

# This Song

for mixed choir

Paul Frankhuijzen

Commissioned by Brabants Kennis Centrum voor Kunst en Cultuur (Bkkc)  
Written for Brabants kamerkoor 2010

Duration: c. 8:30'

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Paul Frankhuijzen was inspired by the text from 'Song to the Siren' by the American singer-songwriter Tim Buckley (1947-1975), an idol in the same league as Leonard Cohen and Joni Mitchell.

'This Song' takes us back to the times of the seventies with this piece of music. It was a time of enormous social contrasts: Communist hatred, the Vietnam War and the resistance against that. By using Buckley's text he wrote a musical piece that breathes the atmosphere of the illustrious ambitions of the younger Flower-Power generation of those days.

Just like a singer-songwriter introduces his song, so does the spoken text sound: it starts off dreamlike and gradually becomes more lyrical. Simultaneously the music also becomes more lyrical. The piece is a fully composed entity, i.e. having refrains at the end of every stanza. The entity alternates between insecure glissandi and illustrious ambitions.

'This Song' is a reverence to people like Tim Buckley and the victims of that time, e.g. the Vietnam War.

Tim Buckley, Song to the Siren

On the floating shapeless oceans  
I did all my best to smile  
til your singing eyes and fingers  
drew me loving into your eyes.  
And you sang "Sail to me, sail to me,  
Let me enfold you."  
Here I am, here I am  
waiting to hold you.

Did I dream you dreamed about me?  
Were you here when I was full sail?  
Now my foolish boat is leaning,  
broken level lost on your rocks.  
For you sang "Touch me not, touch me not,  
come back tomorrow."  
Oh my heart, oh my heart  
shies from the sorrow.

I'm as puzzled as a newborn child.  
I'm as riddled as the tide.  
Should I stand amid the breakers?  
Or shall I lie with death my bride?  
Hear me sing: "Swim to me, swim to me,  
let me enfold you."  
"Here I am, Here I am,  
waiting to hold you."

Spoken words compound through Paul Frankhuijzen

This song this song go's.... about.  
What I mean to say with this song, ... this song.  
Give me the feeling to something better, to something better,  
to something better.  
I have the feeling that we are missing something.  
It's not the country . . . .  
that's secondary, secondary, secondary.  
You don't serve your country, .... you serve people, and whatever  
you can give personal to people.  
This song you now, ...  
has something to share.  
There is power. ..  
Because there is a necessity coming together in a save situation.....  
Your black problem and my white problem, things like that you no.  
There are people who live in the inner world.  
They believe that the outer world is not the real-world.  
'perfume smell and so on'.  
What the world is...  
what is the inside and what has to cum out himself.  
All true time all true time time.

Score

# This Song

Paul Frankhuijzen Op. 0040

2010

Lyrics; Tim Buckley

Spoken words; Paul Frankhuijzen

$\text{♩} = 64$

Sopranen

Alten *cantabile / calmo* *p*

Tenoren *cantabile / calmo* *p*

Bassen

6

S.

A.

T. *p* *piu.p*

B. *mp* \* speak voice by one man voice

ie o a o some -

This song this song go's.... about. What I main to say with this song, ... this song.



28 smile. *p* , ♩ = 64

S. smile.

A. smile. *p* *p cantabile / calmo*

T. *p cantabile / calmo* *mp* coun - try

B. *mf* *mp*

I have the feeling that we are missing something. It's not the country . . . that's secondary, secondary, secondary.

34 *mp* ♩ = 68 *cantabile / scorrevole*

S. your sing - ing eyes

A. *mp* *cantabile / scorrevole* Til your sing - ing eyes

T. *mp cantabile* o o

B. *mp cantabile* o o o o

39 *Rit.* *mf* Poch. molto Tempo (♩ = 74)

S. and fin - gers drew me lov - ing in to

A. and fin - gers *mp* (Alto tutti) drew ing in

T. o fin - gers

B. *p* fin - gers

♩ = 68

S. *p* your eyes. *mf* You *espressivo* "Sail to me,

A. *mf* *distinto* your eyes. *p* *mf* *scorrevole / lyrics clear* And you sang and you "Sail <sup>3</sup> And you

T. *mf* *espressivo* You "Sail to me,

B. *mf* *scorrevole / lyrics clear* And you sang and you "Sail And you

Rall. *cantabile*

S. sail to me, you you." ,

A. sail to me, you you." *cantabile* ,

T. sail to me, you you." *cantabile* ,

B. and you Let me an - fold you." *cantabile* ,

♩ = 64

S. *p* *cantabile / calmo* (soprano tutti) *mp*

A. *mp* *cantabile / calmo*

T. *p* *cantabile / calmo*

B. *mf*

o peo - ple.

You don't serve your country, .... you serve people, and whatever you can give personal to people.



58 *sostenuto*  $\text{♩} = 36$

S. *p* *mp* *piu. mp*  
 Here I am (m), here I am (m), wai - ting to hold you. \_\_\_\_\_

A. *p sostenuto* *mp* *piu. mp*  
 Here I am (m), here I am (m), wai - ting to hold you. \_\_\_\_\_

T. *mp* *piu. mp*  
 wai - ting to hold you.

B. *p sostenuto* *mp* *piu. mp*  
 Here I am (m), here I am (m), wai - ting hold you.

63  $\text{♩} = 64$

S. *p*  
 o. \_\_\_\_\_ Did \_\_\_\_\_

A. *mp* *p cantabile / calmo* *piu. p*  
 o o \_\_\_\_\_ o o you \_\_\_\_\_ no.

T. *p cantabile / calmo*  
 o \_\_\_\_\_

B. *mp* (Speak faster)  
 This song you now, ... has something to share. There is power. .. Because there is a necessity coming together in a save situation..... Your black problem and my white problem, things like that you no.

