

Commissioning Choir: Northwestern State University Chamber Choir;
Michael John Trotta, Composer; Michael John Trotta; Conductor; Nicholaus B. Cummins, Conductor;
Northwestern State University Chamber Choir; Chorus;
Leah Forsyth, Oboe; Andrej Kurti, Violin 1; Jonathan Andino, Violin 2;
Sofia Tchetchelashvili, Viola; Alonso Restrepo Cardozo, Violoncello

First Performance/Recording Date: March 1, 2017
Recording Engineer: Pat Divietro

This project was made possible by the Lynn Prince Endowed Professorship in Voice.

Total Duration: 30:27

NOTES

Each of the movements of *For a Breath of Ecstasy* chronicles Teasdale's search for solace amidst life's many storms. The tapestry of different vocal forces set against the backdrop of Oboe and Strings reveals moments of yearning, love, joy, and peace. Vivid imagery portrays transcendent moments of solace that are revealed in an individual's relationship to nature and in love.

This work draws texts from *Love Songs*, the anthology of celebrated American poet, Sara Teasdale (1884–1933), and was commissioned to celebrate the centennial of her winning the first Pulitzer Prize in Poetry in 1918.

—Michael John Trotta

TEXT

I sang my songs for the rest,
For you I am still;
The tree of my song is bare
On its shining hill.
For you came like a lordly wind,
And the leaves were whirled
Far as forgotten things
Past the rim of the world.
The tree of my song stands bare
Against the blue —
I gave my songs to the rest,
Myself to you.

Note: These are the texts in their original form. The composer altered them in his settings. See the music for footnotes.

AVAILABLE EDITIONS

For a Breath of Ecstasy, complete edition

- 1.3523, Piano/Oboe Choral Score
1.3523A, Full Score
1.3523B, Oboe Part
1.3523C, String Parts

Each movement available separately

1. Wealth Enough for Me
1.3524, Choral Score
1.3524A, Full Score
1.3524B, String Parts

2. Peace Flows into Me
1.3525, Choral Score
1.3525A, Full Score
1.3525B, String Parts

3. Who Gave My Soul to Me
1.3526, Choral Score
1.3526A, Full Score
1.3526B, String Parts

- 4. For You I Am Still
1.3527, Choral Score
1.3527A, Full Score
1.3527B, String Parts

5. Spend All You Have
on Loveliness
1.3451, Choral Score
1.3451A, Full Score
1.3451B, String Parts

6. And I For You
1.3528, Choral Score
1.3528A, Full Score
1.3528B, String Parts

7. Let Me Love
1.3529, Choral Score
1.3529A, Full Score
1.3529B, String Parts

Note: The oboe part is included in the choral score of each separate movement.

Michael John Trotta (b. 1978)

For biographical information visit: www.mjtrotta.com

Catalog No. 1.3527

*For Choirs of Northwestern State University, Natchitoches, Louisiana
Dr. Nicholas B. Cummins, Director of Choral Activities and Lynn Prince Endowed Professor*

*Dedicated to Dr. Greg Handel, Director of the Dear School of Creative and Performing Arts
for his incredible support of the choral arts*

For You I Am Still

for SATB Chorus, Oboe, and String Quartet or Piano

Sara Teasdale (1884–1933)

M. J. T., alt.

Michael John Trotta
(ASCAP)

Ob. $\text{♩} = 66$

Piano $\text{♩} = 66$
p

Ob. $\text{♩} = 66$
mp

Piano $\text{♩} = 66$
mp

* Play cue-sized notes if Oboe is not present.

9 **A** *mp*

S For* you I am still, for you I am still;

A *mp* For* you I am still;

T *mp* For* you I am still;

B *mp* For* you I am still;

A (Cue-sized notes are for rehearsal only)

14

S I sang my songs for the rest, For you I am still, for

A *unis.* I sang my songs for rest, For you I am still, for

T I sang my songs for the rest, for your I am still, for

B *unis.* I sang my songs for the rest, for your I am still, for

* The composer inserted this line here.

19

B

S you I am still, for you I am still, am still,

A you I am still, _ for you _ I am still, am _ still,

T you I am still, for you I am still, am still, _

B *unis.* you I am still, for you I am still, am still,

B

24

unis. p

S I am still; The tree of my song is bare

p

A I am still; The tree of my song is bare

p

T I am still; The tree of my song is

unis. p

B I am still; The tree of my song is

29

S On its shin - ing hill. For you came like a lord - ly

A On its shin - ing hill. For you came like a lord - ly,

T *dolce* bare On its shin - ing hill. *mf* wind,

B *dolce* bare On its shin - ing hill. *mf* You came like a

C

32

S wind, Far as

A you came like a lord - ly wind, Far as

T And the leaves were whirled Far as for - got - ten things,

B *div.* And the leaves were whirled Far as for - got - ten things, wind, wind,

35

S for - got - ten things Past the rim of the

A for - got - ten things Past the rim of the

T 8 far as for - got - ten things, for - got - ten things Past the rim of the

B far as for - got - ten things, for - got - ten things Past the rim of the



38

S world. The tree of my song is bare *p* **D**

A world. The tree of my song is bare *p*

T 8 world. The tree of my song is *p*

B world. The tree of my song is *unis. p*

D



42

S On its shin - ing hill. For you — came — like a lord - ly

A On its shin - ing hill. For you came like a lord - ly,

T bare — On its shin - ing hill. wind,

B bare — On its shin - ing hill. You came like a

mf

45

S wind, Far as —

A you came — like a lord - ly wind. Far as —

T And the leaves were whirled Far as for - got - ten things,

B And the leaves were whirled Far as for - got - ten things, *div.* wind, wind,

48

S for - got - ten things Past the rim of the

A for - got - ten things Past the rim of the

T far as for - got - ten things, for - got - ten things, Past the rim of the

B far as for - got - ten things, for - got - ten things, Past the rim of the

51

S world. *unis. p* [E] The tree of my song is bare

A world. *p* The tree of my song is bare

T world. *p* The tree of my song is

B world. *unis. p* The tree of my song is

[E]

55

S On its shin - ing hill.

A On its shin - ing hill. *mp* For you I am

T bare__ On its shin - ing hill. *mp* For you__ I am

B bare__ On its shin - ing hill. *mp* For you__ I__ am__

60 *mp*

S For you I am still, for you I am still;__ I

A still; *unis.* I

T still; I

B still; *unis.* I

63

S sang my songs for the rest, For you I am still, for

A sang my songs for rest, For you I am still, for

T sang my songs for the rest, for you I am still, for

B sang my songs for the rest, for you I am still, for

F

67

S you I am still, for you I am still, am still,

A you I am still, for you I am still, am still,

T you I am still, for you I am still, am still,

B *unis.* you I am still, for you I am still, am still,

72

S I am still, G

A I am still, *mp* for you I am

T I am still, *mp* for you I am

B I am still, *unis. mp* for you I am

G

77 *unis. mp* *p*

S for you I am still, for you I am still, still.

A still, *p* still.

T still, *p* still.

B *div.* still, *p* still.