

sample copy

Stephen Leek

In the Presence of Longing
SSAATTBB acappella choir

- in the presence of longing -

Commissioned by the
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for performance at the 2006 Musica Sacra Festival

Michael Doneman

Stephen Leek

1. in the presence of my stone

$\text{♩} = 64$ **A**

SOPRANO 1 *mf* in the pres-ence of this great stone in the pres-ence of this

SOPRANO 2 *mf* in the pres-ence of this great stone in the pres-ence this

ALTO 1 *mf* in the pres-ence of this great stone *p* in the pres-ence of this

ALTO 2 *mf* in the pres-ence of this great stone *p* in the pres-ence of this

TENOR 1 *fp* #RA - random attacks ad. lib. *p* no attacks

TENOR 2 *fp* #RA - random attacks ad. lib. *p* no attacks

BASS 1 ** random whispers of the text may be added here by the basses*

BASS 2 ** random whispers of the text may be added here by the basses*

6 *p* small breath in the pres-ence of this great long-ing this is my stone *p, intense*

mp small breath in the pres-ence of this great long-ing this is my stone *p intense*

mf small breath in the pres-ence of this great long-ing this is my stone *p intense*

f small breath in the pres-ence of this great long-ing this is my stone *p intense*

B
* as fast as possible individually ad. lib.

C

13

ppp this is my stone n in_ the pres - ence of this great_ stone_ in_ the pres - ence of this small breath pres - ence of this great_

mp *mf* *molto*

ppp this is my stone n in_ the pres - ence of this great_ stone_ in_ the pres - ence of this small breath pres - ence of this great_

mp *mf* *molto*

ppp this is my stone n in_ the pres - ence of this great_ stone_ in_ the pres - ence small breath in the pres - ence of this great_

mp *mf* *molto*

ppp this is my stone n in_ the pres - ence of this great_ stone_ in_ the pres - ence small breath in the pres - ence

ppp *mp* *mf* *molto*

* as fast as possible individually ad. lib.

* as fast as possible individually ad. lib.

* as fast as possible individually ad. lib.

* as fast as possible individually ad. lib.

* whispers stop

* whispers stop

D

20

long - ing in the pres - ence of this great

pp *measured*

long - ing in the pres - ence of this great

p *measured*

long - ing in the pres - ence of this great

p *measured*

a gentle pitch oscillation *p* *measured*

the pres - ence of this great

p *mf* *poco à poco dim.*

in_ the pres - ence of_ the great_ long - ing

p *mf* *poco à poco dim.*

in_ the pres - ence of_ the great_ long - ing

p *mf* *poco à poco dim.*

in_ the pres - ence of_ the great_ long - ing

p *mf* *poco à poco dim.*

in_ the pres - ence of_ the great_ long - ing

26 ** ind.ad.lib.* **pp** stone in the pres - ence of this small breath

stone in the pres - ence of this small breath

stone in the pres - ence of this small breath

stone the pres - ence of this small breath

**proceed individually ad.lib. poco a poco accel. each time, do not start the repeat until all singers have completed the phrase. It would be ideal if the quaver pulse could stay the synchronised between the singers.*

