

Lullabies: An Illustrated Songbook

2006 Metropolitan Museum of Art • Music Arranged by Richard Kapp • Published by Gulliver Books



Reviewed by
Jennifer Shank

From the Metropolitan Museum of Art comes this beautiful book. There are 37 lullabies included in this book: some very traditional and some not as well

known. Each song is notated in a simple, singable key, with a harmony part, chord notation for use on piano, Orff instruments, guitar or *a cappella*. For each song is listed information about the composer (where available) as well as its origin.

Accompanying each lullaby are art selections from the MMA collection. Each piece of art reflects the mood or imagery of each lullaby. Artists include van Gogh, Cassatt and Manet. The book also has two indices, one by song title and the other by first lines. This is helpful if you are hunting a particular lullaby you may remember from childhood, but can't recall its name.

The melodies are simple, lending themselves easily to soprano recorder, alto recorder or *a cappella* singing. You do not need a recording since the melodies are very singable or playable. However, if you did want to use a recording as a com-

panion to demonstrate different timbres or styles of performance, try one of the following: *Rockabye Baby*, *Lullabies from Around the World* or *Baby's Best Lullabies*.

I recommend this book as an introduction to art as well as a rich resource for lullabies from various cultures and time periods. It brings

art and music together in an effective, aesthetically pleasing way for both educator and student. This book would be ideal to show students how music and art can often reflect one another.

Write Shank at:
Jennifer.Shank@usm.edu

