

Michael Murray
Three Donne Songs

for

mezzo-soprano and string quartet

- I. The Message**
- II. Community**
- III. The Prohibition**

www.michaelmurraymusic.com

duration ca. 12'

I. The Message

SEND home my long stray'd eyes to me,
Which, O ! too long have dwelt on thee ;
Yet since there they have learn'd such ill,
 Such forced fashions,
 And false passions,
 That they be
 Made by thee
Fit for no good sight, keep them still.

Send home my harmless heart again,
Which no unworthy thought could stain ;
Which if it be taught by thine
 To make jestings
 Of protestings,
 And break both
 Word and oath,
Keep it, for then 'tis none of mine.

Yet send me back my heart and eyes,
That I may know, and see thy lies,
And may laugh and joy, when thou
 Art in anguish
 And dost languish
 For some one
 That will none,
Or prove as false as thou art now.

II. Community

GOOD we must love, and must hate ill,
For ill is ill, and good good still ;
 But there are things indifferent,
Which wee may neither hate, nor love,
But one, and then another prove,
 As we shall find our fancy bent.

If then at first wise Nature had
Made women either good or bad,
 Then some wee might hate, and some
choose ;
But since she did them so create,
That we may neither love, nor hate,
 Only this rests, all all may use.

If they were good it would be seen ;
Good is as visible as green,
 And to all eyes itself betrays.
If they were bad, they could not last ;
Bad doth itself, and others waste ;
 So they deserve nor blame, nor praise.

But they are ours as fruits are ours ;
He that but tastes, he that devours,
 And he that leaves all, doth as well ;
Changed loves are but changed sorts of
meat ;
And when he hath the kernel eat,
 Who doth not fling away the shell?

III. The Prohibition

TAKE heed of loving me ;
At least remember, I forbade it thee ;
Not that I shall repair my unthrifty waste
Of breath and blood, upon thy sighs and
tears,
By being to thee then what to me thou wast ;
But so great joy our life at once outwears.
Then, lest thy love by my death frustrate be,
If thou love me, take heed of loving me.

Take heed of hating me,
Or too much triumph in the victory ;
Not that I shall be mine own officer,
And hate with hate again retaliate ;
But thou wilt lose the style of conqueror,
If I, thy conquest, perish by thy hate.
Then, lest my being nothing lessen thee,
If thou hate me, take heed of hating me.

Yet love and hate me too ;
So these extremes shall ne'er their office do ;
Love me, that I may die the gentler way ;
Hate me, because thy love's too great for me ;
Or let these two, themselves, not me, decay ;
So shall I live thy stage, not triumph be.
Lest thou thy love and hate, and me undo,
To let me live, Oh love and hate me too.

I. The Message

John Donne

Michael Murray

Moderato ♩ = 96

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Send home my long stray'd eyes to me. Which, O!

mp *mfpp* *f* *p* *mp*

mp *mfpp* *f* *p* *mp*

mp *mfpp* *f* *p* *mp* *mp* *mp*

mp *mfpp* *f* *p*

24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32

sight, keep them still. Send home my harm-less heart a-gain,

p *mf* *pp* *mp* *p*

p *mf* *pp*

p *mf* *pp*

p *mf* *pp*

33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41

Which no un-wor-thy thought could stain; Which if it be taught by thine — To make jest-ings Of pro-test-ings,

p *mf*

sul pont. *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr* *ord.*

sul pont. *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr* *ord.*

42 43 44 45 46

And cross both word and oath, Keep it, for then 'tis none of

sf (sempre f)

sf (sempre f)

sf (sempre f)

sf (sempre f)

47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55

mine. Yet send me back my heart and eyes, That I may know and see thy lies, And may

mp *mf* *p* *mp* *mp*

56 57 58 59 60 61 62

laugh and joy, when thou Art in ang - uish And dost lang - uish For some - one That will

63 64 65 66 67

none, Or prove as false as thou art now.

pizz. **ff** pizz. **ff** pizz. **ff** pizz. **ff**

II. Community

John Donne

Michael Murray

Allegretto $\text{♩} = 96$

2 3 4 5 *f* 6 7 8 9

Good we must love, and must hate ill, For ill is

pizz. *f* *mf*

pizz. *f* *mf*

pizz. *f* *mf*

pizz. *f* *mf* *f*

10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18

mf

ill, and good good still; But there are things in - dif - fer - ent, Which wee may

