

André van der Merwe

# UKUTHULA

AFRICAN PRAYER FOR PEACE

SATB

*Ukuthula!*

*Kulomhlabawezono.*

*Igazi likaJesu linyenyez': ukuthula!*

*Usindiso!*

*Kulomhlabawezono.*

*Igazi likaJesu linyenyez': usindiso!*

*Ukubonga!*

*Kulomhlabawezono.*

*Igazi likaJesu linyenyez': ukubonga!*

*Ukunqoba!*

*Kulomhlabawezono.*

*Igazi likaJesu linyenyez': ukunqoba!*

*Induduzo!*

*Kulomhlabawezono.*

*Igazi likaJesu linyenyez': induduzo!*

*Ukuthula!*

*Kulomhlabawezono.*

*Igazi likaJesu linyenyez': ukuthula!*

Festival Singers of Florida

*earthsongs*

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## Zulu Text & English Translation

The Zulu text follows the same pronunciation rules (for vowels and consonants) as in Latin. An exception is "Jesus" with the "J" being pronounced as in English.

|                            |                               |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Kulomhlabawezono.          | In this sinful world.         |
| Igazi likaJesu linyenyez': | Through the blood of Jesus:   |
| Ukuthula!                  | We find peace!                |
| Usindiso!                  | We are saved!                 |
| Ukubonga!                  | We are filled with gratitude! |
| Ukunqoba!                  | We will conquer!              |
| Induduzo!                  | We are consoled!              |
| Ukuthula!                  | We find peace!                |

## Cultural Context

*Ukuthula* is an African Prayer for peace. The song originated in churches in the townships of pre-democratic South Africa. The content of the song is unashamedly emotional. The performance should be poignant and powerful.

## Performance Notes

No movement (choreography) is necessary in performance. A simple gesture throughout the song could work most effectively: the choir stands with their arms in a receptive position with palms facing upward. Do not lift the arms too high as to create the impression that the singers are cradling something in their arms. Alternatively the choir can experiment with a different (stationary) gesture for each verse.



**André van der Merwe** is a conductor and composer from Cape Town, South Africa. He is often invited to perform as adjudicator and clinician across the world. André initially studied Music at the University of Cape Town, but after an injury to his hand, he changed course and studied Drama at the University of Stellenbosch. From 1990 to 1996 André directed theatre productions for the Grahamstown International Arts Festival and for the Klein Karoo Arts Festival in Oudtshoorn. From 1997 to 2003 André conducted the Pro Cantu Youth Choir. Presently he conducts three choirs: The Stellenberg Girls Choir (since 1999), The Stellenbosch University Choir (since 2003) and The South African Youth Choir (since 2005). The South African Youth Choir is the first of its kind in South Africa. Members are auditioned and selected from across the country and accommodated in a hostel in Durbanville, Cape Town. The choir members reflect the true demographics of South Africa and celebrate unity within cultural diversity.

# Ukuthula

An African Prayer for Peace

Traditional Zulu Gospel  
arr. André van der Merwe

**Espressivo (♩ = c. 66)**

Solo Soprano (S)      Alto (A)      Tenor (T)      Bass (B)

**U-ku-thu-la!**      **U-ku-thu-la!**      **Al-le-lu-ia!**

**U - ku-thu - la**      **ku-lom - hla-ba-we-zo - no!**      **I -**

**U - ku-thu - la**      **ku-lom - hla-ba-we-zo - no!**      **I -**

**U - ku-thu - la**      **ku-lom - hla-ba-we-zo - no!**      **I -**

**U - ku-thu - la**      **ku-lom - hla-ba-we-zo - no!**      **I -**

**ga - zi li - ka Je - su lin - yen - yez': u - ku - thu - la!**

**ga - zi li - ka Je - su lin - yen - yez': u - ku - thu - la!**

**ga - zi li - ka Je - su lin - yen - yez': u - ku - thu - la!**

**ga - zi li - ka Je - su lin - yen - yez': u - ku - thu - la!**

**T Solo**      **U-ku-bo - nга!**      **U-ku-bo - nга!**      **Al-le-lu-ia!**

**U - ku - bo - nга**      **ku-lom - hla-ba-we-zo - no!**      **I -**

**U - ku - bo - nга**      **ku-lom - hla-ba-we-zo - no!**      **I -**

**U - ku - bo - nга**      **ku-lom - hla-ba-we-zo - no!**      **I -**

**U - ku - bo - nга**      **ku-lom - hla-ba-we-zo - no!**      **I -**

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SSAT Soli

U-ku-nqo - ba!

U - ku-nqo - ba

ku-lom - hla - ba - we - zo - no!

U - ku-nqo - ba

ku-lom - hla - ba - we - zo - no!

U - ku-nqo - ba

ku-lom - hla - ba - we - zo - no!

Al-le - lu - ia!

28

pp

A S solo      U-ku-thu - la!      Al-le - lu - ia!

S      Mm,

A      Mm,

T      Mm,

B      Mm,

33

S mm.

A mm.

T mm.

B mm.

36

S

A

T

B