

THE VENTURES of TEMPTATION

for SATB Choir and Piano.

Music by

Bennett Luo

Text by

Emma Colette Moss

January 2023

The Ventures of Temptation

My love, you will find,
It's not in death but sleep,
Temptation grins, wallows, and weeps.
Sympathy, it ventures to find,
Through unendured success,
Such is the ardor of a mind.

Withal your expression,
Strained, wicked, bold,
Patience earns temptations' scold.
For in a mind built of ardor,
Under the fold and bend of kind truth,
Sympathy soothes your temptations,
A poor and wicked barter.

ABOUT THE POEM

In this work, the theme of wickedness' potency and impatience is explored. Moreover, it is in the opposite—patience, endurance, and rooted life force that the temptation, strain, and injustice it pushes upon our lives are conquered. This poem uses the medium of romance to communicate this crucial truth: that empathy, passion, and patience fortify the mind, making it more robust. We must always be aware that temptation will relentlessly attempt to destroy the gifts we have been offered, such as love and life in itself, and it is in these stoic virtues that we are saved.

-Emma Colette Moss

PROGRAMME NOTES

The composition is divided into three sections, with the middle section being more unstable to represent strain and then gradual triumph. The overall style is romantic, corresponding to the nature of the text.

-Bennett Luo

Duration: ca. 4:00 minutes.

Dedicated to Pax Christi Chorale, Elaine Choi, Artistic Director.

THE VENTURES of TEMPTATION

Emma Colette Moss
(1999-)

Bennett Luo
(2003-)

Con moto ♩ = 132

Piano *mp*
con pedale

4 *mp* Alto
My__ love, you will find,_____

8 Soprano *p*
My love, you will find, *p*

Alto
— My__ love, you will find, *p*

Tenor *mp*
My love, you will find, *p*

Bass *mp*
My love, you will find, *p*

p

11

p

Temp - ta - tion grins, wal - lows, and

p

death but__ sleep, Temp - ta - tion grins, wal - lows, and

death but__ sleep,

14

p

weeps. Sym - pa -

mp

weeps.__ Sym - pa -

mp

Sym - pa -

Sym - pa - thy, it ven - tures to find, Sym - pa -

17

- thy, it ven - tures to find, Through un - en - dured suc -

20

mp cresc. *f*

Such is the ar - - dor of a mind. *cresc.* *f*

cess, Such is the ar - - dor of a mind. *cresc.* *f*

cess, Such ar - - dor of a mind. *cresc.* *f*

23

A

p

With al_____ your_____

p

With -

mp

p

pp *leggiero*

26

ex - pres - sion, strained, wick - ed, bold,_____

- al_____ your_____ ex - pres - sion, strained, wick - ed,

29

p

Pa - - tience earns temp - ta - - tions'

bold,

p

Pa - - tience earns temp -

32

mp

With - al your

mp

scold. With - al, with - al

mp

With - al your

mp

- ta - - tions' scold. With - al your

p

35

ex - pres - sion, strained, wick - ed, bold,

your ex - pres - sion, strained, wick - ed, bold,

ex - pres - sion, strained, wick - ed, bold,

ex - pres - sion, strained, wick - ed, strained, wick - ed,

38

Pa - tience earns temp - ta - tions'

Pa - tience earns temp - ta - tions'

Pa - tience earns temp - ta - tions'

mp

bold, Pa - tience earns temp - ta - tions'

B

41

scold.

scold.

scold.

scold.

p

For **B** in a mind, a mind

pp

44

mp

Un - der the fold,

mp

built of ar - dor, Un - der the fold,

mp

47

mf the fold and

mf the fold and

mf the fold and bend of kind truth, the

mf the fold and bend of kind truth,

50

bend of kind truth,

bend of kind truth, of kind

fold and bend of kind

f mf

53 *cresc.*

Sym - pa - - - thy soothes, it

cresc.

truth, Sym - pa - - thy soothes, it

cresc.

truth, *mf cresc.* Sym - pa - - thy soothes, it

Sym - pa - - - thy soothes, it

f cresc.

poco rit......*a tempo*

56 *f*

soothes your _____ temp - ta - - - tions, _

f

soothes your _____ temp - ta - - - tions, _

f

soothes your _____ temp - ta - - - tions, _

f

soothes your _____ temp - ta - - - tions, _

poco rit......*a tempo*

ff

59

A poor and wick - ed

A poor and wick - ed

A poor and wick - ed

A poor and wick - ed

rit.....

dim. 3

dim. 3

dim. 3

dim. 3

f

8va

62

p a tempo C

bar - - ter.

p

bar - - ter.

p

bar - - ter.

p

bar - - ter.

a tempo C

mp

p dolce

66

mp

My love, you will

70

p

My love, you will

find, My love, you will

mp

My love, you will

mp

My love, you will

73

p find, Temp - ta - tion

p find, It's not in death but sleep, Temp - ta - tion

p find, It's not in death but sleep,

find,

76

grins, wal - lows, and weeps.

grins, wal - lows, and weeps.

mp Sym - pa - thy, it ven - tures to

The musical score is written for four voices and piano. The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into two systems, measures 73-76. The first system (measures 73-76) contains the lyrics: 'find, Temp - ta - tion', 'find, It's not in death but sleep, Temp - ta - tion', 'find, It's not in death but sleep,', and 'find,'. The second system (measures 76-79) contains the lyrics: 'grins, wal - lows, and weeps.', 'grins, wal - lows, and weeps.', 'Sym - pa - thy, it ven - tures to'. The piano accompaniment features a variety of chords, including triads and dyads, and includes triplets in measures 74, 75, and 79. Dynamic markings include *p* (piano) and *mp* (mezzo-piano).

79 *p*

Sym - pa - thy, it ven - tures to find,

mp

Sym - pa - thy, it ven - tures to find,

mp *p*

Sym - pa - thy, it ven - tures to find, Through un - en -

find, Sym - pa - thy, it ven - tures to find, Through un - en -

82 *pp* **D** Più lento

suc - cess, _____

pp **D** Più lento

- dured _____ suc - cess, _____

pp **D** Più lento

- dured _____ suc - cess, _____

pp **D** Più lento

SOLO

Such is the

85

p

Such is the ar - - dor of a

p

Such is the ar - - dor of a

TUTTI

ar - dor of a mind. Such is the ar - - dor of a

Such ar - - dor of a

88

mind.

mind.

mind.

mind.

pp