PERFORMANCE NOTES

The text for "Ani Ma'amin (I Believe)" comes from Maimonides' thirteen articles of faith. The melody's origin is unknown and likely comes from Eastern Europe. This song has many variants both in text and tune. I have taken some musical license with the many sources of the tune that I looked at and have altered it for this choral arrangement.

This song may have gained its greatest significance during the Holocaust when thousands of Jews sang this song as they marched to their deaths in the gas chambers.

Thank you to Joshua Jacobson of the Zamir Chorale in Boston for his assistance with the text.

– John Leavitt

Pronunciation

Ani ma' amin,	*ah-nee mah-ah-meen*
be'emuna sh'léma,	*beh-eh-moo-nah shə-lay-mah*
B'viat hamashiach,	*bə-vee-aht hah-mah-shee-ach*
V'af al pi sheyitmameiah,	*və-ahf ahl pee sheh-yit-mah-meh-ah*
im kol zeh ani ma'amin.	*im kawl zeh ah-nee mah-ah-meen*

The Hebrew schwa *(ə)* is a short vowel and has some *eh* sound.
Ch is pronounced gutturally, as in German.

Translation

I believe,
with a complete belief,
in the coming of the Messiah,
Even though he may tarry,
even so, I believe.