

Alto and Harpsichord/Piano

T U R I S A  
( Y O U R L A U G H T E R )

TEXT BY

PABLO NERUDA

MUSIC BY

PATRICIA VAN NESS

1 9 9 6

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TU RISA (Your Laughter)  
Music by Patricia Van Ness © 1996  
Text by Pablo Neruda

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Quitame el pan, si quieres,  
quitame el aire, pero  
no me quites tu risa.

Take bread away from me, if you wish  
take air away, but  
do not take from me your laughter.

No me quites la rosa,  
la lanza que desgranas,  
el agua que de pronto  
estalla en tu alegría,  
la repentina ola  
de plata que te nace.

Do not take away the rose,  
the lanceflower that you pluck,  
the water that suddenly  
bursts forth in your joy,  
the sudden wave  
of silver born in you.

Mi lucha es dura y vuelvo  
con los ojos cansados  
a veces de haber visto  
la tierra que no cambia,  
pero al entrar tu risa  
sube al cielo buscandome  
y abre para mi todas  
las puertas de la vida.

My struggle is harsh and I come back  
with eyes tired  
at times from having seen  
the unchanging earth,  
but when your laughter enters  
it rises to the sky seeking me  
and it opens for me all  
the doors of life.

Amor mio, en la hora  
mas oscura desgrana  
tu risa, y si de pronto  
ves que mi sangre mancha  
las piedras de la calle,  
rie, porque tu risa  
sera para mis manos  
como una espada fresca.

My love, in the darkest  
hour your laughter  
opens, and if suddenly  
you see my blood staining  
the stones of the street,  
laugh, because your laughter  
will be for my hands  
like a fresh sword.

Junto al mar en otono,  
tu risa debe alzar  
su cascada de espuma,  
y en primavera, amor,  
quiero tu risa como  
la flor que yo esperaba,  
la flor azul, la rosa  
de mi patria sonora.

Next to the sea in the autumn,  
your laughter must raise  
its foamy cascade,  
and in the spring, love,  
I want your laughter like  
the flower I was waiting for,  
the blue flower, the rose  
of my echoing country.

Riete de la noche,  
del dia, de la luna,  
riete de las calles  
torcidas de la isla,  
riete de este torpe  
muchacho que te quiere,  
pero cuando yo abro  
los ojos y los cierro,  
cuando mis pasos van,  
cuando vuelven mis pasos,  
niegame el pan, el aire,  
la luz, la primavera,  
pero tu risa nunca  
porque me moriria.

Laugh at the night,  
at the day, at the moon,  
laugh at the twisted  
streets of the island,  
laugh at this clumsy  
boy who loves you,  
but when I open  
my eyes and close them,  
when my steps go,  
when my steps return,  
deny me bread, air,  
light, spring,  
but never your laughter  
for I would die.

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light, spring,  
but never your laughter  
for I would die.

# TU RISA (Your Laughter)

## I. Quitame el pan

Pablo Neruda

Patricia Van Ness

**In One (dotted half = 68)**

**Alto**

**Harpischord**

*f*

*f*

*f*

*f*

Qui - ta - me  
*Take away bread from me, if you wish,*

el pan, si qui - e - res qui - tam - me  
*take air away,*

el ai - re, pe - ro no me

qui - tes tu ri -  
*but do not take from me your laughter.*

11

16

21

# Tu Risa, I. Quitame el pan/Pg.3

Alto

26

sa. No me qui - tes la  
*Do not take away the rose,*

Hpschd.

Alto

31

ro - sa, la lan - za que des gra - nas, el a - gua  
*the lanceflower that you pluck, the water that suddenly*

Hpschd.

Alto

36

que de pron - to e - stal - la en tu a -  
*bursts forth in your joy,*

Hpschd.

Alto

41

le - gri - a, La re - pen ti - na  
*the sudden wave of silver born in you.*

Hpschd.

46

# Tu Risa, I. Quitame el pan/Pg.4

Alto

o - la de pla - ta que te

Hpschd.

51

Alto

na - ce.

Hpschd.

56

*rit.*

*attacca*

Alto

Hpschd.

Alto

Hpschd.

