

JUDITH SHATIN

'Tis You

SSA and Piano



Program Notes: 'Tis You

I composed 'Tis You, a setting of Amy Lowell's poem, Listening, at the invitation of my alma mater, Douglass College on the occasion of its Centennial. My music studies at Douglass, in particular with Professors Robert Lincoln and James Scott and with composer Robert Moevs at Rutgers College, started me on my path as a composer. While at Douglass, I presented the first composition recital in the school's history. This experience confirmed me in my strong, if naïve, desire to pursue composition as my life's work. Created for Voorhees Choir, which I sang in as an undergraduate (1967-71), the premiere took place on 12/2/17 during the Choir's fall concert, and on 12/3/17 during the Yule Log Ceremony at the Voorhees Chapel. Long a fan of Lowell's poetry, I decided to set 'Listening.' The poem speaks beautifully of the internal music of our beings, the meaning of our individual contributions and also our role in the larger ocean of life. 'Tis You was scored for SSA divisi, string quartet and piano at the request of conductor Brandon Williams. Following the premiere, I composed this version for SSA divisi and piano. –JS

Listening
By Amy Lowell

'Tis you that are the music, not your song.
The song is but a door which, opening wide,
Lets forth the pent-up melody inside,
Your spirit's harmony, which clear and strong
Sings but of you. Throughout your whole life long
Your songs, your thoughts, your doings, each divide
This perfect beauty; waves within a tide,
Or single notes amid a glorious throng.
The song of earth has many different chords;
Ocean has many moods and many tones
Yet always ocean. In the damp Spring woods
The painted trillium smiles, while crisp pine cones
Autumn alone can ripen. So is this
One music with a thousand cadences.

World Premiere Voorhees Choir Conductor Brandon Williams Douglass College New Brunswick, NJ 12/2/2017
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Duration: 4:30

Amy Lowell

Brightly ♩ = 76

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9

S 'Tis you that are the mu - sic

S 'Tis you that are the mu - sic,

A 'Tis you that are the mu - sic,

Pno.

12

S not your song, your *mp* song.

S not your song, your *mp* song.

A not your song, your *mp* song.

Pno.

15 *mf*

S *'Tis you, 'Tis you, 'Tis*

S *'Tis you, 'Tis you*

A *'Tis you, 'Tis you*

Pno. *mf*

18 *f* *mf*

S *you. The song is but a door which o - pen - ing*

S *The song is but a door which o - pen - ing*

A *The song is but a door which o - pen - ing*

Pno. *f dim. mf*

PERUSAL SCORE NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

21 *f* *mf*

S wide, Lets forth, lets forth the pent - up,

S wide, *f* *mf* Lets forth the pent - up,

A wide, *f* *mf* Lets forth the pent - up,

Pno. *f* *mf*

24 *f* *mf*

S pent - up mel - o - dy in -

S pent up *f* *mf* mel - o - dy in -

A pent up *f* *mf* mel-o - dy in -

Pno. *f* *mf*

27

S side, Your spir - it's har - mo - ny, which

S side, Your spir - it's har - mo - ny which

A side Your spir - it's har - mo - ny whcih

Pno.

30 *f*

S clear and strong Sings but of you,

S clear and strong Sings but of you,

A clear and strong Sings but of you,

Pno. *f*

33 *mf*

S sings but of you.

S *mf* sings but of you.

A *mf* sings but of you.

Pno. *mf*

36 *mf* *f*

S Through-out your whole life

S *mf* *f* Through-out your whole life

A *mf* *f* Through-out your whole life

Pno. *f*

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

39

S long

S long

A long

Pno.

mp

41

S *mf*

S *mf* Your thoughts, your do-ings,

A Your songs, your thoughts, your do - ings, —

Pno. *mf*

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

44

S *f* *mp*,
each di - vide Per - fect beau - ty; —

S *f* *mp*,
each di - vide Per - fect beau - ty; —

A *f* *mp*,
di vide This per - fect beau - ty, beau - ty; —

Pno.

47

S

S

A

Pno. *mp* *mf*

49 *mf*

S waves, waves,

S *mf*

waves, waves,

A *mf*

waves, waves,

Pno. *mp*

51 *f* *mp*

S waves with - in a tide, Or sin - gle

S *f*

waves with - in a tide,

A *f*

waves with - in a tide,

Pno. *f* *mf*

3

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

54

S notes

mp A - mid

mf a glo - ri - ous

S

mp A - mid

mf a glo - ri - ous

A

mp Or sin - gle notes

mf A - mid a glo - ri - ous

Pno.

mp

mf

57

S

f throng.

poco rit.

S

f throng

A

f throng.

Pno.

f

mf

Warmly ♩ = 72

59 *mf*

S The song of earth man-y dif'-rent chords,

S The song of earth has man-y dif'-rent chords;

A The song of earth has man-y dif'-rent chords;

Pno.

61

S man - y dif'-rent chords;

S man - y dif'-rent chords

A man - y dif'-rent chords;

Pno.

63

S O - cean has man - ymoods and man - y tones

S O - cean has man - ymoods and man - y tones, man - y tones,

A O - cean has man - ymoods and man tones,

Pno.

PERUSHKIN SCORE NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

66

S Yet al-ways o - cean, Yet al - ways o - cean. *f* *mf*

S Yet al-ways o - cean, Yet al - ways o - cean. *f* *mf*

A Yet always o - cean, Yet al - ways o - cean. *f* *mf*

Pno.

PERUSHKIN SCORE NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

69

S

S

A

Pno.

mf

mp

FOR PERFORMANCE

72

S

mp

In the damp spring woods

S

mp

In the damp spring woods

A

mp

In the damp spring woods

Pno.

76

mf

S the paint - ed tril - li - um smiles,

mf

S the paint - ed tril - li - lium smiles,

mf

A the paint - ed tril - li - lium smiles,

Pno.

79

S while crsip pine - cones — Au - tumn a -

S while crsip pine - cones — Au - tumn a -

A while crsip pine - cones — Au - tumn a -

Pno.

82

S lone can ri - pen. —

S lone can ri - pen. —

A lone can ri - pen. —

Pno.

85

S So is this one

S So is this one

A So is this one

Pno.

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

88 *mf*

S mu - sic, — with a thou - sand,

S *mf* mu - sic, — with a thou - sand,

A *mf* mu - sic, — with a thou sand,

Pno. *mf*

91 *f*

S thou - sand ca - den - ces.

S *f* thou - sand ca - den - ces.

A *f* thou - sand ca - den - ces.

Pno. *f*