F

29 **ppp** in the pres-ence of this great long - ing Ah **p**

in the pres-ence of this great long - ing

in the pres-ence of this great long - ing

the pres-ence of this great long - ing

Mmm

Mmm

Mmm

Mmm

Mmm

2. in the presence of
the breath

♩ = ca. 92

32 *p*

p a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a

mp a meg-a-lith of air a meg - a lith of

p a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a

mp a meg-a-lith of air a meg - a lith of

p a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a

mp a meg-a-lith of air a meg - a lith of

p a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a

mp a meg-a-lith of air a meg - a lith of

36 **G**

a a a a

a meg-a-lith of air a space filled with my bo-dy

a a a a

a meg-a-lith of air a meg - a lith of air filled with my bo-dy

a a a a

a meg-a-lith of air a space filled with my bo-dy

a a a a

a meg-a-lith of air a meg - a lith of air filled with my bo-dy

39 *P*

a a a a a a a a a a a a a a

a meg-a-lith of air a meg - a lith of a meg-a-lith of air

a a a a a a a a a a a a a a

a meg-a-lith of air a meg - a lith of a meg-a-lith of air a meg - a lith of

a a a a a a a a a a a a a a

a meg-a-lith of air a meg - a lith of a meg-a-lith of air

a a a a a a a a a a a a a a

a meg-a-lith of air a meg - a lith of a meg-a-lith of air a meg - a lith of

43 **H** *mf*

a a a a a a a a a a

a space filled with my bo - dy the mem - 'ry of my pass - age

a a a a a a a a a a

air filled with my bo - dy the mem - 'ry of my pass - age

a a a a a a a a a a

a space filled with my bo - dy the mem - 'ry of my pass - age

a a a a a a a a a a

air filled with my bo - dy the mem - 'ry of my pass - age

47

a a a a a a a a

a meg-a-lith of air a meg-a-lith of air a meg-a-lith of air

a a a a a a a a

a meg-a-lith of air a meg-a-lith of air a meg-a-lith of air

a a a a a a a a

a meg-a-lith of air a meg-a-lith of air a meg-a-lith of air

I

51

mf

a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a

mf

a space filled with my bo-dy the mem-'ry of my pass-age

mf

a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a

mf

a meg-a-lith of air filled with my bo-dy the mem-'ry of my pass-age

mf

a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a

mf

a meg-a-lith of a space filled with my bo-dy the mem-'ry of my pass-age

mf

a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a

mf

air filled with my bo-dy the mem-'ry of my pass-age

56 **J**

Ah Ah Ah this is the breath this is the liv-ing breath
 a meg-a-lith of air a meg - a lith of a meg-a-lith of air this is the breath this is the liv-ing breath
 Ah Ah Ah this is the breath this is the liv-ing breath
 a meg-a-lith of air a meg - a lith of a meg-a-lith of air a meg - a lith of this is the breath this is the liv-ing breath
 Ah Ah Ah this is the breath this is the liv-ing breath
 a meg-a-lith of air a meg - a lith of a meg-a-lith of air this is the breath this is the liv-ing breath
 Ah Ah Ah this is the breath this is the liv-ing breath
 a meg-a-lith of air a meg - a lith of a meg-a-lith of air a meg - a lith of this is the breath this is the liv-ing breath

K

63

Ah

Ah

Ah

Ah

pp cresc. *p*

a a

pp cresc. *p*

a a

L

67

mf cresc. strident

a me - - ga - -

mf

a a

a a a a

mf

Ah

71

lith of air a space filled by my

Ah Ah

M

75

bo - - - - dy the i - - mag - es of my

mp

pp mp

mp

pp

pp

Ah Ah

O

85

a choir_ caught in a shell a choir_ caught in a shell this is my breath_ this is my breath_

a choir_ caught in a shell a choir_ caught in a shell this is my breath_ this is my breath_

a choir_ caught in a shell a choir_ caught in a shell this is my breath_ this is my breath_

a choir_ caught in a shell a choir_ caught in a shell this is my breath_ this is my breath_

a choir_ caught in a shell a choir_ caught in a shell this is my breath_ this is my breath_

a choir_ caught in a shell a choir_ caught in a shell this is my breath_ this is my breath_

a choir_ caught in a shell a choir_ caught in a shell this is my breath_ this is my breath_

a choir_ caught in a shell a choir_ caught in a shell this is my breath_ this is my breath_

P ♩ = 180

89

this is my breath this is my breath_ this is my breath_ this is my breath_

Ah Ah Ah Ah

Ah Ah Ah Ah

Ah Ah Ah Ah

Ah Ah Ah Ah

Hmm

Hmm

94 Q

this is my breath this is my breath_ this is my breath this is my breath this is my breath
 Ah Ah Ah Ah Ah
 Ah Ah Ah Ah Ah
 Ah Ah Ah Ah Ah
 this is the li - ving breath_ that gives voice
 this is the li - ving breath_ that gives voice
 Hmm Hmm gives voice
 Hmm Hmm gives voice

99 R

this is my breath this is my breath this is my breath Ah
 Ah Ah Ah do do do do do do do do
 Ah Ah Ah do do do do do do do do
 Ah Ah Ah do do do do do do do do
 to my song_ breath
 to my song_ breath
 to my song_ breath
 to my song_

T

112

mf breath _____ this is my li - ving breath _____

mf breath _____ this is my li - ving breath _____

Ah _____ Ah _____ Ah _____

Ah _____ Ah _____ Ah _____

Ah _____ Ah _____ Ah _____

Ah _____ Ah _____ Ah _____

Ah _____ Ah _____ Ah _____

Ah _____ Ah _____ Ah _____

*repeat individually ad. lib. accel. dim. and adding in random whispers of the text