# TU RISA (Your Laughter)

## II. Mi lucha

Pablo Neruda

Patricia Van Ness

Very freely; quarternote = 58ish

Alto

Alto staff 1: Treble clef, key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#), common time signature. The staff contains a whole rest followed by a quarter rest, then a melodic line of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The time signature changes to 5/4 at the end of the staff.

Harpischord

Harpischord staves 1: Bass clef, key signature of three sharps, common time signature. The staff contains a melodic line of eighth notes: G3, A3, B3, C4, B3, A3, G3. The time signature changes to 5/4 at the end of the staff. A second bass staff contains a whole note chord: G3, B3, D4, F#4.

(NB: Clef change)

Mi

*My struggle is harsh*

Alto

Alto staff 2: Treble clef, key signature of three sharps, 5/4 time signature. The staff contains a melodic line of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The time signature changes to common time. The staff contains a melodic line of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4.

lu - cha,

lu -

cha es

Hpschd.

Hpschd. staves 2: Bass clef, key signature of three sharps, 5/4 time signature. The staff contains a melodic line of eighth notes: G3, A3, B3, C4, B3, A3, G3. The time signature changes to common time. The staff contains a melodic line of eighth notes: G3, A3, B3, C4, B3, A3, G3.

Alto

Alto staff 3: Treble clef, key signature of three sharps, common time signature. The staff contains a melodic line of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The time signature changes to 7/4. The staff contains a whole rest.

es

du - ra

Hpschd.

Hpschd. staves 3: Bass clef, key signature of three sharps, common time signature. The staff contains a melodic line of eighth notes: G3, A3, B3, C4, B3, A3, G3. The time signature changes to 7/4. The staff contains a melodic line of eighth notes: G3, A3, B3, C4, B3, A3, G3.

Alto

Alto staff 4: Treble clef, key signature of three sharps, common time signature. The staff contains a melodic line of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The time signature changes to 6/8. The staff contains a melodic line of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4.

du

- ra,

Y

vu el - vo

*and I come back with eyes tired*

Hpschd.

Hpschd. staves 4: Bass clef, key signature of three sharps, common time signature. The staff contains a melodic line of eighth notes: G3, A3, B3, C4, B3, A3, G3. The time signature changes to 6/8. The staff contains a melodic line of eighth notes: G3, A3, B3, C4, B3, A3, G3.

## Tu Risa, II. Mi lucha/Pg.2

Alto

12

con los o - jos can - sa - dos a

Hpschd.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 12, 13, and 14. The Alto part is in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). It features a melodic line with eighth and quarter notes, including a fermata over the final note of measure 14. The Hpschd. part is in bass clef and provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines in both hands.

Alto

15

ve - ces de ha - ber vi - sto la ti - er - ra que no  
*at times from having seen the unchanging earth,*

Hpschd.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 15, 16, and 17. The Alto part continues the melodic line with a fermata over the final note of measure 17. The Hpschd. part continues with harmonic accompaniment.

Alto

18

cam - bi - a, pe - ro al en - trar tu ri - sa  
*but when your laughter enters*

Hpschd.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 18, 19, and 20. The Alto part has a fermata over the final note of measure 20. The Hpschd. part continues with harmonic accompaniment.

Alto

21

su - be al ci - e - lo bu - scan do  
*it rises to the sky seeking me*

Hpschd.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 21, 22, and 23. The Alto part has a fermata over the final note of measure 23. The Hpschd. part continues with harmonic accompaniment.



# Tu Risa, II. Mi lucha/Pg.3

Alto

me Y a-bre pa - ra  
*and it opens for me*

Hpschd.

Alto

pa-ra mi to - das, las pu-er-tas

Hpschd.

Alto

las pu-er-tas de-la vi-da  
*all the doors of life.*

Hpschd.

Alto

de la vi-da.

Hpschd.

# TU RISA (Your Laughter)

## III. Amor mio

Pablo Neruda

Patricia Van Ness

Even more freely and slowly; chantlike.

Alto

*mp*

A - mor mi - o en la ho-ra mas o - scu - ra des

*My love, in the darkest hour*

Harpsichord

**NB: Clef change**

*mp*

Alto

gra - na tu ri - sa, des

*your laughter opens,*

Hpschd.

