

NDIKHOKHELE BAWO, arr. Barrett
SBMP 1892

SSAA
a cappella, drum

NDIKHOKHELE BAWO



Traditional South African Song

Arranged by
Michael Barrett



Cameron LaBarr
CHORAL SERIES

Santa Barbara Music Publishing, Inc.

sbmp.com



About the arranger

Michael Joseph Barrett is an internationally acclaimed conductor, composer, educator, and choral clinician. He led the University of Pretoria (TUKS) Camerata from 2013–2025 and has served as a faculty member and now Research Associate in the university's Department of Music. He earned his DMus in Choral Performance in 2017. His choirs have won numerous awards, including the Grand Prix of Nations (2014, 2017), and have performed at top events such as the ACDA National Conference (2025) and the World Symposium of Choral Music (2017). He is in demand as a guest conductor, clinician and composer with over 40 works published between SBMP and Walton Music.

The Lyrics: Based on Psalm 23, The Lord is my Shepherd

Ndikhokhele Bawo	He paid for me (by dying on the cross), my Father
Ndikhokhele Mmeli wami	He paid for me by representing me
Zalomhlaba Bawo	While on earth, my Father
Bawo ndiya bongaba ngoba wena	Father I thank you because you
Usandi gcinile.	will always keep me (safe).
Zundikhokhele	I implore you to lead me (so that I may follow)
Ezintsizini	During times of sorrow/strife
Hlal' Uhlele duze kwami	You are always standing nearby.

Pronunciation

All vowels are pure as in Latin pronunciation.

“H” before the letter “L” is pronounced as “thl” — the sound is created on the side of the mouth as in the Welsh word “Llangollen”. Thus, Hlal’ Uhlele is pronounced Thlal’ Uthle-le.

“Gcinile” is a click sound produced by placing the tip of the tongue in the front of the mouth and pulling the tongue back sharply as if one was displeased by the actions of another person. Think of the pronunciation as Txi-ni-le.

Drum

A subtle drum part is to be improvised around the provided score (only play in the measures indicated in the score). There are two basic patterns - but these can be embellished and changed to add flavour - making sure never to overpower the singing, but rather see the drum as an additional "voice part". The drum should serve the music, not lead it. For a good reference, please watch the YouTube video of the Tuks Camerata performing the work live at SBMP.COM.

Ranges

Solo S S A A



**Drum part, recording and rehearsal tracks
available at sbmp.com**

Ndikhokhele Bawo

Traditional isiXhosa
Arr. Michael Barrett

$\text{♩} = 70$

mp

Soprano Solo

Ndi - kho - khe - le Ba - wo

pp

S

pp

S

pp

A

pp

A

5

Ndi - kho - khe - le mme - li wa - mi. Za - lom-

Oo

Oo

Oo

Oo

Oo

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10

Add a few more voices

hla - ba___ Ba - wo Ba - wo Ba - wo Ba - wo ndi -

staggered breathing

Oo

staggered breathing

Oo

staggered breathing

Oo

staggered breathing

Oo

14

End Solo

ya bo - nga ngo - ba we - na u - san - di gci - ni - le.

p

we - na gci - ni - le.

p

we - na gci - ni - le.

p

we - na gci - ni - le. Ndi - kho -

p

we - na gci - ni - le. Ndi - kho -

mp

mp

18 *mp*

S Zu - ndi - kho - khe - le, Ndi - kho -

S *mp*

S Zu - ndi - kho - khe - le, Ndi - kho -

A khe - le Ba - wo Zu - ndi - kho - khe - le

A khe - le Ba - wo Zu - ndi - kho - khe - le

22

khe - le mme - li wa - mi E - zin - tsi - zi - ni

khe - le mme - li wa - mi E - zin - tsi - zi - ni, Za - lom - hla - ba Ba -

E - zin - ni

E - tsi - ni

mf

Ba - wo__ Ba - wo__ Ba - wo__ Ba - wo ndi - ya bo - nga ngo - ba

mf

wo Ba - wo__ Ba - wo Ba - wo ndi - ya bo - nga ngo - ba

mf

Ba - wo__ Ba - wo 'ya bo - nga

mf

Ba - wo__ Ba - wo 'ya bo - nga

we - na u - san - di gci - ni - le.

we - na u - san - di gci - ni - le.

f

we - na gci - ni - le. Hlal'__ U - hle - le du - ze kwa - mi.

f

we - na gci - ni - le. Hlal'__ U - hle - le du - ze kwa - mi.

35 *mp* *Ba - wo Ba - wo

f Ba - wo Ba - wo Ba - wo ndi - ya bo - nga ngo - ba

f Ba - wo Ba - wo Ba - wo Ba - wo ndi - ya bo - nga ngo - ba

Ba - wo Ba - wo 'ya bo - nga

mf Ba - wo Ba - wo 'ya bo - nga

39 we - na gci - ni - le.

we - na u - san - di gci - ni - le.

we - na u - san - di gci - ni - le.

più f we - na gci - ni - le. Hlal' U - hle - le du - ze kwa - mi.

più f we - na gci - ni - le. Hlal' U - hle - le du - ze kwa - mi.