115

mf this is my li - ving breath _____

mf this is my li - ving breath _____

Ah _____ Ah _____ Ah _____

Ah _____ Ah _____ Ah _____

Ah _____ Ah _____ Ah _____

Ah _____ Ah _____ Ah _____

Ah _____ Ah _____ Ah _____

Ah _____ Ah _____ Ah _____

Ah _____ Ah _____ Ah _____

U

3. in the presence of our longing

$\text{♩} = 48$
pp

119

pp this is the stone that an - chors to the shore, *mp* this is my breath that

pp this is the stone that an - chors to the shore *mp* this is my breath that

pp Ooo *mp* Ooo

pp Ooo *mp* Ooo

pp Ooo *mp* Ooo

pp Ooo *mp* Ooo

very long, depending on the acoustic and ability of the harmonic *pp* free harmonic singing ad.lib.

Mmmorrahhorr *sim.* *mf* that

Mmmorrahhorr *sim.* *mf* that

V

rit. - - - - - Tempo

124

mf gives me voice *mf* this is my song *mp* that sings through my heart *mp* this is the

mf gives me voice *mf* this is my song *mp* that sings through my heart *mp* this is the

mp this is my song *mf* that sings through my heart *mp* this is the

mp this is my song *mf* that sings through my heart *mp* this is the

mp this is my song *mf* that sings though my heart *mp* this is the

mp this is my song *mf* that sings though my heart *mp* this is the

mf gives me voice *mf* that sings through my heart *mp* this is the

mf gives me voice *mf* that sings through my heart *mp* this is the

W ♩. = 134 *rushed*

128

long - ing that we share this is my song

long - ing that we share this is my song

long - ing that we share this is my song

long - ing that we share this is my song

long - ing that we share this is my song

long - ing that we share this is my song

long - ing that we share this is my song

long - ing that we share this is my song

131

this is my breath this is my stone

this is my breath this is my stone

this is my breath this is my stone

this is my breath this is my stone

this is my breath this is my stone

this is my breath this is my stone

this is my breath this is my stone

this is my breath this is my stone

4. in the presence of
my song

X

♩ = 58

134 *mp*

my filled with earth my heart filled with sound sound_____ sound my heart filled with

mp

my filled with earth my heart filled with sound sound_____ sound my heart filled with

mp *mf*

mouth filled with earth my heart filled with sound my mouth my mouth my mouth filled_____with earth my heart filled with_

mp *mf*

mouth filled with earth my heart filled with sound my mouth my mouth my mouth filled_____with earth my heart filled with_

Y

144 *mp*

sound my filled with earth my heart___ filled with

mp

sound my filled with earth my heart___ filled with

mp

sound my filled with earth my heart___ filled with

mp

— sound mouth filled with earth my heart filled with

mp

— sound mouth filled with earth my heart___ filled with

Z

149 *pp*

sound my mouth_____ filled with earth my___ heart___ filled_____ with sound_____

pp

sound filled with earth my___ heart___ filled_____ with

pp *pp*

sound filled with earth my___ heart___ Ah Ah

pp

sound my___ mouth___ filled with earth my heart___ Ah

pp

sound earth my heart___ Ah

CC

167

graph a song in the di - stance a pho - to - graph of joy of joy a
 graph a song in the di - stance a pho - to - graph, a joy of joy a
 Ah a pho - to - graph of joy
 Ah a pho - to - graph of joy
 Ah of joy
 Ah Ah of joy
 Ah Ah of joy
 Ah Ah

DD

175

song in the di - stance a pho - to - - graph of
 song in the di - stance a pho - to - - graph of
 Ah of
 Ah of
 Ah
 Ah of
 Ah
 Ah

179

joy of joy of joy

joy Ah

joy joy

joy joy

joy Joy

joy joy

joy

joy

EE
Tempo ♩ = 92

182

joy filled with earth my heart filled with sound

Ah heart filled with sound

Ah my mouth filled with earth my heart filled with sound

Ah Mmm sound

Ah Mmm earth my heart filled with sound

Ah Mmm earth my heart filled with sound

Ah Mmm earth my heart filled with sound

Ah Mmm earth my heart filled with sound

191 **FF** *rit.* . . . Tempo ♩ = 64 ✓

a dia - mond on my fore - head a song in the dis - tance

— a dia - mond on my fore - head a song in the dis - tance

— a dia - mond on my fore - head a song in the dis - tance

— a dia - mond on my fore - head a song in the dis - tance

— a dia - mond on my fore - head a song in the dis - tance

— a dia - mond on my fore - head a song in the dis - tance

— a dia - mond on my fore - head a song in the dis - tance

— a dia - mond on my fore - head a song in the dis - tance

198 **GG** *P* ✓

this is my song the sweet - est song (ng)

