

Z. Randall Stroope

Vergine madre
(Virgin Mother)

Double Treble Choir Unaccompanied
(also available in Mixed Choir/Treble)

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Vergine madre

(Virgin mother)

About the work...

Born in Florence, Durante degli Alighieri (often simply referred to as "Dante") is regarded as one of the *tre corone* ("three crowns") of Italian literary giants, the other two being Petrarch and Boccaccio. Dante's *Divine Comedy* is one of the most important poems of the middle ages, and describes his journey through Hell, Purgatory and finally to Paradise. This present text (Canto 33) is the "Paradiso" section of the poem, and is in praise of Mary.

Performance note...

Creative staging is interesting visually and aurally to singers and audiences alike. Placement of singers also can greatly enhance performance impact. There are several performance options for this work relative to Choir 1 and Choir 2. Those include having two equal choirs adjacent on stage; [in a cathedral setting] Choir 1 on one side of the audience and Choir 2 on opposite side; Choir 1 (larger ensemble) on stage and Choir 2 (quartet or double quartet) in the balcony with more of an echo effect; among many other options, depending on the ensemble and the space.

About the composer...

Z. Randall Stroope is an American composer and conductor. His composition teachers were Normand Lockwood and Cecil Effinger, both students of Nadia Boulanger, the famous French teacher (and student of Gabriel Fauré.) He is the artistic director of two international summer music festivals, as well annually conducting at Carnegie Hall (New York), Chicago Orchestra Hall, and other U.S. and international venues. He has 180 published musical works and has received numerous composition awards. Recordings of his music can be heard on his web site (www.zrstroope.com) or definitive recordings he has made for Spotify.

OTHER WORKS AVAILABLE ON www.zrstroope.com Download pdf.

Carmina Pax (Songs of Peace)

Mixed chorus, boy soprano, SATB soloists, and orchestra; 29'30" (released May 2019)

Image of Beauty

SSATB/2 violins/piano; premiered at TMEA, 2019

Kyrie

SSATB unaccompanied; recording on YouTube

Spectra

SATB/orchestra (4'30"); written in 2019 for premier of new performing arts center; explosive/celebratory

Tryptich

***"Judaskuss" (The Kiss of Judas)* (No. 1, *Tryptich*)**

SSATBB unaccompanied; recording on Spotify and YouTube

***"Christi Mutter" (Christ's Mother)* (No. 2, *Tryptich*)**

SSATBB/anvil (and hammer)/mezzo soprano & tenor soloists; Stabat Mater text (in German);

Recording on Spotify and YouTube.

***"Petrus" (Peter)* (No. 3, *Tryptich*)**

SSATBB/stones; mezzo soprano soloist; German; Recording on Spotify and YouTube.

These works not available from a publisher or distributor. One must order directly from www.zrstroope.com

Permission to print and perform as desired granted to _____

durata 3:12

Vergine madre

Dante Alighieri (c.1265-1321)
Paradiso, Canto 33

Double treble choir

Z. Randall Stroope

Molto espressivo ♩ = 58

CHOIR 1

Soprano *mp* Vir - gin moth - er, ho - ly pure and hum - ble,

Alto 1 *mp*

CHOIR 2

Soprano *mp* Ver - gi - ne ma - dre, U -

Alto 2 *mp*

S 1 ⁵ and raised up ex - alt - ed a - bove — an - y crea - ture, a

A 1

S 2 - mi - le, ed al - ta, al - ta, al -

A 2

This work is also available in Mixed Choir 1/Treble Choir 2)

9

S 1
bove an - y crea - ture, fixed, un - chang - ing end - less

A 1

S 2
ta ————— ter - mi - ne fis - so d' e - ter - no con - si - gli o

A 2

13

S 1
coun - sel, ho - ly one. — Vir - gin moth - er.

A 1
Vir - gin moth - er.

S 2
In te a -

A 2
In te a -

ff *mp* *mp* *mp*

18

S 1 *mp*
O In you are love, in you are pi - ty,

A 1 *mp*

S 2 *mf*
mo - re, in te pie - ta - re, O ma-gni-fi-

A 2 *mf*
mo - re, in te pie - ta - re,

22

S 1 *f* *mf*
all beau - ty, O

A 1 *f* *mf*

S 2 *f*
cen - za, in te s'a - du - na quan-tun - que in cre-a

A 2 *f*