Sonnets of Beauty and Music

For SATB (div.) chorus

Stacy Garrop
Sonnet Texts

I. Still will I harvest beauty where it grows

Still will I harvest beauty where it grows:
In coloured fungus and the spotted fog
Surprised on foods forgotten; in ditch and bog
Filmed brilliant with irregular rainbows
Of rust and oil, where half a city throws
Its empty tins; and in some spongy log
Whence headlong leaps the oozy emerald frog....
And a black pupil in the green scum shows.
Her the inhabiter of divers places
Surmising at all doors, I push them all.
Oh, you that fearful of a creaking hinge
Turn back forevermore with craven faces,
I tell you Beauty bears an ultra fringe
Unguessed of you upon her gossamer shawl!

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II. On Hearing a Symphony of Beethoven

Sweet sounds, oh, beautiful music, do not cease!
Reject me not into the world again.
With you alone is excellence and peace,
Mankind made plausible, his purpose plain.
Enchanted in your air benign and shrewd,
With limbs a-sprawl and empty faces pale,
The spiteful and the stingy and the rude
Sleep like the scullions in the fairy-tale.
This moment is the best the world can give:
The tranquil blossom on the tortured stem.
Reject me not, sweet sounds! oh, let me live,
Till Doom espy my towers and scatter them.
A city spell-bound under the aging sun.
Music my rampart, and my only one.

Duration: about 7 minutes

Commissioned by Chuck and Joan Grant for Robert Geary and Volti in their 29th Season

Sonnets of Beauty and Music

I. Still will I harvest beauty where it grows

STACY GARROP
Spring 2006

SOPRANO

\( \textit{Enchanting} \)
\( \textit{Still will I harvest beauty where it grows: In \textit{coloured}} \)

ALTO

\( \textit{Still will I harvest where it grows: In \textit{coloured}} \)

TENOR

\( \textit{Still will I harvest where it grows: In \textit{coloured}} \)

BASS

\( \textit{Still will I harvest where it grows: In \textit{coloured}} \)

PIANO

\( \textit{Enchanting} \)

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ditch and bog Filmed brill - iant brill - iant with irreg-u-lar rain - bows

Of rust and oil, Ah Ah Ah Ah

where half a cit-y_ throws its emp-ty tins;

Of rust and oil, Ah Ah Ah Ah

where half a cit-y_ throws its emp-ty tins;
and in some spongy log Whence head-long

Still will I harvest and in some spongy log

leaps the oozy emerald frog

Whence leaps the emerald frog... And a black pupil in the

Whence head-long leaps the emerald frog... And a black pupil in the
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II. On Hearing a Symphony of Beethoven

Captivated

SOPRANO

pp

Use a very slight separation between each two note grouping

(Similar phrasing)

SOPRANO

pp

Use a very slight separation between each two note grouping

(Similar phrasing)

ALTO

pp

Use a very slight separation between each two note grouping

(Similar phrasing)

TENOR

pp

Use a very slight separation between each two note grouping

(Similar phrasing)

BASS

mp

do not cease!

Re-ject me not

Re-ject me not

S

Ah

pp

Use a very slight separation between each two note grouping

BASS

mp

Ah

pp

Use a very slight separation between each two note grouping

PIANO

pp

11

Solo

p

Sweet sounds oh, beau-ti-ful mu-sic

PP

Oo Oo Oo Oh Oh Oh Oo Oo Oo Oh Oh Oh Oo Oo Oo

PP

Oo Oo Oh Oh Oo Oo Oh Oh Oo Oo Oo Oo

PP

Oo Oo Oh Oh Oo Oo Oh Oh Oo Oo Oo

PP

Oo Oo Oh Oh Oo Oo Oh Oh Oo Oo
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\[ \text{\textit{Passionate}} \]

This moment is the best the world can give: The tranquil blossom on the tortured stem. Reject me not, sweet sounds! oh, let me live, Till Doom es-

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Music my ram-part, Music my ram-part,

and my only one. my only one.

Reject me not. Reject me not.

my only one. my only one.

Music my ram-part, Music my ram-part,