“...FOR THE WATERS ARE COME IN UNTO MY SOUL…”
FRAGMENTS OF PSALM 69

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A Thesis
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Committee:
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ABSTRACT

Mikel Kuehn, Advisor

“...for the waters are come in unto my soul...” – Fragments of Psalm 69, is a sixteen minute work for mixed chorus, wind quartet (flute, B-flat clarinet, horn, and bassoon), and piano. The text, consisting of particular lines from the King James Version of Psalm 69, depicts the varying emotional states of a devout person in great distress. The piece consists of three main sections: the first evokes a sense of hallucination and lack of focus, the second is more static in mood and texture, and the third recapitulates material from the first section. The work’s large-scale structure is articulated by the use of certain musical techniques and/or musical textures. During the first section particular lines have been set in a freely imitative counterpoint that borders on heterophony. In the second section, chords are sustained for longer periods of time and the male and female voices are clearly separated. Musical ideas and techniques from the first section reappear in the third section, allowing the listener to hear the general formal divisions in the piece. Much of the fundamental harmonic language is based on tri- and tetra-chord pitch-class sets (such as 3-2[013] and 4-25[0268]) as important developmental and referential sonorities. Additionally, canonic and imitative counterpoint has been used to generate a large part of the musical texture.
Part I (Lines 1 through 3)

Save me, O god;
for the waters are come in unto my soul.

I sink in deep mire, where there is no standing;
I am come into deep waters, where the floods overflow me.

I am weary of my crying:
my throat is dried:
mine eyes fail while I wait for mine God.

Part II (Lines 7 and 8)

Because for thy sake I have borne reproach;
Shame hath covered my face.

I am become a stranger unto my brethren,
And an alien unto my mother’s children.

Part III (Lines 14 through 16)

Deliver me out of the mire, and let me not sink:
Let me be delivered from them that hate me,
And out of the deep waters.

Let not the waterflood overflow me,
Neither let the deep swallow me up,
And let not the pit shut her mouth upon me.

Hear me, O Lord;
For thy lovingkindness is good:
Turn unto me according to the multitude of thy tender mercies.
Dedicated to my mother, Maureen Lee McDonough, and my brother, Michael Scott McDonough.
INSTRUMENTATION

SATB Chorus (Divisi up to SSSAAATTBBB)

Flute
Clarinet in B♭
Horn
Bassoon

Piano
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"...for the waters are come in unto my soul..."
Fragments of Psalm 69
I come into deep water.
Frightened, But Still Holding Back $d = 65$
accel. . . . . . . . . . . Flowing \( j = 70 \)
Strong, But Gradually Fading In Force

Shame hath covered my face.

for thy sake,
Extremely Held Back
Piningly, But Slightly Conflicted

let me be delivered from them that hate me

let me not sink:

and out of the deep

let me not sink:

and out of the deep

let me not sink:

and out of the deep

let me not sink:

and out of the deep

let me not sink:

and out of the deep

Piningly, But Slightly Conflicted

let me be delivered from them that hate me

let me not sink:

and out of the deep

let me not sink:

and out of the deep

let me not sink:

and out of the deep

let me not sink:

and out of the deep

let me not sink:

and out of the deep

let me not sink:

and out of the deep
A Little More Calmly

A II

T

T II

B

B II

Cl

Hn

Bsn

Pno

\[\text{A Little More Calmly}\]

\[\text{Neither let the deep swallow me up.}\]
A III

T III

A II

S III

B

T

S

A

AII

AIII

TII

TIII

B

BII

BIII

Pno

\[ \text{Tune unto me, according to the multitude of thy} \]

\[ \text{turn unto me, according to the multitude of thy} \]

\[ \text{turn unto me, according to the multitude of thy} \]

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