

PERUSA
...THERE IS ALSO LONELINESS
for mixed double choir a cappella

HENRIK DAHLGREN
(2022)

PROGRAMME NOTES

In the middle of the Covid pandemic, during September 2020, I was observing how people were turning to social media for communication, comfort, and cultural exchange. At the same time, as many critics have commented, social media is a serious factor of increasing loneliness and associated mental health issues. This inspired me to write the piece *There is Also Loneliness*.

The piece was supposed to be a "quick-learner", nothing too complicated, well, it didn't happen. Rather than an easy piece in four parts, this became an intricate exploration of sounds and vowels for double choir. The piece was first written as workshop material for male voices, not really conceived as being a concert piece. I wanted to explore the possibilities of glissandos and the sounds of different vowels, not in an extroverted expressive way, but in a more subtle, understated way. The text at this point consisted of vocal sounds such as 'mm' and 'oo', and a more traditional text for the piece became secondary. My idea was always to not put the lyrics at the forefront, but the music. The poetry has meaning, but the important part of this composition is the build-up and the sound of the words.

The original version of this piece was commissioned by the Swedish male voice ensemble Svanholm Singers and their conductor Sofia Söderberg in 2020, and premiered by the same group on 15 October 2020 in Domkyrkan, Lund, Sweden. An adaptation for mixed voices was created in 2022 for a workshop with the British ensemble Voces8, hosted by JAM (John Armitage Memorial Trust), and the festival Jam on the Marsh, UK, and was later publicly premiered by the Voces8 Scholars on 15 October 2022 in St Bride's Church, London, UK.

Henrik Dahlgren

TEXT

*I wandered lonely in the clouds
I could not look away
But where there is love there is no loneliness
And thus, all I loved, I loved alone*

Henrik Dahlgren (1991 -)

PERFUSAL

PERFORMANCE NOTES

- The piece does not aspire to be an "effect-piece" and thus all extended singing techniques and effects should be sung carefully with no dramatic gesture.
- The singers, are in this piece asked to sing on vowels not normally emphasized; great attention should be given to this, as the sought after effect is that specific sound, and not a clear understanding of the word in itself.
- All glissandos should be done moderately. A relaxed, well blended sound is preferred.
- The sopranos and altos boxed notation, from m. 56 and 57, should be sung very soft and delicate, almost internally. The sopranos and altos don't necessarily need to be exactly together, but they should stay in tempo and great attention should be given to the two different tempos happening at the same time.
- The two solos from m. 131 should be very loud, and sung with a shrill voice. If possible belting might be applied. If the piece is sung by only 8 voices, the solos should be sung instead of the "tutti-line" (i.e. tenor in choir one, and alto in choir two).

= Glissando (for the duration of the note value).

..... = No breath (or gap between the notes).

* = Sing on the consonant.

~ = Fast fall off (the duration of the note) to an undefined pitch.

↓ = As low as possible (without being extreme).

↑ = As high as possible (without being extreme).

↗ = Fast slide up (before the beat) to the notated pitch.

Composed 2022

Duration c. 7-8 minutes

First performance Voces8 Scholars
October 12 2022 | St Bride's Church, London, UK

More information www.henrikdahlgren.com

dedicated with love to Voces8

...THERE IS ALSO LONELINESS

for mixed double choir a cappella

HENRIK DAHLGREN (2022)

Delicate, without too much expression ($\text{♩} = \text{c. } 40$)

SOPRANO

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

Delicate, without too much expression (e.g., 40)

DRAFT

SOPRANO

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

rehearsal mark

niente **p**

niente **p**

niente **p**

niente **p**

I

I

I

I

Bass may gradually join tenors to mask entrance.

niente **p**

I

I

I

I

2

sotto voce

S
dered in (n)* the I

A
dered in (n)* the I

T
dered in (n)* the I

B
dered in (n)* the I

sotto voce

sotto voce

sotto voce

sotto voce

S
ne* - - - ly clo - (o) - - - ud

A
lo - ne* - - - clo - (o) - - - ud

T
lone* - - - ly clo - (o) - - - ud could

B
lone* - - - ly clo - (o) - - - ud could

Sing on the closed 'ou' in "cloud"

4

poco più mosso ($\text{♩} = \text{c. } 50$)

Soprano (S) *pp subito* (i) oo Love.

