

RAISED VOICES
London Political Choir
singing
AT
YEMEN VIGIL

25 March 2020

1 THE WAR MACHINE (starts D)

Sue Gilmurray

In eastern skies the great hawks fly
Over bloodied hills where children die
And the instruments of tyranny
Were bought from Britain plc
As the war machine rolls round

Chorus: And the war machine
Rolls round and round
And the poor and the weak
Get trampled on the ground
And from where we stand
Their cries are drowned
By the clink (and the) clank
(of the) dollar (and the) pound
As the war machine rolls round

And the prisoner sleeping where he fell
Will awake to one more day of hell
From a US baton's searing pain
His body bound by a Sheffield chain
As the war machine rolls round. (*Chorus*)

We've an industry that lives and thrives
Making tools to shatter human lives
And our honest workers ply their skill
Helping distant tyrants maim and kill
As the war machine rolls round. (*Chorus*)

It is time my friends for us to say
We will not sell death to earn our pay
It is time for arms exports to cease
For the world can never live in peace
While the war machine rolls round. (*Chorus*)

2 VINE AND FIG TREE (G# to C#)

Traditional.

Arranged Morag Carmichael, Raised Voices

And everyone neath the vine and fig tree
Shall live in peace and unafraid (x2)
Into ploughshares beat their swords
Nations shall make war no more (x2)

Unison; add bottom part; add top part; rpt with all parts

3 AIN'T GONNA LET NOBODY TURN ME ROUND
(starts E)

Ain't gonna let nobody turn me 'round, turn me round,
turn me 'round
Ain't gonna let nobody turn me 'round
Gonna keep on a walkin', keep on a talkin'
Marchin' up to freedom land.

Ain't gonna let no deadly weapon makers
turn me 'round, turn me 'round, turn me 'round
Ain't gonna let no deadly weapon makers turn me
round,
Gonna keep on resisting, keep on insisting,
Find a way to peace some day.

Ain't gonna let no bloody war machine turn me 'round,
turn me 'round, turn me 'round
Ain't gonna let no bloody war machine turn me round,
Gonna keep on resisting, keep on insisting,
Find a way to peace some day.

Ain't gonna let no DSEI Arms Fair turn me 'round, turn
me 'round, turn me 'round
Ain't gonna let no DSEI Arms Fair turn me round
Gonna keep on resisting, keep on insisting,
Find a way to peace some day.

4 HARVEST FOR THE HUNGRY

Sop/alto B^b, tenor D;

Woody Guthrie. Arr. Julie Jackson and Mel Ellis.

Extra verses Liz Philipson (RV)

Why do your warships sail on my waters?
Why do your bombs fall down from my skies?
Why do you burn my towns and my cities?
I've got to know friend, I've got to know.

(*Chorus*) I've got to know friend, I've got to know
Hungry mouths ask me wherever I go.
Comrades and friends are dying around me
I've got to know friend, I've got to know.

Why do you spend all your money on weapons?
Why is there none for your hospitals and schools?
Why do you lock up your young ones in prison?
I've got to know friend, I've got to know. (*Chorus*)

Why have the wars left people still starving
Begging for shelter, water and food?
Why can't we have our own land for our people?
I've got to know friend, I've got to know. (*Chorus*)

Why do you silence the voices of reason?
What makes you kill those who fight for the poor?
Why can't you let us decide our own future?
I've got to know friend, I've got to know. (*Chorus*)

5 NO MORE WAR (starts C) Camilla Cancantata

No more, no more, no more war no more (x 2)
No more, no more war, no war no more
We dissent, we dissent, we dissent
From the violence and hate of the military state

6 NOT IN MY NAME (starts D)

Words and music Mal Finch. Updated John Hamilton
We can see the forces gathering like so many times before

'Working for peace' they say, preparing for war.
They are claiming to be standing for democracy
But their voices would be silenced if democracy could speak.

Chorus: You're not doing it in my name (x 8)

They shout about the 'terrorists' and try to shift the blame
From the international arms trade and the profits to be made.

And as night falls back in Gaza, another twenty die
If humanity could speak, well, humanity would cry.
(*Chorus*)

Politicians from their pedestals, will talk of bravery
For 'noble' and 'heroic', read 'self-interest' and 'greed'.
We're the champions of order, of that they have no doubt
But if human rights could speak, I tell you, human rights would shout. (*Chorus*).

Arms dealers make their fortunes on the backs of those who die
While leaders with a mission prepare for genocide
To those who claim to represent me: I can smell hypocrisy
I don't give you my permission, no, you cannot speak for me. (*Chorus*.)

7 AIN'T GONNA STUDY WAR (starts A (tenor/sop), F# (altos)) *Origin: Roxane Smith, extra verse RV*

VERSE 1

(*bottom part*) Ain't gonna study wa-a-ar,
Ain't gonna study wa-a-ar,
Lay down your guns, lay down your guns
By the riverside.

(*sop and alto part*) Lay down your sword and shield
Lay your weapons down,
Lay down your guns
By the riverside. (*Repeat Verse 1*)

VERSE 2

(*bottom part*) We're gonna close the A-arms Fair,
We're gonna close the A-arms Fair,
Lay down your drones, lay down your bombs,
By the riverside.

(*Sop and alto part*) Close down the A-arms Fair,
Ban those tanks and bombs,
Lay down your drones,
By the riverside. (*Repeat Verse 2*)

(*End by repeating VERSE 1*)

8 SIYA HAMBA (D - B)

South African gospel, Arr Niels Erlank. Adapted John Hamilton (for Strawberry Thieves) and RV

Siya hamb' ekameni lokolo x 4
Siya hamba, hamba...

We are singing in the name of peace x 4
We are singing, singing...

Anu tzo-adeem likrat shalom x 4
An tzo-adeem, tzo-adeem...

Nasseeru min adjli salaam x 4
Nasseeru, nasseeru ...

Caminando a lograr la paz x 4
Caminando, caminando...

9 SINGING FOR OUR LIVES (G)

Holly Near. Arr. Jane Schonveld

We are a gentle angry people
And we are singing, singing for our lives x 2

We are a justice seeking people...
We are a land of many colours...
We are old and young together...
We are gay and straight together...
We are an anti-nuclear people...

10 BELLA CIAO (start A)

Traditional. Arr. Gude Cause, Protest in Harmony

Oh we are singing for peace and justice
Oh bella ciao, bella ciao, bella ciao, ciao, ciao
We are singing for peace and justice
And we want peace and justice now

Oh we are singing to stop this arms fair...
It's time to end this deadly trade.

Oh we are singing to end this madness...
We've got to stop this madness now.

We want a change now, don't make more weapons...
Instead make more clean energy.

11 BLOOD MONEY (starts E) *Camilla Cancantata*

Blood money, blood money, End the trade in murder
No more profits from war crimes
No more profits from war.

12 ONE SONG, ONE DANCE (D)

Tune: Mayenziwe. Words Cynthia Cockburn (RV)

One song, One dance
One world, One chance

RAISED VOICES

London Political Choir

We rehearse weekly on Thursday from 7.30 – 9.30 pm at
Doreen Bazell Community Centre, Chenies Place, London NW1 1UG.

We welcome new members.

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