

PROGRAM NOTES

The SATB version of *O Pulse of My Heart* received its premiere performance by Coro de Cámara, the chamber chorus of Los Alamos and Santa Fe, New Mexico, Karen Marrolli, Conductor, Viera Moore, alto soloist, Karla Contoupes, violin, Kelvin McNeal, pianist as part of the program “Visions of New Life,” on November 5 and 6, 2011.

The premiere performance of the SSAA version was given by the Zia Singers, Santa Fe, New Mexico, Karen Marrolli, Conductor, Ann Hackett, alto soloist, Jessica Smucker, violinist, and Lydia Madrick, pianist, as part of the program “By Winter’s Light,” on January 26 and 27, 2013.

The text was written by the composer as an homage to traditional Irish love ballads. The soloist for this piece should have a light and lilting vocal quality, and the style of violin playing should have the feel of traditional Irish or Scottish music.

FULL ENGLISH TEXT

Fair boy, your eyes, they haunt my soul
As the moon haunts the night.
The stars all fall at the sound of your voice.
The mountains sigh at your sight.

No flame can rival the fire of my love,
No canyon was ever so deep.
My soul sings your song through endless night;
Your voice, it haunts my sleep.

No rose is so sweet, no meadow so fair,
No star is more radiant above.
Until death lay me down beneath your shade,
You always shall be my love.

Fair boy, your eyes, they haunt my soul:
A ghost that never shall part.
I wander in starlight, awaiting your call,
O pulse of my heart.

(Fair boy, your eyes, they haunt my soul.)

—Karen Marrolli

GAELIC TEXT, TRANSLATION AND PRONUNCIATION

Is tu mo ghra,
I love you,

Iss too moh grow,

A chuisle mo chroí.
O pulse of my heart.

Ah hoos-lah moh kree.

A downloadable violin part for each voicing is available on the publisher’s product page for this title.

→ SATB (divisi), Violin, and Piano	1.3515
SSAA, Violin, and Piano	1.3516

Karen Marrolli (b. 1975)

For biographical information visit:
www.karenmarrollimusic.com

O Pulse of My Heart

(A Chuisle Mo Chroí)

for Alto Solo, SATB Chorus (divisi), Violin, and Piano

Text by Karen Marrolli
and Traditional Irish Words

Music by
Karen Marrolli

Freely
mf 3

Alto Solo

Fair boy, your eyes, they haunt my soul

6

A. Solo

As the moon haunts the night. The stars all

11

A. Solo

fall at the sound of your voice. The moun - tains sigh at your

16

A. Solo

sight, your sight, the moun - - tains sigh at your

A. Solo
sight.

S
mp
mo chroí, a

A
mp
mo chroí, a

T
mp
mo chroí, a

B
mp
A chui - sle mo chroí, a chui - sle mo chroí, a

Pno.
♩ = 82 [A]
mp

Vn.
mp

S
chui - sle mo chroí, a chui -

A
chui - sle mo chroí, a chui -

T
chui - sle mo chroí, a chui -

B
chui - sle mo chroí, a chui - sle mo chroí, a chui - sle mo

Pno.

30

Vn. *mf*

S *mf*
sle mo chroí, a chui - -

A *mf*
sle mo chroí, a chui - -

T *mf*
sle mo chroí, a chui - -

B *mf*
chroí, a chui - sle mo chroí, a chui - sle mo

Pno.

34

Vn. *p*

A. Solo *mp* 3
No flame can ri-val the fire of my

S *p*
sle mo chroí, a chui - - sle mo

A *p*
sle mo chroí, a chui - - sle mo

T *p*
sle mo chroí, a chui - - sle mo

B *p*
chroí, a chui - sle mo chroí, a chui - sle mo chroí, a

Pno. *p*

39

Vn. *mp*

A. Solo *mf*
love, _____ No can - yon was ev - er so

S
chroí, _____ a chuí - sle mo

A
chroí, _____ a chuí - - sle mo

T
chroí, _____ a chuí - - sle mo

B
chuí - sle mo chroí, a chuí - sle mo chroí, mo

Pno.