Alto

gra - na tu ri - sa.

Hpschd.

Alto

Hpschd.

# Tu Risa, III. Amor mio/Pg.2

Alto

1

y si de pron-to ves  
*and if suddenly*

Hpschd.

Alto

14

que mi san-gre man-cha las pi-e-dras de la cal-le, rie,  
*you see my blood staining the stones of the street, laugh,*

Hpschd.

Alto

17

por-que tu ri-sa  
*because your laughter*

Hpschd.

Alto

20

se-ra pa-ra mis ma nos, co-mo u-na e-spa-da fres-ca.  
*will be for my hands like a fresh sword.*

Hpschd.

# TU RISA (Your Laughter)

## IV. Junto al mar

Pablo Neruda

Patricia Van Ness

**quarternote = 80**

**Alto**

*f*

Jun-to al mar en o - to - no, tu ri-sa de - be al - zar su  
*Next to the sea in the autumn, your laughter must raise its foamy cascade,*

**Harpischord**

**Alto**

ca - sca-da de e - spu - ma, y en pri-ma-ve - ra a  
*and in the spring, love,*

**Hpschd.**

**Begin slow rit. to Letter A**

**Begin slow rit. to Letter A**

**Alto**

mor, qui - e ro tu ri - sa  
*I want your laughter*

**Hpschd.**

**Alto**

**A** **Slower quarternote = 50! Very freely.**

*mp* co - mo la flor que yo e - spe -  
*like the flower I was waiting for,*

**Hpschd.**

**Slower quarternote = 50! Very freely.**

*mp*

# Tu Risa, IV. Junto al mar/Pg.2

Alto

ra - ba la flor a - zul la

*the blue flower,*

Hpschd.

Alto

la ro - sa de mi pa -

*the rose of my echoing country.*

Hpschd.

Alto

tri - a pa - tri - a so - no - ra so no - ra.

*rit.*

Hpschd.

*rit.*

Alto

Hpschd.

# TU RISA (Your Laughter) V. Riete de la noche

Pablo Neruda

Patricia Van Ness

**In One (dotted quarter = 99)**

Alto

Harpichord/Piano

**NOTE CLEF CHANGE**

Alto

Hpschd.

Alto

Hpschd.

Alto

Hpschd.

Alto

Hpschd.

**A**

Ri - e - ta de la no-che del di - a de la  
*Laugh at the night, at the day, at the moon,*

## Tu Risa, V. Riete de la noche/Pg.2

Alto

46

lu - na, Ri - e - ta

Hpschd.

Alto

51

56

de las cal-les tor - ci - das de la is - la,  
*laugh at the twisted streets of the island,*

Hpschd.

Alto

61

*laugh at this clumsy boy who loves you,* Ri - e - te de es - to tor

Hpschd.

Alto

66

71

pe - mu - cha - cho que te qui - e

Hpschd.

# Tu Risa, V. Riete de la noche/Pg.3

76 *8mp*

Alto  
re, Pe - ro cuan-do yo

Hpschd. *mp*

86

Alto  
ab-ro los o-jos y los ci er-ro Cuan-do mis  
*but when I open my eyes and close them,*

Hpschd.

91 96

Alto  
pa-sos van cuan-do vu-el-ven mis pa-sos,  
*when my steps go, when my steps return,*

Hpschd.

*f* 101 106

Alto  
Nie-ga-me el pan el ai-re la luz la pri-ma  
*deny me bread, air, light, spring,*

Hpschd. *f*



# Tu Risa, V. Riete de la noche/Pg.4

111

Alto

ve - ra Pe ro

Hpschd.

116

Alto

tu - ri - sa nun ca, Por - que

*but never your laughter*

Hpschd.

126

Alto

me mo - ri ri - a,

*for I would die.*

Hpschd.

131

Alto

Por - que me - mo - ri -

Hpschd.

Tu Risa, V. Riete de la noche/Pg.5

Alto

141 *ff* *a.* *accel!!* 146

Hpschd. *ff* *accel!!*

Alto

Hpschd.

Alto

Hpschd.

Alto

Hpschd.