

Quanto sei bella - As the apple tree

for choir SATB and organ or piano
written for Rosie and Marco's wedding
Il Redentore Venice
16 June 2018

words from Song of Solomon
(see page 8)

Paul Ayres

Slow one-in-bar (dotted ♩ = about 45 / ♩ = about 135)

freely

p sempre espressivo e legato

8 SOPRANO

ALTO *p*

TENOR *mp*

BASS *mp*

ah

Quan-to sei bel-la, mi-a ca-ra, quan-to sei bel-la, mi-a

Quan-to sei bel-la, mi-a ca-ra, quan-to sei bel-la, mi-a

8

17 *p*

ah
ah

ca - ra, i tuoi oc - chi so - no co - me co - lom - be,
ca - ra, i tuoi oc - chi so - no co - me co - lom - be,

17

perusal score - notes blanked out
order music from paulayres@clara.net

26 *mp*

As the ap - ple tree a - mong the
As the ap - ple tree a - mong the

so - no co - me co - lom - be, i tuoi oc - chi ah
so - no co - me co - lom - be, i tuoi oc - chi ah

26

34

*
trees of the wood, so is my be - lov - ed, my be - lov - - - - ed,
trees of the wood, my be - lov - - - - ed,
mf
fam - mi a - scol - ta - re
mf
fam - mi a - scol - ta - re

34

41 *mf*
He brought me to the ban - quet - ing house, and his
mf
He brought me to the ban - quet - ing house,
la tua vo - ce, ah
la tua vo - ce, ah

41 *mp*

* sopranos: if this note is too low, it can be omitted

47

ban - ner o - ver me, his ban-ner o - ver me was
and his ban - ner o - ver me, his ban-ner o - ver me was

47

poco a poco crescendo

53 *f*

love.
love.
quan-to sei bel - la, mi - a ca - ra,
quan-to sei bel - la, mi - a ca - ra,

53

f
[organ pedal]

59 *mp*

He brought me to the ban-quet-ing house, and his

mp

He brought me to the ban-quet-ing house, and his

mp

i tuoi oc - chi so - no

mp

i tuoi oc - chi so - no

59 *mp*

perusal score - notes blanked out
 order music from paulayres@clara.net

65

ban - ner o - ver me was love, was love, was

ban - ner o - ver me was love, was love, was

8 co - me co - lom - be, so - no co - me co - lom - - be, co - lom - - -

co - me co - lom - be, so - no co - me co - lom - - be, co - lom - - -

65

72

love, was love.

love, was love.

8 be, co - lom - - - - be, fam - mi a - scol - ta - re la tua

be, co - lom - - - - be, fam - mi a - scol - ta - re la tua

p

perusal score - notes blanked out
 order music from paulayres@clara.net

79

mp

As the ap - ple tree a - mong the trees of the wood, so is my be -

mp

As the ap - ple tree a - mong the trees of the wood,

8 vo - ce,

vo - ce,

p

poco rallentando

Slightly slower (dotted ♩ = about 43 / ♩ = about 129)

85

lov - ed, my be - lov - ed, so is my be - lov - ed, my be -

so is my be - lov - ed, my be -

Quan - to sei bel - la, quan - to sei bel - la,

Quan - to sei bel - la, quan - to sei bel - la,

p

p

p

p

Detailed description: This block contains four vocal staves. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). It begins with a fermata over the first measure. The lyrics are: "lov - ed, my be - lov - ed, so is my be - lov - ed, my be -". The second staff continues the lyrics: "so is my be - lov - ed, my be -". The third staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp, with a fermata over the first measure. The lyrics are: "Quan - to sei bel - la, quan - to sei bel - la,". The fourth staff has a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp, with a fermata over the first measure. The lyrics are: "Quan - to sei bel - la, quan - to sei bel - la,". Dynamics include *p* (piano) markings above the notes in measures 86, 87, and 88.

poco rallentando

Slightly slower (dotted ♩ = about 43 / ♩ = about 129)

85

Detailed description: This block shows the piano accompaniment for measures 85-88. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The music features a steady accompaniment with chords and moving lines in both hands. The tempo markings "poco rallentando" and "Slightly slower (dotted ♩ = about 43 / ♩ = about 129)" are present at the top.

a niente

92

lov - ed,

lov - ed,

mi - a ca - ra,

mi - a ca - ra,

a niente

a niente

a niente

a niente

Detailed description: This block contains four vocal staves. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: "lov - ed,". The second staff continues: "lov - ed,". The third staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp, with a fermata over the first measure. The lyrics are: "mi - a ca - ra,". The fourth staff has a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp, with a fermata over the first measure. The lyrics are: "mi - a ca - ra,". The tempo markings "poco rallentando" and "Slightly slower (dotted ♩ = about 43 / ♩ = about 129)" are present at the top. The instruction *a niente* is written above the staves in measures 93, 94, and 95.

8^{va}
freely

92

Detailed description: This block shows the piano accompaniment for measures 92-95. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The music features a steady accompaniment with chords and moving lines in both hands. The tempo markings "poco rallentando" and "Slightly slower (dotted ♩ = about 43 / ♩ = about 129)" are present at the top. The instruction *8^{va} freely* is written above the treble staff in measure 93. The instruction *a niente* is written above the staves in measures 93, 94, and 95.

99 *p*

my be - lov - - - ed.

my be - lov - - - ed.

mi - a ca-ra.

mi - a ca-ra.

99 *pp*

* basses: if this note is too high to sing quietly, it can be omitted

words from the Bible: Song of Solomon (Song of Songs)

As the apple tree among the trees of the wood, so is my beloved... (2:3)

He brought me to the banqueting house, and his banner over me was love. (2:4)

Quanto sei bella, mia cara, quanto sei bella, i tuoi occhi sono come colombe. (4:1)

[How beautiful you are, my darling, how beautiful you are, your eyes are like those of a dove.]

...fammi ascoltare tua voce. (2:14)

[...let me hear the sound of your voice.]

the sopranos and altos sing in English, on behalf of the bride, Rosemary Forbes-Butler

the tenors and basses sing in Italian, on behalf of the groom, Marco Gandini

the accompaniment can be played on piano (use pedal ad lib.) or on organ (manuals only,

using a manual-to-pedal coupler for the optional extra bass note in bars 57-60: don't use any 16' pedal stops)

PERUSAL SCORE

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