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43

Vn. *mf*

A. Solo
deep.

S *mf*
chroí, — Is tu — mo ghra, a chuí - sle mo

A *mf*
chroí, Is tu mo ghra, a chuí - sle mo

T *mf*
chroí, mo chroí, mo

B *mf*
chroí, mo chroí, mo

Pno. *mf*

47

Vn. *f*

A. Solo *f* *3*
My ___ soul sings your ___ song ___ through end - less night;

S *f* *mp*
chroí, mo chroí, mo chroí,

A *f* *mp unis.*
chroí, mo chroí, mo chroí,

T *f* *mp*
chroí, mo chroí, mo chroí,

B *f* *mp*
chroí, mo chroí, mo chroí,

Pno. *f* *mp*

52

Vn. *mp* *mp* *pp*

A. Solo *mp* *3*
Your ___ voice, ___ it haunts ___ my sleep, my

S *p unis.*
Is tu ___ mo ghra, ___

A *p*
Is ___ tu ___ mo ghra, ___ mo

Pno. *p*

56 *p* *3*

A. Solo
Sleeper, your voice, it haunts my sleep.

S *mp* *pp*
a chui - - - sle mo chroí.

A *mp* *pp*
ghra, a chui - - - sle mo chroí.

T *pp*
chui - - - sle mo chroí.

B *pp*
chui - - - sle mo chroí.

Pno. *mp* *pp*

60 **C** *mp* *3*

S No rose is so sweet, no mead-ow so

A No rose so sweet, no mead-ow so

T No rose so sweet, no mead-ow so

B *unis. mp*
No rose so sweet, no mead-ow so

Pno. **C**

65

Vn. *mp*

S *unis.*
fair, No star more ra-diant a-bove.

A
fair, No star is more ra-diant a-bove.

T
fair, No star is more ra-diant a-bove.

B
fair, No star, a-bove.

Pno. *mp*

70

Vn. *gliss.* *mf* *f* *In tempo*

S *mf* *f* *unis. mp* 3
Is tu mo ghra, a chui-sle mo chroí. You

A *mf* *f* *unis. mp* 3
Is tu mo ghra, a chui-sle mo chroí. You

T *f* 3
Un-til death lay me down be-neath your shade,

B *f* 3
Un-til death lay me down be-neath your shade,

Pno. *mf* *f* *In tempo*

75

In tempo

S *p* *3*
al - ways shall be___ my love, my love, you___ al - ways shall

A *unis. p* *3*
al - ways shall be___ my love, my love, you___ al - ways shall

T *p*
you al - ways shall

B *p*
you al - ways shall

In tempo

Pno. *mp*

80

D

S
be___ my love.

A
be___ my love.

T
be___ my love.

B
be___ my love.

D

Pno. *ff*

85

Vn. *ff*

A. Solo *mp* 3 Fair

Pno.

89 [E]

Vn. *p* *pp*

A. Solo boy, your eyes, they haunt my soul:

S *p stagger breathing*

A *p stagger breathing*

T *p stagger breathing*

B *p stagger breathing*

Pno. *pp*

94

A. Solo

A ghost that nev - er shall part.

S

A

T

B

Pno.

98

Vn.

A. Solo

1 wan - der in star-light, a - wait - ing your call,

mp (stagger breathing)

S

0.

mp (stagger breathing)

A

0.

mp (stagger breathing)

T

0.

mp (stagger breathing)

B

0.

Pno.

mp

103 *mf* *3* **In tempo** *p* *3*

A. Solo *mf* *3*
O pulse of my heart, my heart. O

S *mf unis.*
O pulse of my heart.

A *mf*
O pulse of my heart.

T *mf*
O pulse of my heart.

B *mf*
O pulse of my heart.

108 **F**

A. Solo pulse of my heart.

S *pp*
mo chroí, a

A *pp*
mo chroí, a

T *pp*
mo chroí, a

B *pp*
a chui - sle mo chroí, a

Pno. *pp*

F

112

A. Solo *p* 3 Fair boy, your

S *chui - sle mo chroí, a chui -*

A *chui - sle mo chroí, a chui -*

T *chui - sle mo chroí, a chui -*

B *chui - sle mo chroí, a chui - sle mo chroí, a chui - sle mo*

Pno.

117

A. Solo *pp* eyes, they haunt my soul. *mp*

S *sle mo chroí, a chui -* *p mp*

A *sle mo chroí, a chui -* *p mp*

T *sle mo chroí, a chui -* *p mp*

B *chroí, a chui - sle mo chroí, a chui - sle mo*

Pno. *p mp*

121

Vn. *mf* *mp* *p*

S *mf* *mp*
sle mo chroi, a chui - -

A *mf* *mp*
sle mo chroi, a chui - -

T *mf* *mp*
sle mo chroi, a chui - -

B chroi, a chui - sle mo chroi, a chui - sle mo

Pno. *mf* *mp*

125

Vn. *p* *p* *gliss*

S *p*
sle mo chroi.

A *p*
sle mo chroi.

T *p*
sle mo chroi.

B chroi.

Pno. *p*

2011
5:36