

Tenor and Harp

Katherine Pukinskis

# De Profundis

*A setting of text by Alfred Lord Tennyson*


2013

## Performance notes:

### General

- Because of the chant-based inspiration and nature of this piece, the opening character indication, “Solemn processional, poco rubato sempre” should truly be taken to heart. The players should move with one another through the natural momenta of each line, utilizing the swingset-like gestures of the harp as a guide.

### Harp

- Damp symbols that occur in the staff directly under a notated pitch (m. 13, for example) indicated that pitches played prior to symbol (excluding the notated pitch directly above the symbol) should be dampened; the notated pitch should ring cleanly and clearly.
- When the damp symbol appears with a letter name inside a box  for example, in m. 2, this indication is to dampen only the string of the letter name indicated. These moments occur most often when only one string is in need of dampening, so it is a relatively quick gesture.
- If the damp symbol appears on the top or bottom of the staff (for example, in m. 14), the melodic line closer to the symbol should be dampened. In the case of m. 14, the moving line written with stems down should be muffled.

### Text:

The text for this work comes from the poem *De Profundis* by Alfred Tennyson. The whole poem is split into two large parts: “The Two Greetings,” and “The Human Cry.” This piece excerpts the second of the texts in “The Two Greetings.”

Out of the deep, my child, out of the deep,  
From that great deep, before our world begins,  
Whereon the Spirit of God moves as he will-  
Out of the deep, my child, out of the deep,  
From that true world within the world we see,  
Whereof our world is but the bounding shore-  
Out of the deep, Spirit, out of the deep,  
With this ninth moon, that sends the hidden sun  
Down yon dark sea, thou comest, darling boy.

Premiere  
January 25, 2014  
Reva and David Logan Center for the Arts  
Chicago, IL  
Karim Sulayman, tenor  
Alison Attar, harp

**Duration: 4'30"**

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# De Profundis

Alfred, Lord Tennyson  
(1809-1892)

K. Pukinskis  
(b. 1986)

Solemn processional, poco rubato sempre ♩ = 48

Out of the deep, my child, out of the

*p* *mp* *p sempre* thoughtfully placing each "step"

*ppp* *p* *mp* *pp* *mp > p* *mp* *p* *mp*

L.V. molto sempre unless otherwise notated

C# C# C# C#

3 3 3 3 3 5

deep, From that great deep, be-fore our world be-gins where-on the

poco accel. =60 *p* *mp > p* *mf* relax, a tempo *p* slower, declarative =44 *mf*

*pp* *mp* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *p*

poco (L.V.)

B, C B# E#

3 3 3 3 3 3

11 *poco accel.*  $\text{♩} = 60$   
*a tempo*,  $\text{♩} = 48$  (')

Spi - - rit of God moves as he will.

*p* N.B. *mf* *n*

*mf* *mp* *p* *mf*

*increasing intensity*

*mf* *mp* *p* *mf*

*mp* *mf*

16  $\text{♩} = 40$  *tempo primo*  $\text{♩} = 48$

Out of the deep, my child, out of the

*pp* *mp* *p* *sub* *mf* *p* *sub* *mf* *p* *sub*

*like the C# is a secret*

*poco accel.*

*pp* *mp* *pp* *mf* *p* *sub*

*C#* *mf* *C#* *F#* *C#*

*D*

*\*let D ring*

22  $\text{♩} = 60$

8 deep. From that true world with in the

*mp* *mf* *mp* *poco accel.*

*p* *mf* *p* *mf* *mp* *mf*

F# D# Eb Ab Eb Bb D# A# B# C#

25 *poco rall.* *swirling momentum* *leaping*

8 world we see, where-of our world is but the bound - ing shore.

*mf* *p* *f* *mf* *f*

*p* *p* *f* *mp* *mf* *mf*

F# B# F# C# B# C#

*distant, crisp bells*