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Alfred Music Releases Suzuki Voice

August 19, 2022—Louisville, CO

Alfred Music and The International Suzuki Voice committee are pleased to present *Suzuki Voice School Volume One*.

From the International Suzuki Association's Voice Committee:

We would like to thank Alfred Music for the publication and to acknowledge the tremendous amount of work by many people over many years to bring this to fruition. Dr Shinichi Suzuki asked Dr Päivi Kukkamäki to begin the Suzuki method for singing and we salute her tireless effort and years of research to make it happen.

We want to thank all Suzuki Voice students and teachers who have been involved with Suzuki Voice since 1986. The songs have been tested and sung in over twenty countries. The repertoire has been internationally approved since 2006 yet we faced many challenges with publishing due to copyright issues and including three languages. We thank all Suzuki Voice teachers and language advisors who have checked and corrected translations. We also thank all the accompanists who have played the repertoire especially Marjaana Merikanto whose accompaniment CD is published by Alfred Music with *Volume One*.

This publication is the cooperative effort of the International Suzuki Voice Committee together with Dr. Kukkamäki, who have worked on *Volume One* preparation and proofreading since 2004. It sees the culmination of many years of dedication and support from teachers across the world. Singing together in many languages is a unique experience and allows so much more than music to foster - it crosses cultural divides and brings us together through singing. This publication is of the utmost importance to the Suzuki Voice community; the voice is our first instrument – we grow through singing individually and as a community. We hope this book will help students, teachers, families, and communities honor Dr Suzuki's wish for a "beautiful tone, beautiful heart."

The recordings will be available as: Voice Part Book, Piano Accompaniment Book, Voice Part Book & CD Kit, and CD only. Recordings include the piano accompaniment only and are currently available via digital download on Alfred Media. They will be available on Amazon and iTunes in Fall 2022.

ABOUT MARJAANA MERIKANTO

Marjaana Merikanto is a Finnish concert pianist, accompanist, and piano teacher. She is an active chamber musician who specializes in lied and opera repertoire.

She graduated from the Sibelius Academy's soloist department (Master of Music, solo piano diploma) with the highest possible honors. She also studied at the Universität Mozarteum, Salzburg.

Merikanto achieved success in several piano competitions and chamber music competitions in Finland and abroad. As a solo performer, she has worked with many different orchestras and performed in Europe, USA, and Japan.

She started playing piano at the age of three with the Suzuki method. She has worked with Suzuki singers for more than twenty years.

She is currently performing as a concert pianist and accompanist and is working as a lecturer in classical piano and lied in Finland.

ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL SUZUKI ASSOCIATION

The International Suzuki Association (ISA) was founded in 1983, as a non-profit organization, to serve as a coalition of Suzuki Associations throughout the world. Designated by Dr Suzuki as the sole authorized organization, its primary purpose is to serve as a coordination center and to protect the "Suzuki" name and rights. The International Suzuki Association strives to encourage, promote, enlarge, and coordinate the Suzuki Method™ throughout the world.

ABOUT ALFRED MUSIC

Alfred Music, the leader in music education for over 100 years, produces educational, reference, pop, and performance materials for teachers, students, professionals, and hobbyists spanning every musical instrument, style, and difficulty level. Alfred Music is located in Los Angeles, with offices around the world, including Germany, Singapore, and the United Kingdom.

Since 1922, Alfred Music has been dedicated to helping people learn, teach, and play music. Alfred Music currently has over 150,000 active titles and represents a wide range of well-known publications—from methods like Alfred's Basic Guitar, Alfred's Basic Piano Library, Premier Piano Course, Sound Innovations, and Suzuki, to artists like Bruce Springsteen, Led Zeppelin, The Rolling Stones, and The Who, to brands like Harry Potter, Lord of the Rings, Star Wars, The Wizard of Oz, Rolling Stone magazine, and Billboard.

In addition to its own titles, Alfred Music distributes products from over 150 companies, including advance music, Belwin, Dover Publications, Drum Channel, Faber Music, Highland/Etling, Jamey Aebersold Jazz, Kalmus, MakeMusic, Penguin, and WEA.

Alfred Music is now also paired with MakeMusic, which is part of Peaksware Holdings, LLC portfolio of companies, to transform how music is composed, published, taught, learned, and performed by bringing together the leaders in educational music publishing and music technology.

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