

'VENICE THE BEAUTIFUL'

for a cappella choir

OPUS 53

JOHN SIMON

Sempre con il colore

♩=76
mp *p* *f*

Soprano
Wa - ter bab-ling brings vi - sions of Ven - ice

Alto
bab-ling brings vi sions of Ven - ice

Tenor
blue - ly____ brid - ges____ of Ven - ice

Bass
be-neath brid - ges____ vi - sions Ven - ice

mf

4 *1* *pp* solo

S. Ven - - - ice

A.

T. *p* *lontano solo* *pp*
to me to____ me Ven - - ice Ven - - - ice

B. *p* *pp*
to me to me wa - ter bab-ling wa-ter bab-ling wa - ter bab-ling blue - ly____

9 *Meno mosso* *tutti mf*

S. Ven - - - ice yet vul - ner - a - ble

A. *pp* *p* *mf*
wa - ter bab-ling blue - ly____ brings vi-sions of Ven - ice vul - ner - a - ble

T. *tutti p* *mf*
Ven-er - a - ble she stands, vul-ner - a - ble

B. *p*
wa - ter bab-ling blue - ly,____ brings vi-sions of Ven-ice Ven-er - a - ble she stands,

14 *cresc.* *dim.* *mf*

S. To the ve - ry springs of her ex - ist - ence

A. *cresc.* *dim.* *mf* *p*
To the ve - ry springs of her ex - ist - ence wa - ter wa - ter

T. *mf*
of her ex - ist - ence

B. *mf* *p*
ex - ist - ence wa - ter bab - ling wa - ter bab - ling

19 *pp* solo *tutti mf* *mf*

S. Ven - - ice. Cir - cum - stance caused

A. *pp* *mf*
wa - ter wa - ter wa - ter wa - ter wa - ter wa - ter stance caused

T. *pp* solo *tutti p*
Ve - - nice Ven - - ice Cir - cum stance caused

B. *pp*
wa - ter bab - ling blue - ly wa - ter bab - ling blue - ly

24 *f* *dim.* *mf* *p*

S. co - lour to de - scend to de - scend

A. *f* *dim.* *mf* *p*
co - lour co - lour to de - scend

T. *f* *dim.* *p*
co - lour col - our and dis - play

B. *mf* *p*
co - lour and dis - play

30 *mf* *f*

S. it - self like a rich di - a - dem rich di - a - dem Up - on the

A. like a rich di - a - dem rich di - a - dem Up - on the

T. it - self di - a - dem Up - on the

B. it - self like a rich di - a - dem

35 *ff* *f* *ff* *f* *ff*

S. dome of the Ci - ty which, ful - ly fledged, em - er - ald - ed,

A. dome of the Ci - ty which, ful - ly fledged, em - er - ald - ed,

T. dome of the Ci - ty which ful - ly fledged,

B. dome the Ci - ty which ful - ly fledged,

40 *f* *f* *f* *ff* *f* *f*

S. and sap - phired, sap - phired, and ru - bied, and ru - bied,

S.II and sap - phired, sap - phired, and ru - bied, and ru - bied,

A. and sap - phired, sap - phired, and ru - bied, and ru - bied,

A.II and sap - phired, sap - phired, and ru - bied and ru - bied,

T. and sap - phired, and ru - bied, and ru - bied,

B. and sap - phired, ru - bied and ru - bied, ru - bied,

44 3 *dim.*

S. *p*
Caused no cor - ner en - vy. caused no

A. *dim.* *mp* *p*
sap - phired ru - bied caused no cor - ner en - vy. caused no

T. *mf* *mp*
caused no cor - ner en - vy caused no cor - ner en - vy

B. *dim.* *mf* *mp* *p*
sap - phired, ru - bied caused no cor - ner en - vy en - vy en - vy en - vy

Tempo originale

♩=76



48 *pp* *pp*

S. cor - ner en - vy. Wa - ter bab - bling blue - ly

A. *pp*
cor - ner en - vy.

T. *pp*
en - vy.

B. *p* *pp* *p*
Ven - ice the beau - ti - ful Ven - ice the beau - ti -

Giocoso

♩=112

sempre ben articolato



55

S.

