

SSA Trio

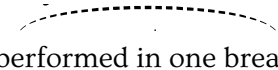


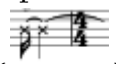

For Artemisia, and for Andrew

(Never) Bright Enough

Katherine Pukinskis

with text from Andrew P. Rincón

Performance Notes

-  dotted slur markings are indications of phrase and need not be performed in one breath.
-  Diamond noteheads indicate a dull stomp, like a bass drum, or a heart beat
- X noteheads are spoken. If a single consonant appears  KP T T T, performance should be pops of consonants, without any voiced air. If “ah” is attached to a  consonant (), air should be audibly expelled, like a stage whisper.
- Mm. 1-13 and 76-89 are somewhat flexible in tempo; the person who has the foregrounded material should be driving the music forward, and it can ebb and flow to your own interpretation.

Text

CUPID

Keep your heart tight, small, a ball, a speck, a rain drop. Hide it behind layers of blood and fat, keep it bright enough to read by, never bright enough to expose your inner workings to the world.

VALENTINE

Rip your chest open, hard and fast, make it as wide as the sky, show the world your insides, your pain, your joy and welcome them like Noah’s arc, one by one, two by two, into the glass museum of your crooked heart.

//

CUPID

Bendito sea, bendito sea, bendito sea tu Corazon que ‘sta lleno de suave lluvia y relámpagos a la vez.

VALENTINE

Blessed be, blessed be, blessed be your heart filled with soft rain and lightning, all at once.

Composer’s note:

This piece was created as part of Artemisia’s residency at Amherst College in the Spring of 2021. Alexandra, Kaitlin, and Diana worked with the students registered in my composition seminar to create pieces inspired by collective themes of isolation and identity. I wrote this piece in the same time frame as my students as a way to better empathize with their own timelines of completion, to normalize their own hurdles by sharing where and when I got stuck in the process, and to be better connected to them and their work.

For my students, “isolation” spread into pieces that touch on incarceration, travel, home, exposure, flight, growth, a cage, connection, and space (in many senses of the word). For me, I was pulled into how we can

isolate ourselves as an avenue of protection or safeguarding from harm. Andrew Rincón's play *I Wanna Fuck Like Romeo and Juliet* taps into the ways we try and protect ourselves from love: loving, being loved. Cupid and Valentine offer two extremes: shielding your heart from everything around and exposing your most vulnerable parts to the sting of fresh air.

Sharing any part of yourself--composition included--requires a certain risk, a vulnerability, and, as Andrew writes, exposes your inner workings to the world. This piece traverses the quietest, most closed off text and sounds to the full-throated outcries to be heard and accepted. The voices take on myriad roles: leading the charge, passing material back and forth, forging ahead as a unit, spreading to the far reaches and tucking in close and tight.

To listen to a radio production of Andrew's play, please visit the Broadway Podcast Network and the Parsnip Ship.

Duration: 6 minutes
Premiere: Spring 2021
Artemisa Vocal Trio

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For Artemisia, and for Andrew
(Never) Bright Enough

Andrew P. Rincón
 from *I Wanna Fuck Like Romeo and Juliet*

K. Pukinskis

Like an incantation ♩ = 76-80

Diamond noteheads: stomp (like bass drum/heart beat)

X noteheads: consonant pops (no schwa unless notated "ah")

1 *mf* Kah KP T TT

2 *mp* KP f p

3 *mp* Bless - ed be, bless - ed be bless - ed be your

7 *mf* Hah f p Kah

2 KP T

3 heart filled with soft rain and light - ning, all at

A little faster

13 *p* KP T KP T Keep your heart tight.

2 *mp* KP T T T *p* Keep your heart tight. Keep your heart small.

3 *(n) p* *p* once. (ts) all at once. (ts)

2

17

1 *mp* *p*
 Keep your heart small, a ball, Keep your heart small.

2 *mp* *p*
 Keep your heart tight, small, a ball a speck, a rain drop.

3 *mp* *mp* *p* *mp*
 ts f p bless

22

1 *mp* *p*
 Kah K P T T T a ball,

2 *mp* *sub p*
 Keep your heart tight, Keep your heart small,

3 *mp*
 -ed be your heart filled a speck, a

26

1 *mp* *p*
 Protected, covered Far away, muted
 Hide it be-hind lay-ers of blood and fat, hm

2 *mp* *p*
 Hide it be-hind lay-ers of blood and fat, hm

3 *mp* *p*
 rain drop. Hide it be-hind lay-ers of blood and fat, hm

30 *mf* Full, forward *mp* *p*

1 K P T T T T T T Keep your heart tight. a chest voice, belt-y

2 *mf* *mp* Keep your heart small. chest voice, belt-y

3 *mf* bless - ed be

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

1 ball, Keep your chest voice, belt-y

2 K P T T T T T T Your heart all at once. chest voice, belt-y

3 *p* *mf* a speck, Keep

38 *mf* *sub p* *p* *mf* *sub p* *mp* *mf* *sub p*

1 heart small, *mf* *sub p*

2 keep it small, *mf* *sub p*

3 Keep it small, *mp* *mf* *sub p*

4 **Starting up** *poco accel.* **Blooming**
 41 **again** *f*

1 Keep, keep, keep your heart small, keep it bright e-nough, bright e-nough

2 Keep your heart a rain drop, keep it bright e-nough, bright e-nough to

3 Keep your, a rain drop, keep it bright e-nough, bright e-nough to

Relaxing **Protected** *poco accel.*
 46 *p* *f*

1 e-nough to read Keep it small, a ball, ne-ver bright e-nough to ex

2 read by, Keep it small, ne-ver bright e-nough to ex

3 read by, to read, Keep it, ne-ver bright e-nough to ex

(♩ = 72ish) **with intention**
 51 *p* *mp*

1 pose your in-ner work-ings to the world, to the world, ne-ver bright, ne-ver bright e-

2 pose your in-ner work-ings to the world, to the world, ne-ver bright, ne-ver bright e-

3 pose your in-ner work-ings to the world, to the world, ne-ver bright, ne-ver bright e-

Calling out ♩ = 68

55

1 nough, Rip your chest o-pen, hard and fast, make it wide as the

2 nough, Rip your chest o-pen, hard and fast, make it wide as the

3 nough, Rip your chest o-pen, hard and fast, make it wide as the

ff *mp*

59

1 sky, show the world your in - sides, your pain, your joy, and

2 sky, show the world your in - sides, your pain, your joy, and

3 sky, show the world your in - sides, your pain, your joy, and

f *mf* *sub p*

63

1 wel - come them like No-ah's arc, oh one by one,

2 wel - come them like No-ah's arc, oh one by one,

3 wel - come them like No-ah's arc, oh one by one,

mf *pp* *p*

much slower, out of time

a Tempo *p* (♩ = 68)

6

67 *mf* (no decresc.)

1 two by two, in - to the glass mu - seum of your crook - ed heart.

2 two by two, in - to the glass mu - seum of your crook - ed heart.

3 two by two, in - to the glass mu - seum of your crook - ed heart.

71 *mp* *pp* *mp* *p*

1 hm hm KP T T T T T

2 hm hm *p*

3 hm hm KP T

♩ = 60-66 A blessing, a prayer, a benediction
 Singer with Spanish text runs the show;
 tempo rubato

76 *mp* (spoken) Blessed be, Blessed be, Blessed be your heart

1

2 Ben-di-to se - a, ben-di-to se - a, ben-di-to se - a tu Co-ra-zon que 'sta

3 Kah Wide as the sky