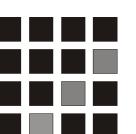


THE UNKNOWN REGION STEWART WILKINSON

SATB a cappella RM ACH 233





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NOTES

The sudden passing of Dominic Gregorio on March 3, 2019, saddened the entire music community in Regina and far beyond. As I tried to make some sense of it, I was struck by the poignancy of the text of Walt Whitman's "Darest Thou Now, O Soul". For me, the poetry is in two parts - the first aggressively daring death, knowing there is no path to follow, and unsure of what awaits. The second part frees the soul to "burst forth", tied only to the eternal forces of time and space.

- Stewart Wilkinson

Darest thou now, O Soul, Walk out with me toward the Unknown Region, Where neither ground is for the feet, nor any path to follow?

No map, there, nor guide, Nor voice sounding, nor touch of human hand, nor face with blooming flesh, nor lips, nor eyes, are in that land.

I know it not, O Soul; Nor dost thou - all is a blank before us; All waits, undream'd of, in that region that inaccessible land.

Till, when the ties loosen,
All but the ties eternal, Time and Space,
Nor darkness, gravitation, sense,
nor any bounds, bound us.

Then we burst forth - we float, In Time and Space, O Soul - prepared for them; Equal, equipt at last - (O joy! O fruit of all!) them to fulfill, O Soul.

The Unknown Region

In memory of Dr. Dominic Gregorio (1977-2019)

Walt Whitman from "Darest Thou Now, O Soul"

Stewart Wilkinson





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