

JUDITH SHATIN

'Tis You

SSA Divisi and Piano



Program Notes: 'Tis You

I composed *'Tis You*, a setting of Amy Lowell's poem, *Listening*, for the Centennial of Douglass College, my *Alma Mater*. My music studies at Douglass, in particular with Professors Robert Lincoln and James Scott at Douglass, and composer Robert Moevs at Rutgers College, started me on my path as a composer. While there, I presented the first composition recital in the school's history. This inspiring 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. The original 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

10

S you, 'Tis you that are the mu - sic

S 'Tis you that are the mu - sic,

A 'Tis you that are the mu - sic,

Pno.

13

S not your song, your song. *mp*

S not your song, your song. *mp*

A not your song. your song. *mp*

Pno. *mp*

16

S *f* 'Tis you, *mf* 'Tis you, 'Tis

S *mf* 'Tis you, *f* 'Tis you

A *mf* 'Tis you, *f* 'Tis you

Pno. *mf* *f* *mf*

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

19 *f* *mf*

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

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

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

Pno. *f* *mf*

22 *f* *mf*

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

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

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

Pno. *f* *mf*

25 *f* *mf* *p*

S pent - up mel - o - dy in - side, *p*

S pent - up *f* mel - o - dy *mf* in - side, *p*

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

Pno. *f* *mf* *p*

29 *mf*
S Lets forth the pent - up mel - o - dy in -
S Lets forth the pent - up mel - o - dy in -
A Lets forth the pent - up mel - o - dy in -
Pno. *mp* *mf*

32 *f*
S side, Your spir - it's har - mo - ny, — which clear and strong Sings
S side, Your spir - it's har - mo - ny — which clear and strong Sings
A side, Your spir - it's har - mo - ny whcih clear and strong Sings
Pno. *f*

36 *mp*
S but of you, sings but of you.
S but of you, sings but of you.
A but of you, sings but of you.
Pno. *mp* *mf*

40

S *mf* Through - out your

S *mf* Through - out your

A *mf* Through - out your

Pno. *mf*

42

S *f* whole life long

S *f* whole life long

A *f* whole life long

Pno. *f*

44

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

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

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

Pno. *mf*

47

S This per - fect beau - ty, per - fect beau - ty; *f* *mp* ,

S This per - fect beau - ty, per - fect beau - ty; *f* *mp* ,

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

Pno. *f* *mf* ,

50

S

S

A

Pno. *mp* *mf*

52

S waves, waves, *mf*

S waves, waves, *mf*

A waves, waves, *mf*

Pno. *mp*

mp

54

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

S waves with - in a tide,

A waves with - in a tide,

Pno. *f* *mf*

57

S notes A - mid a glo - ri - ous

S A - mid a glo - ri - ous

A Or sin - gle notes A - mid a glo - ri - ous

Pno. *mp* *mf*

poco rit.

60

S thron.

S thron.

A thron.

Pno. *f* *mf*

poco meno mosso ♩ = 72

62 *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.

64

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

S man - y dif - rent chords O - cean has man - y moods and

A man - y dif - rent chords; O - cean has man - y moods

Pno.

67

S man - y tones Yet al - ways o - cean, Yet al - ways

S man - y tones, man - y tones, Yet al - ways o - cean, Yet al - ways

A and man - y tones, Yet al - ways o - cean, Yet al - ways

Pno.

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

71 *f* *mf*

S o - cean. *mf*

S o - cean. *mf*

A o - cean. *mf*

Pno. *f* *mf*

74 *mp*

S In the damp spring *mp*

S In the damp spring *mp*

A In the damp spring *mp*

Pno. *mp*

78 *mf*

S woods the paint - ed tril - li - um *mf*

S woods the paint - ed tril - li - lium *mf*

A woods the paint - ed tril - li - lium *mf*

Pno. *mf*

81

S smiles, while crsip pine - cones —

S smiles, while crsip pine - cones —

A smiles, while crsip pine - cones —

Pno.

84

S Au - tumn a - lone can ri - pen. —

S Au - tumn a - lone can ri - pen. —

A Au - tumn a - lone can ri - pen. —

Pno.

87

S So is this *mf*

S So is this *mf*

A So is this *mf*

Pno. *mf*

90 *f*

S one mu - sic,

S one mu - sic,

A one mu - sic,

Pno. *f* *mf*

92 *mf*

S with a thou - sand,

S with a thou - sand,

A with a thou - sand,

Pno. *mf*

94 *f*

S thou - sand ca - den - ces.

S thou - sand ca - den - ces.

A thou - sand ca - den - ces.

Pno. *f*