

The time

There was a time our nation fought a battle to survive..
Our soldiers faced a foreign power and killed to stay alive.
The rights and wrongs are argued still, but surely now, at last,
the time for wars,
if ever there was time,
the time for wars is past.

The German bombs on Britain fell to kill and maim and burn,
then British bombs on Germany killed thousands in return,
and now we have a bomb to kill a million with one blast –
the time for bombs,
if ever there was time,
the time for bombs is past.

The nations round the table meet, “united” now in name,
but still the leaders vie for power, and argue over blame.
The crimes old hate can motivate are murderous and vast –
the time for hate,
if ever there was time,
the time for hate is past.

The earth itself is weary now, there must be no mistake.
Our children’s children wait to live in this, the world we make.
So don’t ask “whether” peace will come: the question must be “how?”
The time for peace,
if ever there was time,
the time for peace is now.

The time

Sue Gilmurray

SOPRANO
ALTO

TENOR
BASS

There was a time our na-tion fought a bat-tle to sur-vive; our sol-diers faced a

6

S.
A.

for-eign pow'r and killed to stay a - live. The rights and wrongs are ar-gued still, but sure-ly now, at

T.
B.

12

meno mosso

S.
A.

the time for wars, if e-ver there was time, last, aa ah, the time for wars is past. The

T.
B.

17

a tempo

S.
A.

Aa ah, aa Ger-man bombs on Bri-tain fell to kill and maim and burn, then Bri-tish bombs on Ger-ma-ny_ killed

T.
B.

23

S.
A.

ah, aa ah, thou-sands in re- turn; and now we have a bomb to kill a mil-lion with one blast The

T.
B.

29

meno mosso

S.
A.

time for bombs, if e-ver there was time, The na- tions round the aa ah, the time for bombs is past. Aa

T.
B.

34 ta-ble meet, u - ni-ted now in name, yet still their lead ers vie for pow'r and ar - gue o-ver

S. A.

T. B.

ah, aa

40 blame, and the crimes old hate can mo-ti-vate are mur-der-ous_ and vast. The

S. A.

T. B.

ah, aa ah,

45 *meno mosso* time for hate, if e-ver there was time, *a tempo*

S. A.

T. B.

aa ah, the time for hate is past. The earth it-self grows

50

S. A.

T. B.

wea-ry now, there must be no mis-take. Our child-ren's child-ren wait to live in this the world we

56 *meno mosso*

S. A.

T. B.

make, so don't ask whe-ther peace will come: the quest-ion must be how. The time for peace, if

62 *rit al fine*

S. A.

T. B.

e-ver there was time, the time for peace is now The time for peace is now.
now - the time for peace_ is now.