

Birdland

for mixed choir SSATBB a cappella

by Joe Zawinul
Lyrics by Jon Hendricks
arr. by Oliver Gies

♩ = 150

soprano

mezzo

alto

tenor

bariton

bass

mp

mp

mp

t t t t

down down down_ down down du down_ down down down_

down down down_ down down du down_ down down down_

7

s

m

a

t

bar

b

t t t t t t t t t t

down down du down_ down down down_ down down du down

mf

five - thou-sand lightyears from Bird - land and I'm still_ preachin' the rhy-

down down du down_ down down down_ down down du down

down down du down_ down down down_ down down du down

12

s *mf* Years

m t t t t t t t t t t Years

a — down down down_ down down du down_

t thm. Long - gone, uptight years from Bird - land and I'm still_ tea-chin' it with_ 'em. Years

bar — down down down_ down down du down_

b — down down down_ down down du down_

17

s — from the land of the Bird_ and I am still fee - lin' the spi - rit. Five

m — from the land of the Bird_ and I am still_ fee - lin' the spi - rit. Five

a *mf* down down down_ down down du down_

t — from the land of the Bird_ and I am still fee - lin' the spi - rit. Five

bar *mf* down down down_ down down du down_

b *mf* down down down_ down down du down_

21

s
- thou - sand light - years from Bird - land but I know_ peo - ple can hear_ it.____ Bird

m
- thou - sand light - years from Bird - land but I know_ peo - ple can hear_ it.____ Bird

a
down down down_ down down du down_ Bird

t
- thou - sand light - years from Bird - land but I know_ peo - ple can hear_ it.____ down

bar
down down down_ down down du down_ Bird

b
down down down_ down down du down_ down

25

s
_ named it, Bird_ made it, Bird_ heard it, then_ played it well

m
_ named it, Bird_ made it, Bird_ heard it, then_ played it well

a
_ named it, Bird_ made it, Bird_ heard it, then_ played it well

t
_ du du(t) down_ du du down_ down_down down_ du dn du down

bar
_ named it, Bird_ made it, Bird_ heard it, then_ played it well

b
_ du du(t) down_ du du down_ down_down down_ du dn du down

29

s — sta - ted. Bir - d(el) - land it hap - pened down in Bir(d) - lan - d(e) yeah

m — sta - ted. Bir - d(el) - land it hap - pened down in Bir(d) - lan - d(e) yeah

a — sta - ted. Bir - d(el) - land it hap - pened down in Bir(d) - lan - d(e) yeah

t — du du deh(t) Bir - d(el) - land down down down du Bir(d) - lan - d(e) yeah

bar — sta - ted. Bir - d(el) - land it hap - pened down in Bir(d) - lan - d(e) yeah

b — du du deh(t) Bir - d(el) - land down down down du Bir(d) - lan - d(e) yeah

33

s *p* gung gung gung ge gung gung gung gung

m *p* — gung gung gegung gung gung gung ge gung gung gung gung

a *p* In the mid - dle of that hub I re mem - ber one jazz

t *p* In the mid - dle of that hub I re mem - ber one jazz

bar *pp*

b *pp*

38

s
ge gung gung gung gung ge gung gung gung ge gung gung

m
ge gung gung gung gung ge gung gung gung ge gung E - v'ry - bo

a
club where we went_ to pat feet down on fif - ty se - con' street. E - v'ry - bo

t
club where we went_ to pat feet down on fif - ty se - con' street. E - v'ry - bo

bar

b
P
E - v'ry - bo

43 *cresc. poco a poco*

s
gung gung gegung gung gung gung gegung gung gung gung

m
cresc. poco a poco
- dy heard that word that they named_ it aft - er Bird, wherethe rhy - thmswooped and

a
cresc. poco a poco
- dy heard that word that they named_ it aft - er Bird, wherethe rhy - thmswooped and

t
cresc. poco a poco
- dy heard that word that they named_ it aft - er Bird, wherethe rhy - thmswooped and

bar
p *cresc. poco a poco*
gung gung gegung gung gung gung gegung gung gung gung

b
cresc. poco a poco
- dy heard that word that they named_ it aft - e(r) - oh - oo - m ee -