A. *mf*
And learn - ing

T. *pp* *mf*
Wa - ter bab - bling blue - ly and grace grew here: Spread - ing them - selves spic - ca - to - like

B. *pp* *mf*
ful Spread - ing them - selves spic - ca - to - like

62 *mf* $\text{♩}=\text{♩}$ *sempre*

S. *mf* in spray

A. *mf* spic - ca - to - like in spray

T. spic - ca - to - like in spray From can - vas to ca - the___ dral___ Through crypt and choir and

B. *mf* in spray From can - vas to ca - the___ dral___ Through crypt and choir and

68 4 *p*

S. From can - vas to ca - the - dral Through crypt and choir and nave___

A. *p* From can - vas to ca - the - dral Through crypt and choir and nave

T. *mp* nave___ ca - the-dral

B. *mp* nave nave___

73 5 *rit.*

S. *mf* Till tur - ret___ too was plumed *f* plumed___

A. *mf* Till tur - ret___ too was plumed *f* plumed___

T. *p* Till tur-ret too was plumed___ *mf* Till tur- ret too was plumed *f* plumed

B. *p* Till tur-ret too was plumed *f* plumed___

Spiritoso

♩=112

78

S. *f* *ff* *f*
plumed plumed. And mu - sic here was heard: vo - lu - min - ous

A. *f* *ff* *f*
plumed plumed. And mu - sic here was heard: vo - lu - min - ous

T. *f* *ff* *f*
plumed plumed. And mu - sic here was heard: vo - lu - min - ous

B. *ff* *ff*
plumed plumed. heard:

86

S. *ff* *f*
vir - ile, vast and daunt - ing Did the trum - pets thrill and urge Did the trum - pets

S.II *ff* *f*
vir - ile, vast and daunt - ing Did the trum - pets thrill and urge Did the trum - pets

A. *ff* *f*
vir - ile, vast and daunt - ing Did the trum - pets thrill and urge Did the trum - pets

A.II *ff* *f*
vir - ile, vast and daunt - ing Did the trum - pets thrill and urge Did the trum - pets

