

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, altezza 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'interezza 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 ($\text{J} = 60$)

INTRO

Soprano Alto Tenor Bass

How do I love thee? Let me count the ways.
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How do I love thee? Let me count the ways.

Largo, con dolcezza, un poco camminando

A tempo $\text{J} = 62$

A mp

5 *poco cresc.*

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

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

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

B. *poco cresc.*
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. I

B. *pp*

when fee-ling out of sight and i - de - al grace.



13

S. **B** *mf*

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

poco cresc.

A. *mf*

I love thee le - vel of ev - ery day's most qui - et need,

poco cresc.

T. *mf*

— love thee ev - ery day's most qui - et need,

poco cresc.

B. *mf*

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

poco cresc.

17

S. *pp* can - dle...
by sun and candle - light
pp can - dle...
by sun and candle - light

A.

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

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



21 C *p*

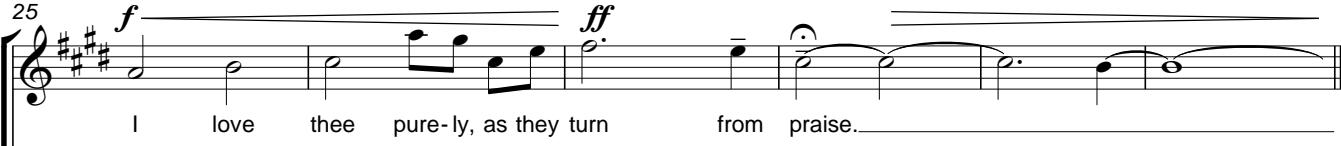
S. I love thee free - - ly, as men strive for right.

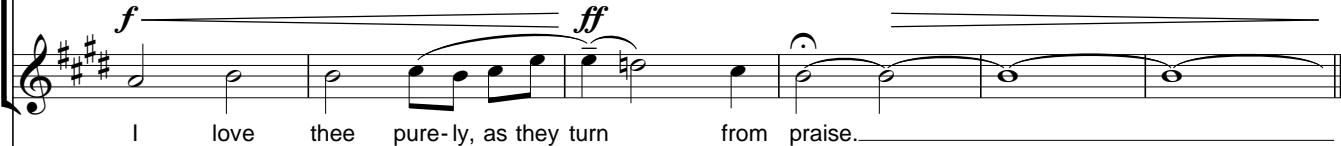
A. I love thee free - - ly strive for right.

T. I love thee free - - ly

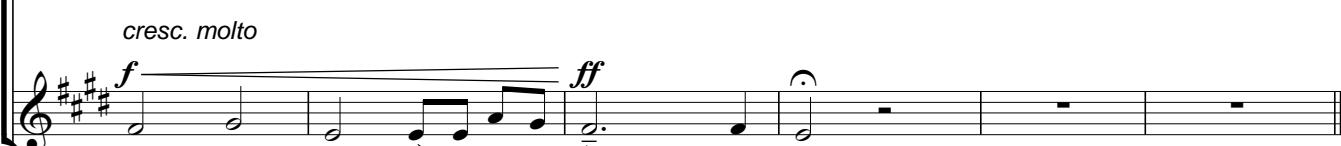
B. I love thee *mf* free - - ly strive for right
as men strive for right.

cresc. molto

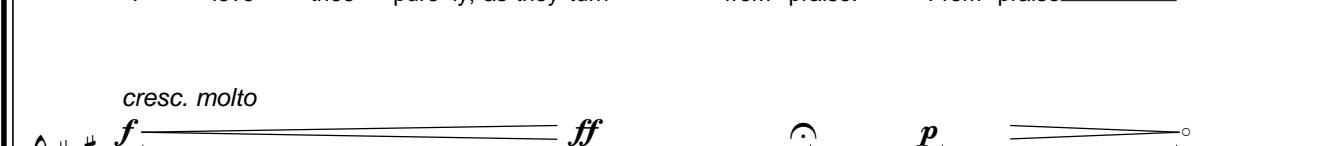
S.I. 

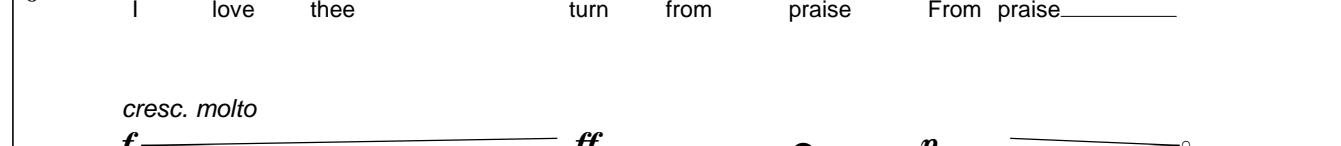
S.II. 

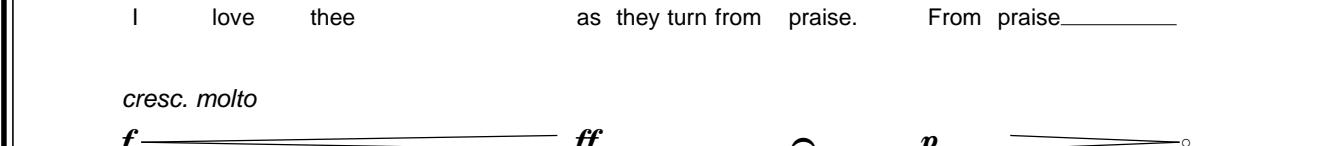
A.I. 

A.II. 

T.I. 

T.II. 

Bar. 

B. 

31 **D** *pp*

S. *p*

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

T. *p*
I love thee with the pass-ion put to use in my old griefs

B. *mp*
I love thee with the pass ion put to use in my old
Ah

Musical score for four voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in D major, 2/4 time. The vocal parts are written on five-line staves. The piano accompaniment is implied by the dynamic markings and harmonic context. The lyrics are integrated into the vocal parts. Measure 31 begins with a forte dynamic (D) followed by a piano dynamic (pp). The soprano and alto sing sustained notes, while the tenor and bass provide harmonic support. The lyrics "I love thee with the pass-ion put to use in my old griefs and with my child-hood's faith." are sung by the alto. The tenor begins his part with a piano dynamic (p), singing "I love thee with the pass-ion put to use in my old griefs". The bass joins in with a piano dynamic (mp), singing "I love thee with the pass ion put to use in my old". The tenor concludes with a forte dynamic (f) and the bass responds with "Ah". The vocal parts are separated by vertical bar lines, and the piano accompaniment is indicated by the dynamics and harmonic changes.



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

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

T.I. *f* — *ff*, —

T.I. 8 I love thee my lost saints. I ____ love thee _____

T.II. *mf* — *ff*, —

T.II. 8 I love thee my lost saints. I ____ love _____

Bar. *mf* — *ff*, —

Bar. grieves _____ with my lost saints. I ____ love thee _____

B. *f* — *ff*, —

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. 8 (whispering) breath smiles, te - ars, my___

T.II. 8 breath, smiles, te - ars, of

Bar. *p* breath, smiles, ' *p* tears

B. (whispering) breath smiles, ' *p* tears

G

dilatando

44

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

H *a tempo* (s.solo) bet - ter lunga molto rit.

49 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 be-ter af - ter death