48

s ge gung gung gung gung ge gung An' the cats, — they gigger in

m swirled, the jazz- cor - ner of the world. An' the cats, — they gigger in

a swirled, the jazz- cor - ner of the world. An' the cats, — they gigger in

t swirled, the jazz- cor - ner of the world. An' the cats, — they gigger in

bar ge gung gung gung gung ge gung gung gung gung

b - oh - oo - m ee - - oh - oo - m ee -

52

s there, where be- yond — com - pare. Bird - land, — I'm sing - in' Bir - d(el)- land,

m there, where be- yond — com - pare. Bird - land, — I'm sing - in' Bir - d(el)- land,

a there, where be- yond — com - pare. Bird - land, — I'm sing - in' Bir - d(el)- land,

t there, where be- yond — com - pare. Bird - land, — I'm sing - in' Bir - d(el)- land,

bar ge gung gung gung ge Bird — gung gung gung gung

b - oh - oo - m Bird — gung gung gung gung

56

s
Bird - land, — ol' swing - in' Bir - d(el)- land

m
Bird - land, — ol' swing - in' Bir - d(el)- land

a
Bird - land, — ol' swing - in' Bir - d(el)- land

t
Bird - land, — ol' swing - in' Bir - d(el)- land

bar
ge gung gung Hey man, the mu-sic turns me on gung gung gung gung

b
ge gung gung Hey man, the mu-sic turns me on gung gung gung gung

60

s
gliss.

m
gliss. *mp* The mu-sic real-ly turns me

a
gliss.

t
gliss.

bar
ge gung gung Hey man, the mu-sic turns me on gung gung gung gung *mp*

b
ge gung gung Hey man, the mu-sic turns me on gung gung gung gung *mp*

64 *mp*

s oh _____ Yeah, the mu-sic turns me on.

m on, oh _____ Yeah, the mu-sic turns me on.

a *mp* *whisper*
It turns me on Yeah,

t *mp*
oh _____ Yeah,

bar gung gung ge gung gung gung gung gung gung

b gung gung ge gung gung gung gung gung gung

68 *f* *p* *f* *p*

s _____

m _____

a — the mu-sic turns me on.

t — the mu-sic turns me on. Down them stairs lose them cares. Where?

bar ge gung gung ge gung gung ge Down them stairs lose them cares. Where?

b ge gung gung ge gung gung ge Down them stairs lose them cares. Where?

72

s
m
a
t
bar
b

Down in Bird - land. To - tal swing, Bop— was king there—

Down in Bird - land. To - tal swing, Bop— was king there— bu du du du

77

s
m
a
t
bar
b

mf Bird— would cook, Max— would look. Where?—

mf Bird— would cook, Max— would look. Where?—

mf Bird— would cook, Max— would look. Where?—

mf down in Bird land. Bird— would cook, Max— would look. Where?—

mf down in Bird land. Bird— would cook, Max— would look. Where?—

mf down in Bird land. Bird— would cook, Max— would look. Where?— bu du du du

81

s Down in Bird - land. Miles_ came through, Trane_ came, too, there_

m Down in Bird - land. Miles_ came through, Trane_ came, too, there_

a Down in Bird - land. Miles_ came through, Trane_ came, too, there_

t Down in Bird - land. Miles_ came through, Trane_ came, too, there_

bar Down in Bird - land. Miles_ came through, Trane_ came, too, there_

b Down in Bird - land. Miles_ came through, Trane_ came, too, there_ bu du du du

85

s down in Bird - land. Ba - sie blew, Bla - key too. Where?_

m down in Bird - land. Ba - sie blew, Bla - key too. Where?_____

a down in Bird - land. Ba - sie blew, Bla - key too. Where?_____

t down in Bird - land. Ba - sie blew, Bla - key too. Where?_____

bar down in Bird - land. Ba - sie blew, Bla - key too. Where?_____

b down in Bird - land. Ba - sie blew, Bla - key too. Where?_ bu du du du

89

s Down in Bird - land. Can - non - ball played the hall there

m Down in Bird - land. Can - non - ball played the hall there

a Down in Bird - land. Can - non - ball played the hall there

t Down in Bird - land. Can - non - ball played the hall there

bar Down in Bird - land. Can - non - ball played the hall there

b Down in Bird - land. Can - non - ball played the hall there bu du du du

93

s down in Bird - land yeah

m down in Bird - land yeah *p* de - dl - de - dl loo ba(b) bai ba de - dl - de - dl loo ba(b) bai