P this is my song the sweet - est song (ng)

P this is my song the sweet - est song (ng)

P this is my song the sweet - est song (ng)

P Ah Ah Mmm

P Ah Ah Mmm

mp Ah Ah Mmm

mp Ah Ah

HH

201

mfp *rall.*

Ah

mfp

Ah

fppp *fppp* *fppp*

that sings through my heart that sings through my heart that sings through my heart

fppp *fppp* *fppp*

that sings through my heart that sings through my heart that sings through my heart

Mmm Mmm

Mmm Mmm

Mmm Mmm Ah

Ah Ah Ah

5. in the fantasy of time

II

210

pppp *gliss.* *mp* *mf pp* *mf pp*

S. sing this fermata for a very long time, singers enter one at a time and move ahead through the passage ad lib
If possible the sopranos and altos may move very gently through the performance space as they begin singing
- the conductor's discretion is required here..

JJ

212

mp *accel.* *mp*

A. *gliss.*

213

214

KK

mf
♩ = 54

in the ab - sence of the fan - ta - sy of time in the ab - sence of cer - tain death.

in the ab - sence of the fan - ta - sy of time in the ab - sence of cer - tain death.

in the ab - sence of the fan - ta - sy of time in the ab - sence of cer - tain death.

in the ab - sence of the fan - ta - sy of time in the ab - sence of cer - tain death.

218

LL

individually ad. lib.

in the ab - sence of so much as a whis - per

in the ab - sence of so much as a whis - per

in the ab - sence of so much as a whis - per

in the ab - sence of so much as a whis - per

MM

221

Musical score for measures 221-225. The score includes staves for Tenor 1 (T1), Tenor 2 (T2), and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "this is my long - ing this is my long - ing this is my long - ing". The piano part features a triplet pattern in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

226

Musical score for measures 226-227. It includes staves for Soprano (S) and Alto (A). The instructions are: "sopranos and altos continue their patterns for a considerable amount of time allowing the sound to drift and float and coming to a final ending on the slow indication of the conductor and slowly coming to a still position around the performance space to sing the remainder of the piece from these positions".

227 *mf*

in the ab - sence of the fan - ta - sy of time in the ab - sence of cer - tain death

in the ab - sence of the fan - ta - sy of time in the ab - sence of cer - tain death

in the ab - sence of the fan - ta - sy of time in the ab - sence of cer - tain death

in the ab - sence of the fan - ta - sy of time in the ab - sence of cer - tain death

in the ab - sence of the fan - ta - sy of time in the ab - sence of cer - tain death

in the ab - sence of the fan - ta - sy of time in the ab - sence of cer - tain death

in the ab - sence of the fan - ta - sy of time in the ab - sence of cer - tain death

231 OO

in the ab - sence of so much as a whis - per *molto*

in the ab - sence of so much as a whis - per *molto*

in the ab - sence of so much as a whis - per *molto*

in the ab - sence of so much as a whis - per *molto*

individually ad. lib. R.A.

individually ad. lib. R.A.

individually ad. lib. R.A.

individually ad. lib. R.A.

R.A. = random attacks

PP

ff

234

this is my long - ing this is my long - ing this is my long - ing this is my
 this is my long - ing this is my long - ing this is my long - ing this is my
 this is my long - ing this is my long - ing this is my long - ing this is my
 this is my long - ing this is my long - ing this is my long - ing this is my
 this is my long - ing this is my long - ing Ah Ah
 this is my long - ing this is my long - ing Ah Ah
 this is my long - ing this is my long - ing Ah Ah
 this is my long - ing this is my long - ing Ah Ah

QQ

♩ = 54

239

long - ing this is my long - ing this
 long - ing this is my long - ing this
 long - ing this is my long - ing this
 long - ing this is my long - ing this
 Ah Ah
 Ah Ah
 Ah Ah
 Ah Ah