Alto (A) *pp subito* (i) oo Love.

Tenor (T) *pp subito* (i) oo Slide individually in a free tempo to the next note *mp poco marcato* Sing on the closed 'o' in "loneliness"

Bass (B) *pp subito* (i) oo *mp poco marcato* Sing on the closed 'o' in "loneliness"

poco più mosso ($\text{♩} = \text{c. } 50$)

Soprano (S) *pp niente mm* Love.

Alto (A) *pp niente mm* Love. Sing on the closed 'o' in "loneliness"

Tenor (T) *pp niente mm* *mp poco marcato* Sing on the closed 'o' in "loneliness"

Bass (B) *pp niente mm* *mp poco marcato* Sing on the closed 'o' in "loneliness."

PERUSA

simile

S 46 ve. Lo - ve, lo - ve, lo - ve. Lo - ve.

A **p** simile lo - ve. Lo - ve, lo - ve, lo - ve. Lo - ve,

T 8 Lo - - (o) - ne* - ness.

B Lo - - (o) - ne* - li - ness.

simile

S **mp** **p** lo - ve, lo - ve. Lo - ve, lo - ve, lo - ve.

A **mp** **p** lo - ve, lo - ve. Lo - ve, lo - ve, lo - ve.

T 8 (o) - ne* - li - ness. Love.

B (o) - ne* - li - ness. Love.

PERFECT

dim. poco a poco

S: lo - ve, lo - ve. Lo - ve, lo - ve.

A: lo - ve, lo - ve. Lo - ve, lo - ve.

T: *mf* Love.

B: *mf* Love.

PERFECT

PERFECT

PERFECT

dim. poco a poco

S: Lo - ve, lo - ve, lo - ve. Lo - ve, lo - ve, lo -

A: Lo - ve, lo - ve, lo - ve. Lo - ve, lo - ve,

T: *niente*

B: *niente* **p** But where there is

PERFECT LOVE

Repeat in tempo $\text{♩} = \text{c. } 50$ (see preface)

Soprano (S): *pp internally*
Love, love, love.

Alto (A): *pp internally*
Love, love, love.

Tenor (T): *niente*

Bass (B): *niente*

Soprano (S): *mf*
ve.
mp
love, love.

Alto (A):
love.
mf
love, love, love.

Tenor (T): *mf dolce e legato*
at where there is love, there is also lone - li-ness, i-ness, i-ness.

Bass (B): *mf dolce e legato*
love, there is al - so lone - li-ness, i-ness, i - ness.

ancora più mosso (♩ = c. 60)

61

S Sempre ♩ = c. 50 Sung internally and very soft (see preface)

A Sempre ♩ = c. 50 Sung internally and very soft (see preface)

T rythmic, and with a bit more energy **p** **mf** niente
Where there is love, there is al - so lone - li-ness, i-ness, i - ness.

B rythmic, and with a bit more energy **p** **mf** niente
Where there is love, there is al - so lone - li-ness, i-ness, i - ness.

ancora più mosso (♩ = c. 60)

S Sempre ♩ = c. 50 Sung internally and very soft (see preface)

A Sempre ♩ = c. 50 Sung internally and very soft (see preface)

T rythmic, and with a bit more energy **p** **mf**
Where there is love, there is al - so lone - li-ness, i-ness, i - ness.

B rythmic, and with a bit more energy **p** **mf**
Where there is love, there is al - so lone - li-ness, i-ness, i - ness.

Where there is love, there is al - so lone

11

66

Soprano (S) - Alto (A) - Tenor (T) - Bass (B)

REFRESCA

Tenor (T) and Bass (B) sing a melodic line with dynamic markings *p* and *mf*. The lyrics are: "Where there is love, there is also loneliness, i-ness, i-". Red arrows point from the word "REFRESCA" to the notes in the melody.

Soprano (S) and Alto (A) sing a sustained note on a single pitch.

PERUSA

Tenor (T) and Bass (B) sing a melodic line with dynamic markings *niente* and *p*. The lyrics are: "-ness, i-ness, i-ness." Red arrows point from the word "PERUSA" to the notes in the melody.

