

O NOTTE
Stroope

SATB, accompanied

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O NOTTE

SATB with Piano, Violin, and Cello



Music by
J. Randall Stroope

Text by
Michelangelo [1475-1564]



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About the Work

Michelangelo (di Lodovico Buonarroti) was born on March 6, 1475 (seventeen years before Columbus landed in America) in Caprese, Italy, to a modest family, but one well-connected to influence. Michelangelo became an apprentice painter and was eventually employed by the powerful Medici family who ruled Florence. Three of his most famous works include the *David*, *Pieta* (located in St. Peter's Basilica), and the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel at the Vatican. Nearly five centuries later, his name is still synonymous with sculpture and painting. *Vidi l'angelo nel marmo e scolpil fino a liberario.* ("I saw an angel in the marble and carved until I set him free.")

What is less known about Michelangelo is his poetry. He penned over 300 sonnets and madrigals, and was a leading literary scholar in Florence. It is difficult to imagine that a single individual was able to dominate so many artistic disciplines in one lifetime – sculpture, architecture, engineering, painting and literature.

*O Notte, o dolce tempo, benché nero,
Con pace ogn' opra sempr' al fin assalta;
...
In sogno spesso porti, ov're spero.*

O night, o sweet though somber span of time!
Here, things find rest upon their journey's end;
...
In frequent dreams you carry me where I desire.

This is coupled with an excerpt of a beautiful text by German literary scholar Friedrich Rückert (1788-1866). Over 121 of his poems have been set by such notable composers as Schubert, Brahms, Robert and Clara Schumann, Rheinberger, Mahler, Wolf, Berg, Bartok, and Hindemith. Rückert had an uncanny memory and sense of the flow of words. He was not just fluent, but was a master of thirty languages. Few have matched his rhythmic skill and metrical genius.

*Du bist die Ruh,
Der Friede mild,
Die Sehnsucht du
Und was sie stillt.*

You are harmony and rest.
[You are peace]
You are yearning and its cadence.
[You are longing and what stills it.]

About the Composer

Z. Randall Stroope (b. 1953) is an American composer and conductor (www.zrstroope.com). His compositions are frequently heard on television broadcasts, Internet media, and NPR, as well as programs of esteemed ensembles throughout the world. Dr. Stroope is a university professor, as well as Artistic Director of a summer music festival in Europe. In the United States, he has conducted 41 all-state choirs, and has directed music festivals in 45 states. His composition teachers were Normand Lockwood and Cecil Effinger, both students of the famed French teacher, Nadia Boulanger (who was a student of Gabriel Fauré).

*Commissioned by the Pinellas County Center for the Arts at Gibbs High School
in connection with the National Artist Teacher Fellowship*

O Notte

(O Night)

SATB with Piano, Violin and Cello*

MICHELANGELO (1475-1564)

Z. RANDALL STROOPE (b. 1953)

Molto espressivo e sereno ($\text{♩} = 63$)

* Separate violin and cello parts are found on pages 15 and 16.

8

Vln.

Vlc.

SA

TB

mf *molto espr.*

light head voice

O not - te, o not - te, o dol-ce tem - po, in so-gno spes-so por-ti,

12

mp

ov' - i - re spe - ro. O dol - ce tem - po, o dol - ce.

15

Not - te, o not - te, o dol - ce tem - po, in so - gno spes - so por - ti,
O not - te, dol - ce tem - po,
mp dol - ce tem - po,

18

Not - te, o dol - ce tem - po, o dol - ce.
ov' - i - re spe - ro. O dol - ce tem - po, o dol - ce.

21

Ho-ly night, you sink down, not - te,
Sa-cred dreams drift down,

24

not - te,
(tutti) mf Like your moon - light ce - les - tial, not - te, not-

27

te! Shines through qui - et hu-man heart, not - te, not-not-

poco rit. a tempo

mf

poco rit. a tempo

mp *mf*

te, not te. O not - te, o not - te,

mp *mf*

te, not - te. O not - te, o not - te,

poco rit. a tempo

mf *mp* *mf*

34

not - te, not - te,
o dol-ce tem - po, in so - gno spes - so por - ti, ov' - i - re spe - ro.
o dol-ce tem - po, in so - gno spes - so por - ti, ov' - i - re spe - ro.

37

O__ dol-ce tem-po, o__ dol - ce.
O__ dol-ce tem-po, o__ dol - ce.

Not - te, not - te,
You are har - mo - ny and
You are har - mo - ny and

40

Vln. Vlc. S A T B Piano

te, not - te, not -

rest, You are yearn-ing and its ca-dence. Not -

rest, You are yearn-ing and its ca-dence. Not -

rest, You are yearn-ing and its ca-dence. Not -

The musical score consists of six staves. The first two staves are for strings (Vln. and Vlc.) in treble clef, with a dynamic of *mf*. The next four staves are vocal parts: Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). The lyrics are: "te, not - te, not -", followed by "rest, You are yearn-ing and its ca-dence. Not -", repeated for each vocal part. The piano staff at the bottom provides harmonic support.

44

te, ____ not - te!
te, no - te!
te, not - te, not - te!
te, ____ not - te!

48

f —————, *mf* ————— *mp* —————

Not - te, not - te, not - te.

f —————, *mf* ————— *mp* —————

Not - te, not - te, not - te.

f —————, *mf* ————— *mp* —————

Not - te, not - te, not - te.

f —————, *mf* ————— *mp* —————

Not - te, not - te, not - te.

mf ————— *mp* —————

Not - te, not - te, not - te.

poco rit. a tempo

53

O not - te, o not - te, in sog - no spes- so

O not - te, dol-ce tem - po, o

No - te, o not-te, o dol-ce tem - po, o

O not - te, o not-te, o dol-ce tem - po, in so - gno spes- so

poco rit. a tempo

rit. poco a poco

rit. poco a poco

por - ti. Not - te, ov' - i-re spe - ro.

mp dolcissimo

ov' - i-re spe - ro. O sweet night,

mp

— Not - te, ov' - i-re spe - ro. Con

mp dolcissimo

por - ti. Not - te, ov' - i-re spe - ro. O not - te, _____

rit. poco a poco

meno mosso al fine

non vib.

mp

mp

mp

mp

Not - te!

Not - - te!

meno mosso al fine

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O Notte

(O Night)

Z. RANDALL STROOPE (b. 1953)

Molto espressivo e sereno ($\text{♩} = 63$)

Violin

Cello

mf dolce

mp

mf

f

mf

p

mp

f

f

mf

(violin & cello tacet until meas. 39)

33 6 39

44

50 poco rit. a tempo

56

rit. poco a poco meno mosso al fine

61 *non vib.*




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