T. *ff* *f*
vir - ile, vast and daunt - ing Did the trum - pets thrill and urge

B. *ff* *f*
ing Did the trum - pets thrill and urge Did the trum - pets

91

S. **6**
thrill and urge The soul on up - ward and up - ward, Did the trum - pets

A. **6**
thrill and urge The soul on up - ward and up - ward,

T. **6**
on up - ward and up - ward, Did the trum - pets Did the trum - pets

B. **6**
thrill and urge The soul on up - ward and up - ward,

96 *f*

S. The soul on up - ward,

A. *f* thrill and urge thrill and urge The soul on up - ward,

A.II *f* thrill and urge thrill and urge The soul on up - ward,

T. *f* thrill and urge The soul The soul on up - ward, on up - ward,

B. *f* thrill and urge thrill and urge The soul The soul on up - ward, on up - ward,

con passione

$\text{♩} = 120$

Più tranquillo

100 *f*

S. big - ger than tears. big - ger than tears.

A. *f* big - ger than tears. big - ger than tears,

T. *f* big - ger than tears. big - ger than tears. *dim.* big - ger than tears. *p* And mus - ic here was heard:.

B. *f* big - ger than tears. big - ger than tears. *dim.* big - ger than tears. *p* And mus - ic here was heard:.

105 *p espress.*

S. big - ger than tears. Ven - ice the beau - ti - ful

A. *p espress.* big - ger than tears big - ger than tears Ven - ice the beau - ti - ful

T. was heard big - ger than tears. Ven - ice the beau - ti - ful

B. *mp* was heard: big - ger than tears *p* Ven - ice Ven - ice

114

7 *p* *pp*

S. And mu - sic here was heard: was heard:

A. *p* big - ger than tears And mu - sic here was heard: Ven - ice the beau - ti -

T. *p* big - ger than tears. Ven - ice the beau - ti - ful

B. *mp* big - ger than tears *p* Ven - ice the beau - ti - ful Ven -

Misterioso
Tempo originale

♩ = 76

♩ = ♩ sempre

121

S. ful

A. ful

T. ful

B. *pp* whispered ice Ven - ice the beau - ti - ful the beau - ti -

Scorrevole

127

8 *pp* *pp* (an echo) *p* *p*

S. Wa - ter bab - bling blue - ly Wa - ter blue - ly

A. Wa - ter bab - bling Small - won - der that

T. ful Wa - ter bab - bling blue - ly

B. ful Small won - der

132 *p*

S. Small won-der that Turn - er tin-ted tru - ly. tin - ted_ tru - ly

A. Small won-der that Turn - er tin-ted tru - ly tin - ted_ tru - ly

T. *p* Rus - kin wrote

B. Small won - der Turn-er tin - ted tin-ted tru ly tin - ted tru - ly Rus-kin wrote_

139 *p* *f* *espress.*

S. Rus - kin wrote_ in col - our, Turn - er tin - ted tru - ly And

A. *p* Rus - kin wrote *f* *espress* Turn - er tin - ted tru - ly And

T. *p* Rus - kin wrote_ in col - our, *f* *espress.* Turn - er tin - ted tru - ly And

B. *p* Rus-kin wrote_ Turn-er tin - ted tin-ted tru - ly *f* *espress* Turn - er tin - ted tru - ly And

145 *fp* *f* *accel.*

S. Rus-kin wrote_ Rus-kin wrote_ in COL glo - ry

S.II Rus-kin wrote Rus-kin wrote_ in OUR glo - ry

A. *fp* *f* Rus-kin wrote_ Rus-kin wrote_ GLOW glo - ry

A.II *fp* *f* Rus-kin wrote_ Rus-kin wrote_ AND glo - ry

T. *f* Rus-kin wrote Rus-kin wrote glo - ry

B. *f* Rus - kin wrote glo - ry

Agitato

♩=120

149 *f* *dim.*

S. Of the Ci - ty Whose wa - ters lap___ light - ly

A. *f* *dim.* Of the Ci - ty Whose wa - ters lap___ light-ly be - neath bridg - es

T. *f* *dim.* Of the Ci - ty Whose wa - ters lap___ light - ly be - neath bridg - es

B. *f* *dim.* Of the Ci - ty Whose wa - ters lap___ light - ly be - neath bridg - es

Lamentoso

♩=76

155 *p* *mp* **10**

S. nar - row,___ Now in sum - mer_____

A. *p* *mp* nar - row,___ Now in sum - mer sum - mer crowd - ed_____

T. *p* *mp* nar - row,___ Now in sum - mer in sum - mer crowd - ed_____

B. *mp* Now___ in sum - mer crowd-ed cru-el - ly

160 *mf* *p* **11**

S. crowd-ed cru-el - ly crowd-ed cru-el - ly.

A. *mf* *p* cru - el - ly crowd-ed cru-el - ly crowd-ed cru-el - ly. bridg - es nar - row,

T. *mf* *p* cru - el - ly crowd-ed cru-el - ly cru-el - ly. bridg - es nar - row

B. *p* crowd-ed cru-el - ly crowd-ed cru-el - ly. Whose wa-ters lap Whose wa-ters lap

165

p *mf*

S. Whose wa-ters lap be - neath bridg - es nar - row,

A. Whose wa-ters lap Whose wa-ters lap be - neath bridg - es nar - row,

T. *mf* be - neath bridg - es nar - row,

B. *mf* be-neath bridg - es bridg - es nar - row be - neath bridg - es nar - row,

molto rit.

