Yucatanan Round

Instructions:

First, sing the melody through one time in rhythmic unison. The round begins after this.

During the round, the place of entry changes each time the round is sung. It begins with entry on the last syllable of the group immediately preceding you; the 2nd time through the melody, enter on the 2nd to last syllable; 3rd time through, the third to last; and so on.

This means a few particular things: one is that after entry on the 11th to last syllable (the We that begins the third measure), you will no longer sing the entirety of the round each successive time. It will become shorter and shorter until you only repeat the first word (We). It also means that voices will not always enter on the strong beat; sometimes they will come in on the weak beat; but this may not be true for all parts.

There is also a drone accompaniment. This consists of two pitches; the top note (a D) remains constant, while the bottom note slowly descends a major second (from a G to an F-natural). Sustain the second note during the unison repetition of the melody, and begin descending when people start singing in parts.

The F# should be arrived at about mid-way through the round, and the F-natural during the last measure. The drone may be played by any two instruments with infinite/semi-infinite sustain; only the instrument playing the bottom note must be able to smoothly slide between pitches (examples include: violin and cello, 2 computer generated sine tones, an organ and a contrabass).

At the end of the piece, sing the melody through one more time in rhythmic unison. The drone should be a constant major 6th (F-natural/D), and should end when the melody ends.

This round may be sung by any number of parts, in any octave; however a written out example of two parts follows.

James E. Klopfleisch
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New Orleans, LA/Cozumel, Mexico
We live under water.

We live under land.

We live in the shallows,

we live in the sand.
We live under water _ We live under land._ We live in the shallows._ we live in the sand._

we live in the sand.

We live under water _ We live under land._ We live in the shallows, We live in the sand._

We live under water We live under land._ We live in the shallows, we live in the sand._

We live under water We live under land._ We live in the shallows, we live in the sand._

We live under water We live under land._ We live in the shallows, we live in the sand._

We live under water We live under land._ We live in the shallows, we live in the sand._

We live under water We live under land._ We live in the shallows, we live in the sand._

We live under water We live under land._ We live in the shallows, we live in the sand._
We live in the shallows, we live in the sand.

We live under water. We live under land. We live in the shallows.

We live in the sand. We live under water. We live under land. We live in the shallows.

We live under water. We live under land. We live in the shallows, we live in the sand.

We live in the shallows, we live in the sand. We live under water. We live under land.

We live under water. We live under land. We live in the shallows, we live in the sand.

We live in the shallows, we live in the sand. We live under water. We live under land.

We live under land. We live in the shallows, we live under water. We live under land.

We live in the shallows, we live in the shallows, we live under water. We live under land.

We live in the shallows, we live under water. We live under land. We live in the shallows, we live under water.
We live in the water, we live under water, we live in the water.

We live in the water, we live under water, we live in the water.