a down in Bird - land yeah

t down in Bird - land yeah yeah yeah yeah yeah

bar down in Bird - land yeah *p* gung gung gung gung

b down in Bird - land yeah

96

s *pp* de-dl-de-dl loo ba(b) bai__ ba de-dl-de-dl

m *pp* __ ba de-dl-de-dl loo ba(b) bai__ ba de-dl-de-dl loo ba(b) bai__ ba de-dl-de-dl loo ba(b) bai__

a *P* ba(b) bah__ da ba da da da doo da(b) *pp* ba(b) bah__ da ba

t *P* da da da doo da(b) *pp* ge gung gung

bar *pp* gung gung da da da doo da(b) ge gung gung

b *mp* There may ne-ver be no-thing such as

99

s loo ba(b) bai__ ba de-dl-de-dl loo ba(b) bai__ ba de-dl-de-dl loo ba(b) bai__ ba de-dl-de-dl

m __ ba de-dl-de-dl loo ba(b) bai__ ba de-dl-de-dl loo ba(b) bai__ ba de-dl-de-dl loo ba(b) bai__

a ba(b) bah__ da ba ba(b) bah__ da ba da da da doo da(b)

t gung gung gung gung da da da doo da(b)

bar gung gung gung gung da da da doo da(b)

b that, no more,__ no more,__ Down in

102

s
loo ba(b) bai ba de-dl-de-dl loo ba(b) bai ba de-dl-de-dl loo ba(b) bai ba de-dl-de-dl

m
ba de-dl-de-dl loo ba(b) bai ba de-dl-de-dl loo ba(b) bai ba de-dl-de-dl loo ba(b) bai

a
ba(b) bah da ba ba(b) bah da ba ba(b) bah da ba

t
gegung gung gung gung gung gung

bar
gegung gung gung gung gung gung

b
Bird - land, that's where it was at, I know,

105

s
loo ba(b) bai ba de-dl-de-dl loo ba(b) bai ba de-dl-de-dl loo ba(b) bai ba de-dl-de-dl

m
ba de-dl-de-dl loo ba(b) bai ba de-dl-de-dl loo ba(b) bai ba de-dl-de-dl loo ba(b) bai

a
da da da doo da(b) ba(b) bah da ba ba(b) bah da ba

t
da da da doo da(b) gegung gung gung gung

bar
da da da doo da(b) gegung gung gung gung

b
I know. Back in them days Bop was ri - din' high, hel - lo

108

s loo ba(b) bai ba de-dl-de-dl loo ba(b) bai ba(b) wah wah wah wah

m ba de-dl-de-dl loo ba(b) bai ba de-dl-de-dl loo ba(b) wah wah wah wah

a ba(b) bah da ba da da da wah wah wah wah

t gung gung da da da wah wah wah wah

bar gung gung da da da doo wah How well

b an' good - bye. wah wah wah wah

111

s wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah

m wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah

a wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah

t wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah

bar those cats re-mem-ber their first Bird - land - gig To play in Bird-land is an

b wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah

114

s wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah

m wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah

a wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah

t wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah

bar ho-nor we still dig. Oh yeah, _____ that club was like an-a-no-ther world,

b wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah

118

s wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah

m wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah

a wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah

t wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah

bar — sure en - ough yeah— ba - by. All of the cats had the cook in' on

b wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah wah

121

s *f* wah wah wah *f* wah wah wah wah wah wah *mp* Bird - land

m *f* wah wah wah *f* wah wah wah wah wah wah *mp* Bird - land

a *f* wah wah wah *f* wah wah wah wah wah wah *mp* Bird - land

t *f* wah wah wah *f* wah wah wah wah wah wah *mp* Bird - land

bar people just sat— an'they're stea-dy look-in' on. Then Bird, he came and spread the word Bird - land

b *f* wah wah wah *f* wah wah wah wah wah wah *mp* ba du du dung

124

s *p* Yes, in - deed, he did,— told the truth

m

a *p* Yes, in - deed, he did.

