

DT0071.1 | TRUMBORE
TTBB CHORUS & PIANO

THE PIANO TUNER

TTBB Chorus & Piano


daletrumbore
c o m p o s e r

THE PIANO TUNER

Well-worn tones you've lived with for months
suddenly stand at attention
every interval back in tune
sharp-edged, fresh and still.

You try to make a song from the tuning
the same note twice, and then six more times
a third, fourth, fifth spiraled endlessly upward.

As the tuner strikes the same key
the same key indefinitely
we sit silently in another room
we who have been trying for months
to turn into better versions of ourselves.

We huddle together as each note turns brighter.
We barely speak. We don't dare disturb
the becoming that rings in the air.

Dale Trumbore

PROGRAM NOTE

This piece imagines the sound of a piano being tuned turning into an unintentional song. The chorus spins those sounds of tuning into melodies, bending pitches and using the tuning as a metaphor for their own personal transformation.

This piece sets a text by Dale Trumbore and was commissioned by the Miami University Men's Glee Club, Jeremy Jones, Conductor. The SATB arrangement was premiered by the Macalester College Concert Choir, Michael McGaghie, Conductor.

The Piano Tuner

12

Well-worn tones you've lived with for months sud-den-ly stand at at-ten-tion,

Well-worn tones you've lived with for months sud-den-ly stand at at-ten-tion,

Well-worn tones you've lived with for months stand,

Well-worn tones you've lived with for months stand,

12

5

sub. pp

mf

17

eve-ry in-ter-val back in tune, sharp-edged, fresh and

eve-ry in-ter-val back in tune, sharp-edged, fresh and

eve-ry in-ter-val back in tune, sharp-edged, fresh and

eve-ry in-ter-val back in tune, sharp-edged, fresh and

17

5

mf

f

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43

43

ff *mp* *mp*

5 3 5

Ped.

47

47

p *pp*

nn As the

p *pp*

nn As the

p *pp*

nn As the

47

3

f

51 *p* *mp* *rit.*

tu - ner strikes the same key, the same key in - def - i - nite - ly,

p *mp*

nn nn

tu - ner strikes the same key, the same key in - def - i - nite - ly,

tu - ner strikes the same key, the same key in - def - i - nite - ly,

51 *pp* *rit.*

A little slower ♩ = ca. 84

56 *p* *rit.*

ah

sub. *pp*

we sit si - lent - ly in an - o - ther room,

sub. *pp*

we sit si - lent - ly in an - o - ther room,

sub. *pp*

we sit si - lent - ly in an - o - ther room,

56 *p* *mp* *rit.*

62 Slower still ♩ = ca. 76

pp

we who have been try-ing for months to turn in - to bet-ter ver-sions of our selves.

pp

we who have been try-ing for months to turn in - to bet-ter ver-sions of our selves.

62 Slower still ♩ = ca. 76

pp

67 *pp* *mp* *f*

We hud - dle to - geth - er as each note turns bright - er,

pp *mp* *f*

We hud - dle to - geth - er as each note turns bright - er,

pp *mp* *f*

We hud - dle to - geth - er as each note turns bright - er,

pp *mp* *f*

We hud - dle to - geth - er as each note turns bright - er,

67 *mp* *pp* *mp* *f*

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81

that rings in the air.

com-ing (ng) that rings in the air.

dare dis-turb the be - com-ing that rings in the air.

that rings in the air.

Slowly close to "ng."

mf *p*

mf *p*

mf *p*

Slowly slide up to E over two measures.

81

87

rit.

Slowly slide up to E over 6 beats.

p

p

87

rit.

3

5