19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

nei - ther hate, nor love, But one, and then an - oth - er prove, As we shall find our

mf

mp

f

mp

29 30 31 32 33 34 35 *f* 36 37 38

fan - cy bent. If then at first wise Nat - ure

arco

arco

mf

mf

39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 *mf* 48

had made wo - men eith - er good or bad, Then some wee might hate, and some choose; But since she

pizz.

pizz.

mf
pizz.

mf

pizz.

f

f

mf

49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 *f* 57

did them so cre - ate, That we may nei - ther love, nor hate, On - ly this rests,

Violin I: *mp* *mf*

Violin II: *mp* *mf*

Viola: *mp* *mf*

Cello: *mp* *mf*

58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67

all, _____ all _____ may use.

Violin I: *f*

Violin II: *f* *mp*

Viola: *f* *mp* *mf*

Cello: *f* *mp*

68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77

If they were good it would be seen; Good is as vis - i - ble as green, And to all

mp *mf* *mf* *f* *f*

pizz. pizz. pizz. pizz.

78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87

eyes it - self be - trays. If they were bad, they could not last; Bad doth it - self, and

f *mp* arco

mf

108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118

loves are but changed sorts of meat; And when he hath the ker - nel eat, Who doth not fling a - way the shell?

rit.

pp

pizz.

pizz.

pizz.

The image shows a page of a musical score for the play 'Community'. It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is in treble clef and includes lyrics: 'loves are but changed sorts of meat; And when he hath the ker - nel eat, Who doth not fling a - way the shell?'. The piano accompaniment consists of four staves: two for the right hand (treble clef) and two for the left hand (bass clef). The piano part includes 'pizz.' (pizzicato) markings and a 'pp' (pianissimo) dynamic marking. The score is numbered 108 to 118. A 'rit.' (ritardando) marking is placed above the vocal line at measure 116.

The Prohibition

$\text{♩} = 120$

22 23 24 25 26 27 28

Not that I shall re - pair my

29 30 31 32 33 34 35

un - thrif - y waste Of breath and blood, up - on thy sighs and tears, By be - ing to thee

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems of staves. The first system covers measures 22 to 28, and the second system covers measures 29 to 35. The vocal line is in the top staff of each system. The piano accompaniment consists of four staves: right hand treble clef, left hand treble clef, right hand bass clef, and left hand bass clef. Dynamics are indicated by *mf*, *p*, and *mp*. There are several triplets and slurs throughout the piece. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 120.

The Prohibition

$\text{♩} = 72$

36 then what to me thou wast; 37 ³ But so great joy 38 our life at once out-wears. 39 40 41 Then, lest thy love — 42 43

mp *p* *mp* *mf* *p*
p *mf* *p*
p *mf* *mp* *mf* *p*
mp *p*

44 — by my death frus - trate be, 45 46 If thou love me, 47 48 take heed of lov - ing me. 49 50 51 Take 52

p *mf* *p*
mf *p*
p
p

$\text{♩} = 120$

53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60

heed of hat-ing me, Or too much tri - umph in the vic-tor - y; Not that I shall

mf *p* *mp* *p* *mp* *pizz.* *mp* *pizz.* *mp* *pizz.* *mp* *mf*

61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68

be mine own of-fic-er, — And hate with hate — a - gain — re - tal - i - ate; But thou wilt

mf *mf* *mf* *mf* *p* *arco* *p* *arco* *p* *arco* *arco* *mf*

The Prohibition

♩ = 84

69 lose the style of con - quer - or, 70 3 71 If I, 72 thy con - quest, 73 per - ish 74 by thy hate. 75

76 Then, lest my be - ing 77 no - thing less - en 78 thee, 79 If thou hate 80 f me, 81 take heed of hat - ing 82 me. 83 Yet love and hate me 84

The Prohibition

♩ = 84

101 3 102 3 103 104 105 106 107 108

two, them-selves, not me, de - cay; So shall I live thy stage, not tri-umph be. Lest thou thy love and

p *mp* *fp*

mf *fp*

p *mp* *fp*

♩ = 60

109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116

hate, and me, un - do, To let me live, Oh love and hate me too.

pizz. arco

f *mp* *p*

pizz. arco

f *mp* *p*

pizz. arco

f *mp* *p*

f *mp* *p*