Soprano (S) and Alto (A) sing a sustained note on a single pitch.

REFRESCA

Tenor (T) and Bass (B) sing a melodic line with dynamic markings *niente* and *p*. The lyrics are: "Where there is loneliness, i-ness, i-ness." Red arrows point from the word "REFRESCA" to the notes in the melody.

Soprano (S) and Alto (A) sing a sustained note on a single pitch.

PERUSA

Tenor (T) and Bass (B) sing a melodic line with dynamic markings *niente* and *p*. The lyrics are: "Where there is loneliness, i-ness, i-ness." Red arrows point from the word "PERUSA" to the notes in the melody.

Soprano (S) and Alto (A) sing a sustained note on a single pitch.

dim. al niente

S A T B Soprano Alto Tenor Bass

niente ness.

p *mf* Where there is love, there is also lone

niente ness.

p *mf* Where there is love, there is also lone

mf love, there is also lone - li-ness, i-ness, i-ness.

mf *niente* love, there is also lone - li-ness, i-ness, i-ness.

P *E* *R* *U* *S* *A* *L* *S* *C* *O* *R* *E*

PERRY SCORER

74 *p* *mf*

S Where there is love, there is also lone-li ness, i ness, i ness.

A

T *niente*

B *niente*

S

A *p* *mf*

T - li - ness, i ness, i ness. Where there is

B *niente*

S

A *p* *mf*

T Where there is love, there is al - so lone - li ness, i ness, i ness.

B *niente*

S

A *p* *mf*

T Where there is love, there is al - so lone - li ness, i ness, i ness.

B *niente*

S

PERRYUSA

78

Soprano (S) *p* *mf* *niente*
 Where there is love, there is also lone-li-ness, i ness, i ness.

Alto (A) *dim. al niente*

Tenor (T) *mf* *niente*
 love, there is also lone - li ness, i ness, i ness.

Bass (B) *mf* *niente*
 love, there is al - so lone - li ness, i ness, i -

Soprano (S) *dim. al niente*

Alto (A) *p* *mf*
 Where there is love, there is al - so lone-li-ness,

Tenor (T) *p* *mf*
 Where there is love, there is al - so lone - li ness, i ness, i -

Bass (B) *p* *mf*
 Where there is love, there is al - so lone - li ness, i ness, i -

molto rit.

82

Soprano (S) Treble clef, 2 flats, 3/2 time signature, dynamic *p*, lyrics "But where there is love".

Alto (A) Treble clef, 2 flats, 3/2 time signature, dynamic *p*, lyrics "But where there is love".

Tenor (T) Treble clef, 8th note, 2 flats, 3/2 time signature, dynamic *p*, lyrics "But where there is love".

Bass (B) Bass clef, 2 flats, 3/2 time signature, dynamic *p*, lyrics "But where there is love".

PERUSA (Large red watermark)

Soprano (S) Treble clef, 2 flats, 3/2 time signature, dynamic *f*, lyrics "But where there is love".

Alto (A) Treble clef, 2 flats, 3/2 time signature, dynamic *p*, lyrics "i - ness, i - niente".

Tenor (T) Treble clef, 8th note, 2 flats, 3/2 time signature, dynamic *p*, lyrics "ness. niente".

Bass (B) Bass clef, 2 flats, 3/2 time signature, dynamic *p*, lyrics "ness. niente".

PERUSA (Large red watermark)

a tempo**poco meno mosso ($\text{♩} = \text{c. } 50$)**

Soprano (S) 85 **p** *niente*
 there is al - so lone - li-ness, i-ness, i-ness.
 piano: *niente*
 piano: *mp dolce e legato*
 piano: *mp dolce e legato*

Alto (A) **p** *niente*
 there is al - so lone - li-ness, i-ness, i-ness.
 piano: *niente*
 piano: *mp dolce e legato*
 piano: *mp dolce e legato*
 piano: *mp dolce e legato*
 piano: *mp dolce e legato*

Tenor (T) 8 **p** *niente*
 there is al - so lone - li-ness, i-ness, i-ness.
 piano: *niente*
 piano: *mp dolce e legato*
 piano: *mp dolce e legato*
 piano: *mp dolce e legato*
 piano: *mp dolce e legato*

