

We Reach

John Jacobson and Emily Crocker

Celebrate our connectedness, our yearnings, our dark and dazzling yesterdays and our bright and hopeful tomorrows through this original concert piece inspired by the brilliant work of artist Thomas Hart Benton. The full maestoso opening moves into a rhythmic chorus leading to a contrasting lyrical, sustained section before returning to the full, resounding conclusion.

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Measure	Movement
1-6	In random numbers, one through twelve reach one hand out from the center of the choir. Choose an accent on which to reach with palm down so that by measure seven all have one outstretched hand.
7	Rest
8-9	All turn hand so palm is out and slowly bring it in toward your body
10	Stretch hand out again like an elastic starburst
11-13	As you sing, your voice part brings hand down to a side
14	Punch right fist up
15-16	Slowly pull R fist down toward chest
17-19	Brings hands down to sides
20	On "we" touch one hand to heart
21-22	Repeat: elastic starburst stretching one hand, palm out away from the center of the choir
23-24	Hands down
25-26	Pull fists and cross forearms across chest
27-30	Burst both hands slowly from high to low, with palms facing body and focus high
31-32	Stretch R hand slowly from shoulder up, palm up
33-34	Lower hand slowly toward audience with palm up
35-45	Assume an intense, focused stance and demeanor
46-47	Clap on the downbeat, then reach out from the elastic starburst
48-51	Pull the reach as a fist, slowly back toward your body
52-53	Relax arm to side
54-57	Focus downstage left
58	Move focus slowly to high center above audience's head
59-61	Slowly move focus to downstage R
62-63	Move focus to center straight ahead
64-65	Scoop R hand, palm down from low to high
66-67	Pull fist slowly down to chest
68-69	Scoop R hand again, with palm down, out toward the audience



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70-83	Hands to sides
84	All reach one or both hands in any direction
85	Switch, reach to another position
86-88	Tap heart on “reach,” then reach one hand out from center on last note



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