegible]


## Part 2 B♭

Measures 27-32 of the song "The Rose Tree" are shown. The notation is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The notes are as follows:


- Measure 27: C# (quarter note), B (quarter note), C# (quarter note).
- Measure 28: B (quarter note), C# (quarter note), B (quarter note).
- Measure 29: C# (quarter note), B (quarter note), C# (quarter note).
- Measure 30: B (quarter note), C# (quarter note), B (quarter note).
- Measure 31: C# (quarter note), B (quarter note), C# (quarter note).
- Measure 32: B (quarter note), C# (quarter note), B (quarter note).

## Bass instruments

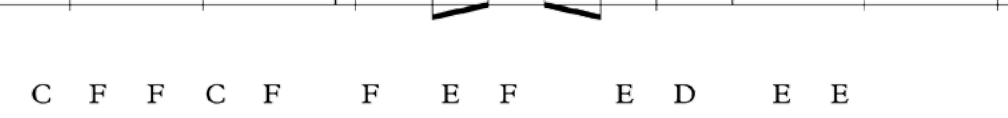
27 C F C F C F C F C F C F C F C F C F



31 C F C F C F C F C F C F C F C



34 F C F F C F F E F E D E E



37 F C F F C F F E F E D E E

## Wipe Away Your Tears

## Wipe Away Your Tears

[illegible]

## Wipe Away Your Tears

27

31

34

The image shows a musical score for a piano piece in 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system (measures 27-30) features a continuous eighth-note melody in the treble and a bass line with eighth and sixteenth notes. The second system (measures 31-33) continues this pattern. The third system (measures 34-36) shows the melody continuing, while the bass line concludes with a whole note chord in the final measure.



## Activity 4: Composition

Practise playing the opening of the vocal tune from 'Wipe Away Your Tears' on the instrument of your choice.



When you can play it easily, start to extend the tune by improvising on your instrument. Try and create a longer tune of your own that starts with the two bars of music you have learned. When you are happy with what you have created, practise it and record it on your laptop, tablet or phone.



*Sidney Nolan (artist), Gallipoli landscape at night, c1960, (drawing), courtesy Australian War Memorial Collection*



## Activity 5: Creative Writing

The text of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk's message can be found in many First World War memorials as words of remembrance, including this one in Canberra, Australia.



What words of remembrance appear on your local war memorial? Does it include their source? Either visit your local war memorial and draw it, making a careful copy of the words written on it (other than the names of the fallen) or find an image of your local war memorial online and make a drawing from that.

If you have no local war memorial (for example, you live in a new suburb or a remote community), find one from another town or suburb. Australia has thousands of war memorials.

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