Bass (B) **p** *niente*
 there is al - so lone - li-ness, i-ness, i-ness.
 piano: *niente*
 piano: *mp dolce e legato*
 piano: *mp dolce e legato*
 piano: *mp dolce e legato*
 piano: *mp dolce e legato*

Large red markings: A large circle highlights the piano part in the Alto section. A large S-shaped arrow points from the piano part in the Tenor section down to the piano part in the Bass section. A large E-shaped arrow points from the piano part in the Alto section up to the piano part in the Tenor section.

a tempo**poco meno mosso ($\text{♩} = \text{c. } 50$)**

Soprano (S) **p** *niente*
 there is al - so lone - li-ness, i-ness, i-ness.
 piano: *niente*
 piano: *niente*
 piano: *niente*
 piano: *niente*

Alto (A) **p** *niente*
 there is al - so lone - li-ness, i-ness, i-ness.
 piano: *niente*
 piano: *niente*
 piano: *niente*
 piano: *niente*

Tenor (T) 8 **p** *niente*
 there is al - so lone - li-ness, i-ness, i-ness.
 piano: *niente*
 piano: *niente*
 piano: *niente*
 piano: *niente*

Bass (B) **p** *niente*
 there is al - so lone - li-ness, i-ness, i-ness.
 piano: *niente*
 piano: *niente*
 piano: *niente*
 piano: *niente*

Large red markings: A large diagonal arrow labeled "PERFECT" points from the piano part in the Alto section down to the piano part in the Bass section. A large I-shaped arrow points from the piano part in the Tenor section up to the piano part in the Alto section.

PERFECT SCORE

89

Soprano (S) vocal line:

A (Alto) vocal line:

Tenor (T) vocal line:

Bass (B) vocal line:

Where there is... Where there is... Where there is... Where there is...

Soprano (S) vocal line (measures 89-90):

mp *Lone li-ness, i - ness.* niente

Alto (A) vocal line (measures 89-90):

mp *Lone li-ness, i - ness, i - ness.* niente

Tenor (T) vocal line (measures 89-90):

mp *Lone - ness, i - ness, i - ness.* niente

Bass (B) vocal line (measures 89-90):

mp *Lone - li-ness, i - ness, i - ness.* niente

PERFECT SCORE

93

S — love, there is al - so lone - li-ness, i- ness. **PERFECT**

A — love, there is al - so lone - li-ness, i- ness. **PERFECT**

T — love, there is al - slo lone - i-ness, i- ness. **PERFECT**

B — love, there is al - so lone - li-ness, i- ness. **PERFECT**

mp dolce e legato niente

S Where there is love, lone - li-ness, i - ness. **PERFECT**

A Where there is love, lone - li-ness, i - ness. **PERFECT**

T Where there is love, lone - li-ness, i - ness. **PERFECT**

B Where there is love, lone - li-ness, i - ness. **PERFECT**

molto rit.

tempo primo ($\text{♩} = \text{c. } 40$), with increasing intensity

97

Soprano (S) staff: *pp cresc. poco a poco*, *Love.*

Alto (A) staff: *p molto legato*, *Where there is love,* *I love.*

Tenor (T) staff: *p molto legato*, *Where there is love,* *I love.*

Bass (B) staff: *p molto legato*, *Where there is love,* *I love.*

molto rit.

tempo primo ($\text{♩} = \text{c. } 40$), with increasing intensity

Soprano (S) staff: *pp cresc. poco a poco*, *Love.*

Alto (A) staff: *p molto legato*, *Where there is love,* *I love.*

Tenor (T) staff: *p molto legato*, *Where there is*, *I love.*

Bass (B) staff: *p molto legato*, *Where there is love,* *I love.*

PERFECT

103

S Love.

A *cresc. poco a poco*
And all

T *cresc. poco a poco*
And all I

B *cresc. poco a poco*
And all I

S Love.

