

Stefano Puri

HOW DO I LOVE THEE?
for unaccompanied choir
(2015)

PARTITURA

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Roma, Marzo 2015

Questo brano mi è stato commissionato per il matrimonio di Alessia Scarabotti e Antonio Culicigno; due cari amici, compagni di avventure musicali e tuttora parte integrante del mio percorso artistico.

A loro, due volte il mio grazie: per aver scelto le mie note in un giorno per loro così importante e per avermi dato l'occasione di ricominciare a scrivere, dopo lunghi mesi di silenzio.

S.P.

SONNET XLIII

How do I love thee ? Let me count the ways.
I love thee to the depth and breadth and height
My soul can reach, when feeling out of sight
For the ends of Being and ideal Grace.

I love thee to the level of everyday's
Most quiet need, by sun and candle-light.
I love thee freely, as men strive for Right;
I love thee purely, as they turn from Praise.

I love thee with the passion put to use
In my old griefs, and with my childhood's faith.
I love thee with a love I seemed to lose

With my lost saints,--I love thee with the breath,
Smiles, tears, of all my life!--and, if God choose,
I shall but love thee better after death.

Elizabeth Barrett Browning (1806-1861)

SONETTO XLIII

Come ti amo? Lascia che te ne elenchi i modi.
Ti amo fino ai confini estremi di profondità, altura ed estensione
che l'anima mia può raggiungere, quando oltre il tangibile
sfiora i margini dell'Essere e della Grazia ideale.

Ti amo nelle necessità quotidiane,
alla luce del giorno e al lume di candela.
Ti amo liberamente, come gli uomini che lottano per la Giustizia;
Ti amo con quell'interrezza con cui sfuggono la lode;

Ti amo con la passione delle vissute sofferenze
e quella che giovane riponevo nella fede.
Ti amo di quell'amore che credevo svanito

con i miei santi perduti, - ti amo col respiro,
i sorrisi, le lacrime di tutt'una vita! - e, se Dio vuole,
di più ti amerò dopo la morte.

Traduzione: Natalia Castaldi

to Antonio & Alessia for their marriage

HOW DO I LOVE THEE?

Elizabeth Barrett Browning
(1806-1861)

Stefano Puri
(*1979)

Freely (♩ = 60)

INTRO

Soprano *p* How do I love thee? Let me count the ways. *ppp*

Alto *p* How do I love thee? Let me count the ways. *ppp*

Tenor *p* How do I love thee? Let me count the ways. *ppp*

Bass *p* How do I love thee? Let me count the ways. *ppp*

Largo, con dolcezza, un poco camminando
A tempo ♩ = 62

5 **A** *mp* *poco cresc.*

S. I love thee to the depth and breadth and height my soul can reach,

A. I love thee depth and breadth and height my soul can reach,

T. I love thee depth, breadth, height my soul can reach,

B. I love thee depth, breadth, height

9

S. *pp*
when fee-ling out of sight for the ends of be - ing and i - de - al grace.

A. *pp*
when fee-ling out of sight for the ends of be - ing and i - de - al grace.

T. *pp*
when fee-ling out of sight _____ and i - de - al grace. |

B. *pp*
when fee-ling out of sight _____ and i - de - al grace.



13 **B** *mf* *poco cresc.*

S. *mf*
I love thee to the le - vel of ev - ery day's most qui - et need,

A. *mf* *poco cresc.*
I love thee le - vel of ev - ery day's most qui - et need,

T. *mf* *poco cresc.*
— love thee ev - ery day's most qui - et need,

B. *mf* *poco cresc.*
I love thee to the le - vel of ev - ery day's most qui - et need,

17 *pp* *mf* can - dle...

S. by sun and can - dle - light

A. *pp* *mf* can - dle...
by sun and can - dle - light

T. *pp* *mf* *p*
by sun and can - dle - light sun and can - dle light.

B. *pp* *mf* *p*
by sun and can - dle - light sun and can - dle light.



21 **C** *p* *mf* *f*

S. I love thee free - - ly, as men strive for right.

A. *p* *mf* *f*
I love thee free - ly strive for right.

T. *p* *mf* *f*
I love thee free - - ly

B. *p* *mf* *f*
I love thee as men strive for right.

cresc. molto

25 *f* *ff*

S.I. I love thee pure-ly, as they turn from praise.

cresc. molto

f *ff*

S.II I love thee pure-ly, as they turn from praise.

cresc. molto

f *ff*

A.I I love thee pure-ly, as they turn from praise.

cresc. molto

f *ff*

A.II I love thee pure-ly, as they turn from praise.

cresc. molto

f *ff* *p*

T.I I love thee pure-ly, as they turn from praise. From praise.

cresc. molto

f *ff* *p*

T.II I love thee turn from praise From praise.

cresc. molto

f *ff* *p*

Bar. I love thee as they turn from praise. From praise.

cresc. molto

f *ff* *p*

B. I love thee as they turn from praise. From praise.

31 **D**

S. *pp*

A. *p*

T. *p*

B. *mp*

I love thee with the pass-ion put to use in my old griefs and with my child-hood's faith.

I love thee with the pass-ion put to use in my old griefs

I love thee with the pass ion put to use in my old

Ah



35 **E** *mf* *ff*

S.I. I love thee with a love I seemed to lose with my lost saints. I _____

S.II. I love thee with a love I seemed to lose with my lost saints. I _____ love thee _____ with the *p*

A.I. I love thee with a love I seemed to lose with my lost saints. I love _____

A.II. I love thee with a love I seemed to lose with my lost saints. I love thee _____ with the *p*

T.I. I love thee my lost saints. I _____ love thee _____

T.II. I love thee my lost saints. I _____ love _____

Bar. griefs _____ with my lost saints. I love thee _____

B. I love thee _____ with my lost saints. I love thee _____

40 **F** *freely* *ppp* *mp* *p* *a tempo*

S.I. (whispering) breath smiles, te - ars, of all my

S.II breath, smiles, te - ars, of all my

A.I (whispering) breath smiles, te - ars, of all my

A.II breath, smiles, te - ars, of all my

T.I (whispering) breath smiles, te - ars, my

T.II breath, smiles, te - ars, of

Bar. breath, smiles, tears

B. (whispering) breath smiles, tears

44 **G** *dilatando* *rall.*

S.I. life: and if God choose, I shall but love thee bet - ter...

S.II life: and if God I shall love thee be...

A.I life: and if choose, I shall but love thee bet - ter af - ter

A.II life: and if bet - ter bet - ter a...-

T.I and I shall but love thee

T.II life I shall but love bet - ter af - ter

Bar. ah af - ter

B. ah love af - ter

49 **H** *a tempo* (s.solo) *lunga* *molto rit.* . . .

S.I
death bet-ter af-ter death be-ter af-ter death

S.II
death bet-ter af-ter death be-ter af-ter death

A.I
death death be-ter af-ter death

A.II
death be-ter af-ter death

T.I
death death be-ter af-ter death

T.II
death death be-ter af-ter death

Bar.
death be-ter af-ter death

B.
death death be-ter af-ter death

