

JUDITH SHATIN

'Tis You

SSA, String Quartet 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. –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

'Tis You

Amy Lowell

Judith Shatin

Brightly ♩ = 76

The musical score is arranged in two systems. The first system includes vocal parts for Soprano I, Soprano II, and Alto, and instrumental parts for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, and Piano. The second system starts at measure 4 and includes parts for A, Vn. I, Vn. II, Va., Vc., and Pno. The score is marked with 'pizz.', 'arco', and 'f'. A large watermark 'PEPUSAI SCORE NOT FOR PERFORMANCE' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

7

S. I *f* 'Tis you _____ *mf* 'Tis _____ 'Tis

S. II *f* 'Tis you, 'Tis you _____ *mf* 'Tis you _____ 'Tis

A you, _____ 'tis you, _____ *mf* 'Tis you, 'tis you, 'tis you _____ 'Tis

Vn. I *mf* *mp*

Vn. II *mf* *mp*

Va. *mf* *mp*

Vc. *mf* *mp*

Pno. *mf* *mp*

11

S. I you that are the mu - sic _____ not your _____ song, your song. *mp*

S. II you that are the mu - sic, _____ not your _____ song, your song. *mp*

A you that are the mu sic, _____ not your _____ song. your song. *mp*

Vn. I *mf* *mp*

Vn. II *mf* *mp*

Va. *mf* *mp*

Vc. *mf* *mp*

Pno. *mf* *mp*

16

S. I *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

S. II *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

A *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

Vn. I *f* *f* *f*

Vn. II *mf* *f* *f*

Va. *mf* *f* *f*

Vc. *mf* *f* *f*

Pno. *mf* *f* *f*

'Tis you, 'Tis you, 'Tis you. The

'Tis you, 'Tis you The

20

S. I *f* *mf*

S. II *f* *mf*

A *f* *mf*

Vn. I *mf* *f* *mf*

Vn. II *mf* *f*

Va. *mf* *f* *mf*

Vc. *mf* *f* *mf*

Pno. *mf* *f* *mf*

song is but a door which, o - pen - ing wide, Lets forth, lets forth the

song is but a door which, o - pen - ing wide, Lets forth the

song is but a door which, o - pen - ing wide, Lets forth the

24

S. I
pent - - - up, — pent - - - up — mel - o - dy in - side, —

S. II
pent - - - up, — pent - - - up — mel - o - dy in - side, —

A
pent - - - up, — pent - - - up — mel - o - dy in - side —

Vn. I

Vn. II
mf

Va.

Vc.

Pno.

29

S. I
Lets forth the pent - up mel - o - dy in - side, Your spir - it's

S. II
Lets forth the pent - up mel - o - dy in - side, Your spir - it's

A
Lets forth the pent - up mel - o - dy in - side, Your spir - it's

Vn. I

Vn. II

Va.
mf

Vc.
mf

Pno.