A *cresc. poco a poco*
a - lone. I love

T *cresc. poco a poco*
a - lone. I love

B *cresc. poco a poco*
a - lone. I love

PERFECT

SOLE

PERRY

110

Soprano (S) vocal line:

- Love. (mezzo-forte) cresc. poco a poco
- Love. (mezzo-forte) cresc. poco a poco

Alto (A) vocal line:

- I love. (mezzo-forte) cresc. poco a poco
- And

Tenor (T) vocal line:

- love. (mezzo-forte) cresc. poco a poco
- And all (mezzo-forte) cresc. poco a poco

Bass (B) vocal line:

- love. (mezzo-forte) cresc. poco a poco
- And all (mezzo-forte) cresc. poco a poco

PERRY

Soprano (S) vocal line:

- Love. (mezzo-forte) cresc. poco a poco
- Love. (mezzo-forte) cresc. poco a poco

Alto (A) vocal line:

- a - lone. (mezzo-forte) cresc. poco a poco
- I love.

Tenor (T) vocal line:

- lone. (mezzo-forte) cresc. poco a poco
- I

Bass (B) vocal line:

- a - lone. (mezzo-forte) cresc. poco a poco
- I love.

PERRYUSA

22

poco rit.

Soprano (S) vocal line:

Love. And thus,

Alto (A) vocal line:

I love. And thus,

Tenor (T) vocal line:

I love. And thus,

Bass (B) vocal line:

I love. And thus,

PERFECT SCORE

Measures 117-120 (Continuation):

Soprano (S) vocal line:

Love. And thus,

Alto (A) vocal line:

a - lone. And thus,

Tenor (T) vocal line:

love. a - lone. And thus,

Bass (B) vocal line:

a - lone. And thus,

PERFECT SCORE

maestoso e molto legato

124 ***ff***

S all _____ I loved, _____ I loved _____ a -

A all _____ I loved, _____ I loved _____ a -

T 8 all _____ I loved, _____ I loved _____ a -

B all _____ I loved, _____ I loved _____ a -

maestoso e molto legato

S all _____ I loved, _____ I loved _____ a -

A all _____ I loved, _____ I loved _____ a -

T 8 all _____ I loved, _____ I loved _____ a -

B all _____ I loved, _____ I loved _____ a -

130

S lone. And all I loved,

A lone. And all I loved,

T Solo (see preface) lone. A - lone. A - lone.

B lone. And all I loved,

S lone. And all I loved,

A Solo (see preface) lone. A - lone.

T lone. And all I loved,

B lone. And all I loved,

P (PERFECT)

25

PERFECT

136 **tempo primo (♩ = c. 60)**

S: loved a - lo - ne.*
A: loved a - lo - ne.*
T1: A - lone.
B: loved a - lo - ne.

tempo primo (♩ = c. 40)

S: loved a - lo - ne.* niente< Nn
A2: A - lone. A - lone.
T: loved a - lo - ne.* niente < mp Nn
B: loved a - lo - ne.* Nn niente < mp

PERFECT SIGHT

142 *mp* *Sing on the closed 'o' in "alone"* *non cresc.*

S A - lo - (o) ne.* A - lo - (o)

A *mp* *Sing on the closed 'o' in "alone"* *non cresc.*

A - lo - (o) ne.* A - lo

T1 *mp* *Sing on the closed 'o' in "alone"* *non cresc.*

A - lo - (o) ne A - lo - (o)

B *mp* *Sing on the closed 'o' in "alone"* *non cresc.*

A - lo - (o) ne* A - lo - (o)

S *mp*

Nn

A2 *mp*

Nn

T *mp*

Nn

B

Nn

PERFECT

149 rit.

S: *non cresc.* *pp sotto voce* *non cresc.*

A: *non cresc.* *pp sotto voce* *non cresc.*

T1: *non cresc.* *pp sotto voce* *non cresc.*

B: *non cresc.* *pp sotto voce* *non cresc.*

PERFECT

S: *non cresc.* *pp sotto voce* *non dim.*

A: *non cresc.* *pp sotto voce* *non dim.*

T: *non cresc.* *pp sotto voce* *non dim.*

B: *non cresc.* *pp sotto voce* *non dim.*

PERFECT

Sing on the closed 'o' in "alone"

Sing on the closed 'o' in "alone"

Sing on the closed 'o' in "alone"

Sing on the closed 'o' in "alone"