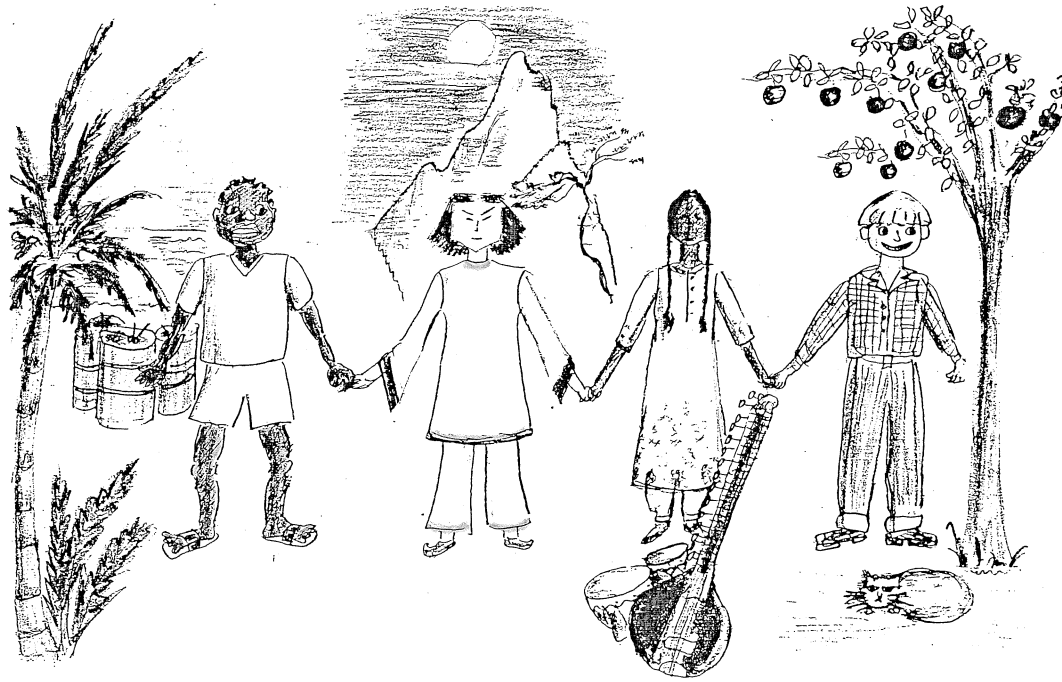


WORDS

# Songs of Autumn

A musical journey, during October, to  
different parts of the world



by

**ANDREW DOWNES**

LYNWOOD MUSIC

## SONGS OF AUTUMN

A musical work to celebrate Autumn in different parts of the world.  
Scored for Junior and Infant choirs with instrumental accompaniment.

Music by ANDREW DOWNES

Six Songs:

### 1) The arrival of Autumn.

**TEXT:**

*Autumn* by Florence Hoatson

Yellow the bracken,  
Golden the sheaves,  
Rosy the apples,  
Crimson the leaves;  
Mist on the hillside,  
Clouds grey and white.  
Autumn, good morning!  
Summer, good night!

### 2) Caribbean. Tropical weather/monsoon/hurricanes/general excitement. Trinidad: World Beat and Sea Festivals

**TEXT:**

*Carnival* Traditional poem from Trinidad

Can we take you away  
To the warm sea and sun?  
Can we take you away  
To the isle full of fun?

No more wind and rain,  
No more hurricane.  
Let us take you away  
To the isle full of fun.

Let us dance and sing  
Through day and night.  
Much joy we will bring  
In darkness and light.

Can we take you away  
To the warm sea and sun?  
Can we take you away  
To the isle full of fun?

- 3) **China. "MOON FESTIVAL"; wind reversal - from winds blowing out of China to winds being drawn in, generally very changeable.**

**TEXT:** adapted from

***The Mid Autumn Moon* by Li Qiao.**

A full moon hangs high in the chilly sky,  
Some say it's the same everywhere,  
But how can one be sure? Many thousands of miles away  
The moon may be under a cloud.

The moon round and bright in the starry sky -  
Some say it's the same everywhere,  
But how can one be sure? Many thousands of miles away  
The sun may be bright in the day.

- 4) **Celtic Europe. "SAMHAIN" (Halloween); damp and misty; darkness coming.**

**TEXT:** adapted from

***The Cottager to her Infant* by Dorothy Wordsworth**

The days are cold, the nights are long,  
The north wind sings a doleful song;  
Then hush again upon my breast;  
All merry things are now at rest,  
Save thee, my pretty love!

The kitten sleeps upon the hearth,  
The crickets now have ceased their mirth;  
And nothing stirs within the house  
Save scrabbling feet from hungry mouse,  
Then why so busy thou?

Nay! fear it not, that sparkling light;  
'Tis but the moon that shines so bright  
On window-pane bedropped with rain:  
My little child will sleep again,  
And wake when it is day.

**5) India. “NAVRATRI -The Festive Time”; change from monsoon to cool season with vivid colours.**

**TEXT:** adapted from

*Festival of lights* by Gouri V Kalambi

Diwali is the feast of lights  
Which people enjoy with all their might.

And all forget their differences  
And live in peace and joy.

There's lots of fun, and free from care,  
The people fire crackers into the air.

It seems as though a new world is born  
Which fills us all with joy.

It is a feast of unity  
And people worship the deity

Both young and old in festive mood  
Create a time of joy.

**6) The end of Autumn.**

**TEXT:**

*Autumn Song* by Margaret Rose

October is a piper,  
Piping down the dell-  
Sad sweet songs of sunshine-  
Summer's last farewell.  
He pipes till grey November  
Comes in mist and rain.  
Then he puts his pipe away  
Till Autumn comes again.

**INSTRUMENTATION:**

violin(s) I; violin(s) II; viola(s); cello(s); bass(es) (If single strings are used, all instruments will need amplification);  
flute; trumpet; piano; percussion (1 player);  
er-hu, sitar, steel drums, harp – these parts may be sampled or synthesised.

CD with synthesised sounds and vocal parts added by Paula Downes, soprano,  
available for use by schools.