170 **12**

f *p*

S. Now in sum-mer crowd - ed cru - el - ly cru - el - ly

A. *f* *p* Now in sum-mer crowd - ed cru - el - ly cru - el - ly

T. *f* *p* sum-mer sum-mer crowd-ed cru-el-ly crowd - ed cru - el - ly cru - el - ly.

B. *f* *p* sum-mer sum-mer crowd-ed cru-el-ly crowd - ed cru - el - ly cru - el - ly.

Tempo originale

♩=76

174

pp solo

S. Ven - ice Ven - ice

A. *pp* wa - ter bab - bling blue - ly

T. solo *pp* Ven - ice Ven - ice

B. *pp* wa - ter bab-bling wa-ter bab-bling blue - ly blue - ly wa-ter bab-bling blue - ly

rit. - - - - -

Serioso

♩=120

un poco agitato

pp

180

S. *pp* sin of in - dus - try

A. *p* brings vi-sions of Ven- ice_____ to me.____ *pp* Saved from the sin of in - dus - try

T. _____

B. *p* brings vi-sions of Ven- ice_____ to me.____ *pp* sin_____ *pp* in - dus -

13

186

S. *p* Saved from the sin of in - dus - try The Ci - ty of Cir-cum-stance stood,_____ *cresc.* *mf dim.*

A. *p* Saved from the sin of in - dus - try The Ci - ty of Cir-cum-stance stood,_____ *cresc.* *poco cresc.* *mf dim.*

T. _____ *p cresc.* *mf* *mp* The Ci - ty of Cir-cum-stance stood, The

B. try _____ *mp* The

14

194

S. half *p* stood,_____ tutti *mf* in - dus -

A. _____ *p* Saved from the sin of in - dus - try_____ *mf*

T. Ci - ty of Cir-cum-stance stood, _____ *p* Saved from the sin of in - dus - try_____ *mf*

B. Ci - ty of Cir-cum-stance stood,_____ *p* of in - dus - try_____ *mf*

202 *p* solo

S. try The Ci - ty of Cir-cum-stance stood Saved from the sin_ of in - dus - try

A. — The Ci - ty of Cir-cum-stance stood, stood *pp*

T. in - dus - try_ The Ci - ty_ The Ci - - ty_ *ppp*

B. in - dus - try_ The Ci - ty_ The Ci - - ty_ *ppp*

208 **15**

S. The Ci - ty of Cir-cum-stance stood,

A. stood, Un-til tou-rist mo - ney *pp*

T. The Ci - ty_ stood, Un-til tou-rist mo - ney Un-til tour-ist mo - ney_ *pp* *p* *mf*

B. The Ci - ty_ stood, mo - - ney Un-til tour-ist mo - ney_ *pp* *p* *mf*

tutti *p* **con molto sentimento**

214

S. min - gled with mu - se - um_ Seek-ing re - duc - tion to yet an - oth - er_ *p* *pp* *p*

A. min - gled with mu - se - um_ Seek-ing re - duc - tion to yet an - oth - er_ *p* *pp* *p*

T. min - gled with mu - se - um to yet an - oth - er_ *p* *p*

B. min - gled with mu - se - um *p*

Più mosso

220

S. — crow. —

A. tutti
— crow. —

T. (tutti) *pp sotto voce*
— crow. — Seek - ing re - duc - tion to yet an - oth - er crow. —

T.II *pp sotto voce*
Seek - ing re - duc - tion to yet an - oth - er crow. —

B. *pp sotto voce*
seek - ing re - duc - tion - to yet an - oth - er crow. —

229 $\text{♩} = 84$ 16

S. —

A. —

T. *pp* But

T.II *pp* shall

B. *pp solo* I
The Ci - ty of Cir - cum - stance stood, —

234

S. —

A. —

T. *p espress.*
But I shall stand on this bridge watch - ing

T.II *p* tutti
stand on this bridge on this bridge But I shall stand —

B. *p* *espress.*
stand on this bridge on this bridge But I shall stand —

17

p

238

S. *p* Wait - ing Wait-ing un - til a vi - sion

A. *p* Wait - ing Wait-ing un - til a vi - sion

T. *tutti* watch - ing, and Wait - ing, *p* vi - sion

B. *tutti* watch - ing, and Wait - ing *p* a

18

*pp**p*

244

S. of the Ci - ty drifts up - on the rip - pled sur - face

A. of the Ci - ty drifts drifts

T. of the Ci - ty drifts up - on the rip - pled sur - face

B. vi - sion the Ci - ty drifts drifts

19

*pp**p*

250

S. of the la - goon, And the cen - tu - ries will fold back, And my ear will fill

A. drifts of the la - goon, *pp* cen - tu - ries will fold back, *p* with Ga - bri - e - li,

T. of the la - goon, back,

B. drifts And the cen - tu - ries will fold back, fold back,

Con molto passione

♩=120

256

mf *f*

S. will sing for you. will sing for you. And the cen - tu - ries

A. will sing for you. will sing for you. And the cen - tu - ries

T. *p* *mf* *f* And my heart And my heart will sing for you. And the cen - tu - ries

B. *p* *mf* *f* And my heart will sing for you. And my heart will sing for you. And the cen - tu - ries

263

ff *f* *ff*

S. will fold back, And my ear will fill with Ga - bri - e - li,

A. will fold back, And my ear will fill with Ga - bri - e - li,

T. *ff* *f* *ff* will fold back, And my ear will fill with Ga - bri - e - li,

B. *ff* *f* *ff* will fold back, And my ear will fill with Ga - bri - e - li,

20

270

f *ff*

S. And my heart will sing will sing for you. will sing for you.

A. *f* *ff* And my heart will sing will sing for you. will sing for you.

T. *f* *ff* And my heart will sing will sing for you. will sing Ven-ice the

B. *f* *ff* And my heart will sing will sing for you. will sing for you. Ven-ice the

278

S. 
Ven-ice the beau-ti - ful beau - ti - ful

A. 
Ven-ice the beau-ti - ful beau - ti - ful

T. 
beau-ti - ful Ven-ice the beau-ti - ful Ven-ice the beau-ti - ful

B. 
beau-ti - ful Ven-ice the beau-ti - ful Ven-ice the beau-ti - ful 944"

Composed Prague -March to September 2015. Composer's own poem, originally entitled 'Souvenir de Venise' written C 1967.