t

bar — gung gung ge gung gung *mp* gung gung ge gung gung *p*

b — gung gung ge gung gung *p* gung gung ge gung gung

128

s there down in Bird - land. *mp*

m Yes, in - deed, he real - ly did it, Char - lie Par

a

t *mp* Yes, in - deed, he did. gung gung ge gung gung

bar *mp* gung gung ge gung gung down down down

b *mp* gung gung ge gung gung down down down

132

s *mf* Yes, in - deed, he real - ly did it, Char - lie Par

m *mf* ker played in Bird - land. Yes, in - deed, he real - ly did it, Char - lie Par

a *mf* Yes, in - deed, he real - ly did it, Char - lie Par

t *mf* gung gung ge gung gung gung gung ge gung gung

bar *mf* down down du down down down down

b *mf* down down du down down down down

136

s
ker played in Bird - land. *f* Bird named it, Bird made it, Bird

m
ker played in Bird - land. *f* Bird named it, Bird made it, Bird

a
ker played in Bird - land. *f* Bird named it, Bird made it, Bird

t
gung gung gung ga down du du(t) down du du down

bar
down down du down Bird named it, Bird made it, Bird

b
down down du down down du du(t) down du du down

140

s
— heard it, then played it well sta - ted. Bir - d(e) - land

m
— heard it, then played it well sta - ted. Bir - d(e) - land

a
— heard it, then played it well sta - ted. Bir - d(e) - land

t
— down down down du dn du down du du de(t) Bir - d(e) - land

bar
— heard it, then played it well sta - ted. Bir - d(e) - land

b
— down down down du dn du down du du de(t) Bir - d(e) - land

144

s
it hap-pened down in Bird - lan - d(e) yeah

m
it hap-pened down in Bird - lan - d(e) yeah — ba de-dl-de-dl loo ba(b) bai

a
it hap-pened down in Bird - lan - d(e) E - v'ry - bo

t
down down down du Bird - lan - d(e) yeah — E - v'ry - bo

bar
it hap-pened down in Bird - lan - d(e) yeah — ge gung gung

b
down down down du Bird - lan - d(e) yeah — ge gung gung

mp

f

mf

mf

147

s
—

m
— ba de-dl-de-dl loo ba(b) bai — ba de-dl-de-dl loo ba(b) bai — ba de-dl-de-dl loo ba(b) bai

a
dy dug that beat, e - v'ry - bo - dy stomped their

t
dy dug that beat, e - v'ry - bo - dy stomped their

bar
gung gung ge gung gung gung gung

b
gung gung ge gung gung gung gung

150

s E-v'ry-bo - dy may be - bop and they'll ne - ver stop.

m ba de-dl-de-dl loo E-v'ry-bo - dy may be - bop and they'll ne - ver stop.

a feet. E-v'ry-bo - dy may be - bop and they'll ne - ver stop. **§**

t feet. E-v'ry-bo - dy may be - bop and they'll ne - ver stop. Down **D.S. al Coda**

bar ge gung gung gung gung gegung gung ge gung gung ge Down

b ge gung gung gung gung gegung gung ge gung gung ge Down

154

s down in Bird - land yeah _____ Down in Bird land _____

m down in Bird - land yeah _____ Down in Bird land _____

a down in Bird - land yeah _____ Down in Bird land _____

t down in Bird - land down down down _____ Down in Bird land _____

bar down in Bird - land down down down _____ Down in Bird land _____

b down in Bird - land down down down _____ Down in Bird land _____