

OLA GJEILO

Contrition

SSAATTBB Choir and
Soprano Soloist

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Contrition is one of my most personal, and in some ways private, pieces. I usually avoid reflecting my own life, experiences and emotions in my music, but strive to transcend my personality and express something more universal. I feel that my music should be bigger than me, bigger than my everyday concerns as a human being – concerns that may seem incredibly important in the moment but, in the grand scheme of things, really don't amount to much when compared to the great mystery of life and the universe.

As the last line from George Herbert's poem *Perseverance*, which is featured in this piece, says: 'Thou art my rock, thou art my rest.' Whether you call it God, Soul, Nature, or something else, it feels like without it, I am nothing.

Domine, exaudi orationem meam,
et clamor meus ad te perveniat,
ne avertas faciem tuam a me

O Lord, hear my prayer,
and let my cry come to thee;
turn not away thy face from me

Thou art my rock, thou art my rest.

George Herbert, from Perseverance

A free piano reduction part, for rehearsal purposes, is available at
www.editionpeters.com/pdf/Gjeilo_Contrition_rehearsal_piano.pdf



Commissioned by and dedicated to
the Halifax Camerata Singers & Jeff Joudrey, conductor

CONTRITION

for SSAATTBB Choir and Soprano Soloist

Text: Anon./George Herbert

Ola Gjeilo

♩ = 63

Soprano Soloist

Soprano 1 *p* Aah

Soprano 2 *p* Aah

Alto 1 *p* Aah

Alto 2 *p* Aah

Tenor 1 *mp* *mf* Do - mi - ne,

Tenor 2 *p* Aah

Bass 1 *mp* *mf* Do - mi - ne,

Bass 2 *mp* *mf* Do - mi - ne,

9

Solo S.

S1 *mp* Do - mi - ne, *p* *mp*

S2 *mp* (etc.) *p*

A1 *mp* (etc.) *p*

A2 *mp* (etc.) *p*

T1 *mp* Do - mi - ne, Do - mi - ne, *p*

T2 *mp* (etc.) *p*

B1 *mp* Do - mi - ne, Do - mi - ne, *p*

B2 *mp* Do - mi - ne, Do - mi - ne, *p*

17 **A**

f
Solo S. ex - au - di o - ra - ti - o - nem

mf
S1 ex - au - di, Do -

mp
S2

mp
A1 Ex - au - di o - ra...

mp
A2

mp *f*
T1 ex - au - di o - ra - ti - o -

mp
T2

mp *f*
B1 ex - au - di o - ra - ti - o -

mp *f*
B2 ex - au - di o - ra - ti - o -