

Commissioned by Cappella Clausura, Amelia Leclair, Director,  
and Premiered on 7 & 8 May 2016, Boston and Newton MA

## BIRDS OF THE PSALMS\*

### 1. Psalm 91 (You Are My Refuge and My Stronghold)

*You are my refuge and my stronghold; it is you in whom I put my trust.  
You shall cover me with your pinions, and I shall find refuge under your wings. Amen.*

Music by Patricia Van Ness (1951)

Score rev. 19 February 2018

*From Music for the Psalms,  
dedicated in its entirety to Peter Sykes\**

*Adapted from The Psalter,  
The Book of Common Prayer*

$\text{♩} = 60$

Soprano 1

Soprano 2

Alto

Tenor 1&2 *mp*  
*sempre molto legato*  
You you you you

Baritone *mp*  
*sempre molto legato*  
You you

Baritone & Bass *mp*  
*sempre molto legato*  
You you

**A** *mf expansive*

S. You are my

S. You are my

A. are my

T. 1&2 *mf expansive*  
You are

Bar. *mf expansive*  
you  
Baritone joins Bass to letter E.

Bar./B. *mf expansive*  
you You

8

S. re - fuge

S. my my re - fuge

A. re - fuge

T. 1&2 my re - - - fuge

Bar./B. my my re - - fuge

11

**B** *mp*

S. and my strong hold strong -

S. and my (hold strong -

A. strong - hold

T. 1&2 and my strong hold

Bar./B. and my strong hold hold

14

*cresc. to letter C*

S. - hold you in whom I

S. - hold it you in whom I

A. (hold it is you in whom

T. 1&2 it you in whom I

Bar./B. hold is you you I

17

C *mf*

S. put my trust. You shall

S. put my put my trust. You you shall

A. put my trust You you

T. 1&2 put trust. You You you

Bar./B. put trust. You

20

S. (co co - ver

S. co - ver co - - - ver

A. co - ver me

T. 1&2 (co co- ver me

Bar./B. co - - ver co - - - ver me

**D**

23

S. with pin - ions I

S. with pin - ions I

A. with pin - ions I

T. 1&2 *f* with pin - ions *f*

Bar./B. with with your pin - - - ions



26

S. I shall find re - - - - fuge

S. re - - - - fuge

A. I shall find re - fuge

T. 1&2 I shall find re - fuge (re - - - -)

Bar./B. I find re - fuge re - fuge,

29

S. *mp* re - fuge *mf* I shall find

S. *mp* re - fuge *mf* I shall find

A. *mp* re - fuge *mf* re - fuge find

T. 1&2 *mp* re - - fuge (re *mf* find

Bar./B. *mp* re - fuge *mf* re - fuge I shall find

32

S. *mp* re - fuge re - fuge un - - -

S. *mp* re - fuge re - fuge (un - - -

A. *mp* re - fuge re - fuge un - der

T. 1&2 *mp* (re (re (fuge (un - - -

Bar./B. *mp* re - fuge, re - - - fuge

35

S. *mf* - - - der your

S. *mf* un - - - der un - - - der your

A. *mf* (un - - - der un - - - der your

T. 1&2 *mf* un - - - der un - - - - - der your

Bar./B. *mf* un - - - - - der, un - - - - - der your

38

S. *mp* your wings.

S. *mp* your wings.

A. *mp* your wings.

T. 1&2 *mp* wings. Ah ah

Bar. *mp* wings. Ah ah

Bar./B. *mp* wings. Ah ah

Baritone begins own staff bar 39

42

S. Ah

S. Ah

A. Ah ah

T. 1&2 ah ah

Bar. ah ah ah

Bar./B. ah ah ah

45

S. *mf* ah A - men. *mp*

S. *mf* ah A - - men. *mp*

A. *mf* ah ah A men. *mp*

T. 1&2 *mf* ah ah A - men. *mp*

Bar. *mf* ah ah A - men. *mp*

Bar./B. *mf* ah ah A - men. *mp*