

MUSIC FOR THE PSALMS

Psalm 131 (I Still My Soul)*

*I still my soul, and make it quiet,
like a child on my breast;
my soul is quieted within me.*

*You still my soul, and make it quiet,
like my child upon my breast;
my soul is quieted within me.*

Adapted by Patricia Van Ness
from *The Psalter*,
The Book of Common Prayer

Music by Patricia Van Ness (1951)
Score rev. 14 March 2024
*from *MUSIC FOR THE PSALMS*,
dedicated in its entirety to Peter Sykes

♩ = 65

Notes to Sopranos: breathe as needed,
including within words; *senza vibrato*;
mp to mf, using natural dynamics.

The musical score is set in 4/4 time with a tempo of 65 beats per minute. It features three parts: Soprano, Organ, and Pedals.

- Soprano 1:** The melody begins with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. It then moves to a half note D5, followed by quarter notes C5, B4, and A4. The phrase concludes with a half note G4. The lyrics are: "I still my soul, and make it quiet, quiet, quiet, like my".
- Soprano 2:** This part is mostly silent, with a final half note G4 at the end of the phrase. The lyrics are: "like my".
- Organ:** The organ part is marked *p* and *sempre molto legato*. It features a series of chords and moving lines in both the right and left hands, providing harmonic support for the vocal lines.
- Pedals:** The pedal part is also marked *p* and *sempre molto legato*. It consists of a single melodic line in the bass register, moving in parallel motion with the organ's bass line.

Van Ness, *Psalm 131 (I Still My Soul)*

2 9 A

S. child like my child up - on my breast, my soul is

S. child like my child up - on my breast, my soul is

Org.

Ped.

17

S. qui - et - ed with - in my soul is qui - et - ed with - in me.

S. qui - et - ed with - in my soul is qui - et - ed with - in me.

Org.

Ped.

25 B

S. You still my soul, and make it qui - et, qui - et,

S. You still my soul,

Org.

Ped.

B

33

S. like my child, like my child up - on my breast,

S. like my child, like my child up - on my breast,

Org.

Ped.

41

S. my soul is qui - et - ed with - in my soul is qui - et -

S. my soul is qui - et - ed with - in my soul is qui - et -

Org.

Ped.

48

S. ed with - in me. rit.

S. ed with - in me. rit.

Org.

Ped.