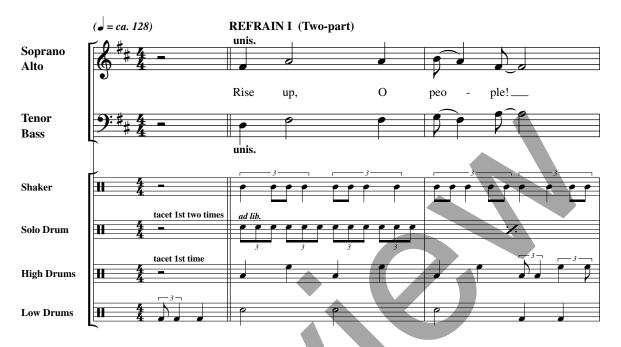
Rise Up, O People for The East London Communities Organisation

Bernadette Farrell





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For the recording, the percussion ensemble featured Gankogui (bell), Axatse (rattle/shaker), Djembe (hand drum), Kaganu (high drum), Kidi (medium-high drum), Sogo (medium-low drum), and Djun-Djun (low drum). Feel free to adapt the percussion part notated here to fit your needs.



 $[{]m *The\ Two-part\ and\ SATB\ Choir\ parts\ during\ the\ verses\ may\ be\ used\ interchangeably\ or\ progressively.}$





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Background Notes

Some of the most radical social changes our world has witnessed have come about through People Power. In our own time alone we have seen the collapse of the Berlin Wall, the victory of Solidarity, the defeat of dictatorship in the Philippines, the transformation of South Africa, and newly emerging democracies. Organized people can indeed change the world.

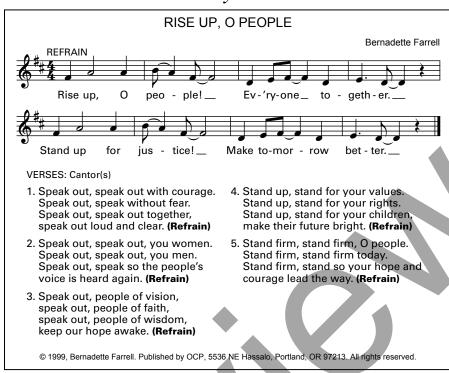
Justice, in the biblical sense, involves the restoration of right relationships. Where we re-weave the connections between people, some form of just society may develop. In Britain's inner cities a new vitality is emerging through the vision of the Citizens Organizing Foundation, which seeks out and trains organizers from all walks of life, in order to empower people and restore dignity. Nothing else I have seen has put structural change in the hands of ordinary people so effectively.

This piece was written for an assembly of The East London Communities Organisation, (www.telcocitizens.org.uk) an amalgamation of faith communities and secular organizations working together for positive change. One thousand people assembled to reflect, do business together, and have a public conversation with the electoral candidates for London Mayor. Communities from many different Christian traditions, mosques and temples were united in acting on their common values. A song was needed which could be sung by people of all faiths. The one thing our worship traditions had in common was drumming. So no other instrument was used, just our voices and the rhythm of the drums.

Keep it simple. As Gelineau says: "Who dares do less, in order to do more?"

−B.F.

Assembly Edition



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