244

this is my song, the sweet-est song the sweet-est song sing through my heart

this is my song, the sweet-est song the sweet-est song sing through my heart

this is my song, the sweet song the sweet-est song sings through my heart

this is my song, the sweet song the sweet-est song sings through my heart

p this is my song song sweet song song song

p this is my song song sweet song song song

p this is my song song sweet song sweet song sweet song

p this is my song song sweet song sweet song sweet song

RR $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$

249 *mp*

mp this is my song the sweet-est song this is my song the sweet-est song

mp this is my song the sweet-est song this is my song the sweet-est song

mp this is my sweet song this is my sweet song

mp is my sweet song this is my sweet song

mp my song my song

mp song my song

mp sweet song my sweet song

mp my sweet song my sweet song

SS

254

this is my song this is my breath this is my stone
 this is my song this is my breath this is my stone
 this is my song this is my breath this is my stone
 this is my song this is my breath this is my stone
 this is my song this is my breath this is my stone
 this is my song this is my breath this is my stone
 this is my song this is my breath this is my stone
 this is my song this is my breath this is my stone

TT

258 $\text{♩} = 64$ *mp*

in the ab - sence of the fan - ta - sy of time in the ab - - -
 in the ab - sence of the fan - ta - sy of time in the ab - sence of cer - tain
 ab - - sence of time in the ab - - -
 ab - - sence of time in the ab - - -
 ab - - sence of time
 ab - - sence of time
 ab - - sence of time
 ab - - sence of time

263

sence in the ab - sence of so much as a whis - per in the
 death in the ab - sence of so much as a whis - per in the
 sence whis - per
 sence whis - per

UU

accel.

ppp *breathy*

267

ab - sence of so much as a sound *ppp* *breathy* my song
 ab - sence of so much as a sound *ppp* *breathy* my song
 sound *ppp* *breathy* my song
 sound this is my song
 this *ppp* *breathy* my song
 this *ppp* *breathy* my song
 this *ppp* *breathy* my song
 this *ppp* *breathy* my song
 this *ppp* *breathy* my song

271

this is my breath this is my stone
 this is my breath this is my stone
 this is my breath this is my stone
 this is my breath this is my stone
 this is my breath this is my stone
 this is my breath this is my stone
 this is my breath this is my stone
 this is my breath this is my stone

VV

273

to nasal sound

gliss.

mf $\text{♩} = 62$ *mp*

this is our stone that an - chors to the shore this is our
 this is our stone that an - chors to the shore this is our
 this is our stone that an - chors to the shore this is our
 this is our stone that an - chors to the shore this is our
 this is our stone that an - chors to the shore this is our
 this is our stone that an - chors to the shore this is our
 this is our stone that an - chors to the shore this is our
 this is our stone that an - chors to the shore this is our
 this is our stone that an - chors to the shore this is our

fp free harmonics ad.lib. *gliss.*

Ah

WW

278

breath that gives us our voice this is our song that sings through our

breath that gives us our voice this is our song that sings through our

breath that gives us our voice this is our song that sings through our

breath that gives us our voice this is our song that sings through our

breath that gives us our voice that sings though our

breath that gives us our voice that sings though our

that gives us our voice that sings through our

that gives us our voice that sings through our

282

hearts this is the long - ing that we share

hearts this is the long - ing that we share

hearts this is the long - ing that we share

hearts this is the long - ing that we share

hearts this is the long - ing that we share

hearts this is the long - ing that we share

heart this is the long - ing that we share

heart this is the long - ing that we share

XX

285 ♩ = 64

ppp *rall.* *fp* *ppp* *fp*

this is our song this is our breath

this is our song this is our breath

this is our song this is our breath

this is our song this is our breath

this is our song this is our song

this is our song this is our song

this is our song this is our breath

this is our song this is our breath

287

ppp *rall.* *fp* *ppp* *rall.* *ppp* *fp*

this is our stone this is our long - - -

this is our stone this is our long - - -

this is our stone this is our long - - -

this is our stone this is our long - - -

this is our song this is our long - - -

this is our song this is our long - - -

this is our stone this is our long - - -

this is our stone this is our long - - -

289

ing

ing

ing

ing

ing

ing

ing

ing

ing

ing

ing

ing

* Some singers have 2 hard river stones each which are gently tapped together in a unobtrusive sparse random fashion at this point. They continue very gently to the end of the piece.

places where other "music sources" may be added one group at a time ... at this point they should be heard very faintly off in the distance perhaps behind closed doors or in a large space in different parts of the church. Do not try and coordinate rhythms or musical textures - the idea here is to create a rich wash of musical colour. Over a very long period of time they should blend and fade gently into infinity by processing into the distance or closing doors etc. Do not try to simply stop playing. The last sounds to be heard should be beautiful crystal clear harmonics from the choir on stage and the randoms gentle sounds of the tapping stones.