Drunk With Love

Craig Bakalian

Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass

Foreword

Drunk with Love is based upon the text of the Song of Solomon Five (otherwise referred to as the Song of Songs Five) in the Complete Jewish Bible with editing by the composer of this music as shown in the text of the prose as sited below. The words sited in brackets are additions. The additions to the prose were necessary for musical phrasing and rhythm considerations in this music. The words sited with strike-through were removed from this music for a purely artistic choice of removing the chatty quality from female's endless reference to the many ways her lover is best which would have required a redundant musical narrative.

This music requires a strong emphasis on metric syntax. It needs to bounce with rhythmic excitement similar to Levant and Eastern European music. The conductor must note the 7/8 measures may be divided into a 3+2+2 or a 2+2+3 eighth notes. The middle section is a usual duple meter, however it should be noted that there are phrases, for example bars 101 -104, that imply an unusual grouping of 3+3+2 quarter notes. Measures 80, 88, 180, and 188 of the middle section contain glissandos in both soprano and alto which must maintain a parallel tonal third. Finally, the concluding phrases of this music start at measure 213 with a change to an unusual unpaired meter marked with an 8/8 measure signature with shifting back and forth to usual duple.

Craig Bakalian October 18, 2014

Text

My sister, by bride, I have entered my garden; I am gathering my myrrh and my spices; I am eating my honeycomb along with my honey; I am drinking my wine as well as my milk;

Eat, friends and drink, until you are drunk with love

I am asleep, but my heart is awake. Listen! I hear my darling knocking [on my door]!

Open for me, my sister, my love, my dove, my flawless one! For my head is wet with dew, my hair with the moisture of the night.

I've removed my coat; must I put it back on? I've washed my feet, must I dirty them again? The man I love put his hand through the hole by the door-latch, and my heart began pounding at the thought of him. I got up to open for the man I love. My hands were dripping with myrrhpure myrrh ran off my fingers onto the handle of the bolt. I opened for my darling, but my darling had turned and gone. My heart had failed me when he spoke-I sought him, but I couldn't find him; I called him, but he didn't answer. The watchmen roaming the city found me; they beat me, they wounded me; they took away my cloak, those [guards instead of guardians] of the walls!

I charge you, daughters of Yerushalayim, that if you find the man I love, what are you to tell him? That I am sick with love. How does the man you love differ from any [man instead of other], you most beautiful of women? How does the man you love differ from any [man instead of other], that you should give us this charge?

The man I love is radiant and ruddy; he stands out among ten thousand. His head is like the finest gold; his locks are wavy and black as raven. His eyes are like doves by running streams, bathed in milk and set just right. His cheeks are like beds of spices, like banks of fragrant herbs. His lips are like lillies dripping with sweet myrrh His arms are like rods of gold set with beryl, his body polished ivory adorned with sapphires. His legs are like pillars of marble set on bases of pure gold. His appearance is like the L'vanon, as imposing as the cedars. His words are sweetness itself; he is altogether desirable. This is my darling, and this is my friend, daughters of Yerushalayim.

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Song of Songs Five

[from the Complete Jewish Bible]

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