33

S. I har - mo - ny, which clear and strong *mp* Sings but of you, sings but of

S. II har - mo - ny which clear and strong *mp* Sings but of you, sings but of

A har - mo - ny which clear and strong *mp* Sings but of you, sings but of

Vn. I *pizz.* *arco* *mp*

Vn. II *pizz.* *arco* *mp*

Va. *pizz.* *mp*

Vc. *f* *pizz.* *mp*

Pno. *mp*

38

S. I you. *mf* Through - out your

S. II you. *mf* Through - out your

A you. *mf* Through - out your

Vn. I *mf* *pizz.* *f* *arco* *mf*

Vn. II *mp* *mf* *pizz.* *f* *arco* *mf*

Va. *f* *pizz.*

Vc. *f* *pizz.*

Pno. *mp* *mf*

42

S. I *f* whole life long

S. II *f* whole life long

A *f* whole life long

Vn. I *f* *mp*

Vn. II *f* arco *mp*

Va. *f* arco *mp*

Vc. *f* *mp*

Pno. *f* *mp*

45

S. I *mf* your thoughts, your do - ings, each - di - vide

S. II *mf* Your songs, your thoughts, your do - ings di - vide

A *mf* Your songs, your thoughts, your do - ings each di - vide

Vn. I *mf* *f* *pizz.* *mf*

Vn. II *mf* *f* *pizz.* *mf*

Va. *f* *mf*

Vc. *f* *mf*

Pno. *mf*

49

S. I
This per - fect beau - ty, per - fect beau - ty; —

S. II
This per - fect beau - ty, per - fect beau - ty; —

A
This per - fect beau - ty, per - fect beau - ty; —

Vn. I
pizz. *mf*

Vn. II
pizz. *mf*

Va.
pizz. *mf*

Vc.
pizz. *mf*

Pno.
mp

53

S. I
waves, waves, —

S. II
waves, waves, —

A
waves, waves, waves —

Vn. I
arco *mf*

Vn. II
arco *mf*

Va.
arco *mf*

Vc.
arco *mf*

Pno.
mf *mp*

PERUSAL SCORE! NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

56

S. I waves with - in a tide, Or sin - gle notes

S. II waves with - in a tide,

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

Vn. I pizz. mf

Vn. II arco mf

Va. pizz. mf

Vc. pizz. mf

Pno. f mf mp

60

S. I A - mid a glo - ri - ous thron. f

S. II A - mid a glo - ri - ous thron. f

A notes A - mid a glo - ri - ous thron. f

Vn. I arco mf f

Vn. II pizz. arco mf f

Va. arco f

Vc. arco f

Pno. f

PERUSAL SCORE NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

63 *poco rit.*

poco meno mosso ♩ = 72

mf

S. I
S. II
A

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

Vn. I
Vn. II
Va.
Vc.
Pno.

mf

66

S. I
S. II
A

man - y dif - rent chords; O - cean has man - y moods and man - y tones
man - y dif - rent chords O - cean has man - y moods and man - y tones, man - y
man - y dif - rent chords; O - cean has man - y moods and man - y

Vn. I
Vn. II
Va.
Vc.
Pno.

arco

70

S. I
Yet al - ways o - cean, Yet al - ways o - - - - cean.

S. II
tones, _____ Yet al - ways o - cean, Yet al - ways o - - - - cean.

A
tones, _____ Yet al - ways o - cean, Yet al - ways o - - - - cean.

Vn. I
arco

Vn. II

Va.

Vc.

Pno.

74

S. I
In the damp

S. II
In the damp

A
In the damp

Vn. I

Vn. II

Va.

Vc.

Pno.

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

79

S. I
spring woods the paint - ed tril - - - li - um *mf*

S. II
spring woods the paint - ed tril - - - li - um *mf*

A
spring woods the paint - ed tril - - - li - um *mf*

Vn. I

Vn. II

Va.
mf *mf*

Vc.
mp *mf*

Pno.
mf

83

S. I
smiles, while crisp pine - cones Au - tumn a -

S. II
smiles, while crisp pine - cones Au - tumn a -

A
smiles, while crisp pine - cones Au - tumn a -

Vn. I

Vn. II

Va.

Vc.

Pno.

87

S. I lone can ri - - - pen. —

S. II lone can ri - - - pen. —

A lone can ri - - - pen. —

Vn. I pizz. *f*

Vn. II pizz. *f*

Va. pizz. *f*

Vc. pizz. *f*

Pno. *mf*

90

S. I *mf* So is this one *f*

S. II *mf* So is this one *f*

A *mf* So is this one *f*

Vn. I arco pizz. arco *f*

Vn. II pizz. arco *f*

Va. arco pizz. arco *f*

Vc. arco pizz.

Pno. *mf* *f*

93

S. I *mf*
mu - - - sic, with a thou - - - sand,

S. II *mf*
mu - - - sic, with a thou - - - sand,

A *mf*
mu - - - sic, with a thou - - - sand,

Vn. I *mf*

Vn. II *mf*

Va. *f* pizz. *mf* arco

Vc. *f* pizz. *mf* arco

Pno. *mf*

96

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

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

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

Vn. I *f*

Vn. II *f*

Va. *f* pizz. *f* arco

Vc. *f* pizz. *f* arco

Pno. *f*