

THE *Lotte Senya* COMPETITION SONGBOOK

“Sunday Morning Paul” (standalone song)

Music and lyrics by Katya Stanislavskaya

SONG SYNOPSIS

“Sunday Morning Paul” is inspired by the life and personal struggle of a friend of the composer. It has been showcased in several LGBTQIA-themed concerts and cabarets.

SONG CONTEXT

The song takes place somewhere in an American “red” state. The character is standing at the back of a church on a Sunday morning, watching his (secret) lover Paul play the organ.

CHARACTER DESCRIPTION

The character is in his mid-twenties to early 30’s. He is confident about who he is; but at the same time, he has compassion for Paul and his circumstances.

PERFORMANCE NOTES

Vocally, *Sunday Morning Paul* is written for a baritone who is a sensitive and versatile singing actor. Ideally, the singer would provide vocal contrast between the tender, church-like sections, and the more whimsical “pop-based” sections. No part of the song calls for an operatic sound.

It’s important not to “telegraph”, or give away, the tragedy of the situation right off the bat. The performer should find pleasure in observing Paul, humor in other people’s mistaken perceptions of Paul, and joy in reminiscing about last night. This will make the payoff that much greater at the end.