

More About KYRIE ELEISON

In the fall of 1967, I was a junior at Central College and had been struggling to find my “voice” as a composer. There was no composition class offered at Central, but I was taking informal lessons with my advisor, who was also the theory teacher and had a background in composition.

As a member of the college's very fine A Cappella Choir, I wanted to write something for them and decided on a 6-word traditional liturgical text, the *Kyrie Eleison*. The modal setting for divided *a cappella* choir that I produced turned out to be, in my teacher's words, my first “mature 20th Century composition.” It was accepted for the choir and taken on the 1968 spring tour. The recording on the YouTube score video is from that tour.

The work has now been recorded for commercial release by the Kühn Choir of Prague and will be available in the spring of 2023.