*Measures 35-49: Only a few “flute-like” voices in the top Soprano part – no vibrato.

43 *mp* Ba - wo Ba - wo

più f Ba - wo Ba - wo Ba - wo ndi - ya bo - nga ngo - ba

più f Ba - wo Ba - wo Ba - wo Ba - wo ndi - ya bo - nga ngo - ba

mf Ba - wo Ba - wo 'ya bo - nga

mf Ba - wo Ba - wo 'ya bo - nga

47

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51 *p*

Ba - wo__ u - hlal' u - hle - le du - ze kwa - mi Ba - wo ndi - ya bo - nga ngo - ba

p

Ba - wo__ u - hlal' u - hle - le du - ze kwa - mi Ba - wo ndi - ya bo - nga ngo - ba

p

Ba - wo__ u - hlal' u - hle - le du - ze kwa - mi Ba - wo ndi - 'ya bo - nga

p bring out the lower notes

Ba - wo__ u - hlal' u - hle - le du - ze kwa - mi Ba - wo ndi - 'ya bo - nga

55

we - na u - san - di gci - ni - le.

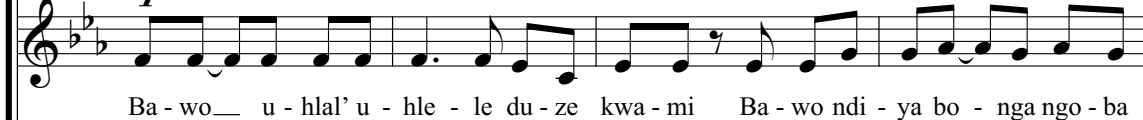
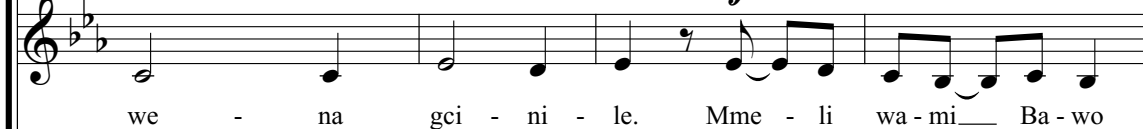
mf

we - na u - san - di gci - ni - le. Mme - li wa - mi__ Ba - wo

we - na gci - ni - le.

mf

we - na gci - ni - le. Mme - li wa - mi__ Ba - wo

mp*mp**mp**mp**mf**mf*

67

*mf**mf*

71

*f**f*

f

Ba - wo__ u - hlal' u - hle - le du - ze kwa - mi Ba - wo ndi - ya bo - nga ngo - ba

f

Ba - wo__ u - hlal' u - hle - le du - ze kwa - mi Ba - wo ndi - ya bo - nga ngo - ba

Ba - wo__ u - hlal' u - hle - le du - ze kwa - mi Ba - wo ndi - 'ya bo - nga

Ba - wo__ u - hlal' u - hle - le du - ze kwa - mi Ba - wo ndi - 'ya bo - nga

rit. **Tempo primo** *mf*

we - na u - san - di gci - ni - le. Zu - ndi -

mf

we - na u - san - di gci - ni - le. Zu - ndi -

mf

we - na gci - ni - le. Ndi - kho - khe - le Ba - wo Zu - ndi -

mf

we - na gci - ni - le. Ndi - kho - khe - le Ba - wo Zu - ndi -

84

kho - khe - le, Ndi - kho - khe - le mme - li wa - mi E - zin - tsi - zi -

kho - khe - le, Ndi - kho - khe - le mme - li wa - mi E - zin - tsi - zi -

kho - khe - le E - zin -

kho - khe - le E - tsi -

89

ni Ba - wo Ba - wo Ba - wo

ni, Za - lom - hla - ba Ba - wo Ba - wo

ni Ba - wo Ba -

ni Ba - wo Ba -

Ba - wo ndi - ya bo - nga ngo - ba we - na u - san - di gci - ni -

 Ba - wo Ba - wo ndi - ya bo - nga ngo - ba we - na u - san - di gci - ni -

 wo 'ya bo - nga we - na gci - ni -

 wo 'ya bo - nga we - na gci - ni -

97 **Soprano Solo** *mp*

 Ndi - kho - khe - le Ba - wo Ndi - kho-

 le. Oo

 le. Oo

 le. Oo

 le. Oo

102

khe - le mme - li wa - mi.____ Za - lom -

Oo

Oo

Oo

Oo

Oo

106

End Solo

hla - ba__ Ba - wo

mf Ba - wo__ Ba - wo__ Ba - wo__ Ba - wo ndi-

mf Ba - wo__ Ba - wo__ Ba - wo Ba - wo ndi-

mf Ba - wo__ Ba - wo

mf Ba - wo__ Ba - wo

110

rit.

S

ya bo - nga ngo - ba we - na u - san - di gci - ni - le.

S

ya bo - nga ngo - ba we - na u - san - di gci - ni - le.

A

'ya bon - ga we - na gci - ni - le.

A

'ya bon - ga we - na gci - ni - le.

*Measure 113: The top B $\flat$ should sound like an overtone – thus no vibrato and preferably only one singer.