69  $\text{♩} = 68$  *cantabile / scorvole*

S. *mp* I \_\_\_\_\_ dream you \_\_\_\_\_ drea - med a - bout \_\_\_\_\_ me? *(non decrescendo)* *p*

A. *mp* Did I dream you \_\_\_\_\_ drea - med a - bout \_\_\_\_\_ me? *(non decrescendo)* *p*

T. *mp cantabile* o \_\_\_\_\_ o \_\_\_\_\_ a - bout \_\_\_\_\_ me? *p*

B. *mp cantabile* o \_\_\_\_\_ o o \_\_\_\_\_ a - bout \_\_\_\_\_ me? *mf* *p*

Poch. molto Tempo (♩ = 74)

*distinto*

75 *mf* Were you here, when I was full sail? *p*

S. *mp* *distinto* Were you here, when I was full sail? *mf* *p*

A. (Alto Tutti) *mp* *distinto* Were when I was full sail? *mf* *p*

T. *8*

B. *8*

♩ = 64

80 *p cantabile / calmo* *mp*

S. *p cantabile / calmo* *mp*

A. o o o All true

T. *p cantabile / calmo* *mp* 3 All true

B. *mp* *mf* *f Poch. elevato* 3 3 All true time all true time

There are people who live in the inner world. They believe that the outer world is not the real-world. 'perfume smell and so on'.

What the world is... what is the inside and what has to cum out himself.

♩ = 68

*cantabile / scorrevole*

86 *mp* my foo - lish lish

S. *mp* Now my foo - lish foo - lish

A. *mp cantabile / scorrevole* Now my foo - lish foo - lish

T. *mp cantabile* time. (Tenor tutti) Now my foo - lish foo - lish

B. *mf* *mp cantabile* (Bassen tutti) time. (still 3 men voice) Now o now o

Poch. molto Tempo (♩ = 74)

91

S. *p* bout is lea - ning, *mf* *distinto* bro - ken love *mf* lost on

A. *p* bout is lea - ning, *mp* (Alto tutti) o

T. *p* o o love. *mp*

B. *p* o o love. *mf*

95

S. your rocks. *p* For Touch me not, *mf* *espressivo*

A. *mf* *distinto* your rocks. For Touch me not, *mf* *scorrevole / lyrics clear*

T. For Touch me not, *mf* *espressivo*

B. For you sang, touch me, For *mf* *scorrevole / lyrics clear*

♩ = 68

100

S. For Toch me not, come

A. For For you for you come

T. For Touch me not, come

B. For you for you come

Rall. -----

104

S. back \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ mor - row. *p*

A. back \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ mor - row. *p*

T. back \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ mor - row. *p*

B. back \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ mor - row. *p*

109

$\text{♩} = 36$  *sostenuto*

S. *p* Oh my heart \_\_\_\_\_ oh my heart (m), shies from (m), the sor - row. I'm \_\_\_\_\_ *mp* *piu. mp* *mp*

A. *p sostenuto* Oh my heart, \_\_\_\_\_ oh my heart (m), shies from (m), the sor - row. *mp* *piu. mp*

T. \_\_\_\_\_ shies from (m), sor - row. *mp* *piu. mp*

B. *p sostenuto* Oh my heart, \_\_\_\_\_ oh my heart (m), shies from (m), sor - row. *mp* *piu. mp*

114

$\text{♩} = 68$  *cantabile / scorrevole* *mf*

S. *mf* *cantabile / scorrevole* I'm \_\_\_\_\_ as puzz - led as a \_\_\_\_\_ *mf* *Gliss. very slow*

A. *mf* I'm \_\_\_\_\_ I'm \_\_\_\_\_ I'm \_\_\_\_\_ as puzz - led as a \_\_\_\_\_ *mf* *Gliss. very slow*

T. *mf* *cantabile* I'm \_\_\_\_\_ I'm \_\_\_\_\_ I'm \_\_\_\_\_ as puzz - led as a \_\_\_\_\_ *mf* *Gliss. very slow*

B. *mf* *cantabile* I'm \_\_\_\_\_ I'm \_\_\_\_\_ o \_\_\_\_\_ *mf* *Gliss. very slow*

120

S. new new born born

A. new new new born

T. new new new born born

B. o new born

Gliss. very slow

subito molto Tempo (♩ = 74)

*distinto*

126

S. *p* child. *mf* I'm I'm as rid - dled.

A. *p* child. *mp* (Alto tutti) as rid - dled. *mf* *distinto*

T. child.

B. child.

132

S. as as the ti - - - de. *mp* Rit.

A. as as the ti - - - de. *mp*

T. *p sereno* should

B. *p sereno* Should

♩ = 64

137 *p sereno*

S. should \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_

A. stand \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_

T. should I stand a - mid the \_\_\_\_\_

B. should I a - mid the \_\_\_\_\_

(Alto tutti) *p sereno*

143 *f espress.* *mp* *mf distinto* Poch. molto Tempo (♩ = 74)

S. the brea - kers? Or shall I lie with death my

A. brea - kers?

T. brea - kers? Or with my

B. brea - kers? Or

*f espress.* *mp* *mf distinto*

Gliss. very slow *f espress.* *mp*

149 *mp* *f con forza ma con delicato* ♩ = 68

S. bride. Hear Swim to me,

A. Hear me sing me sing: Swim to me to me,

T. bride. Hear Swim to me,

B. Hear me sing me sing: Swim to me to me,

*f con forza ma con delicato* (Alto tutti)

155

*cantabile mp*

S. swim to me, you you.

A. swim to me to me, let me an fold you.

T. swim to me, let you.

B. swim to me, to me, you you.

$\text{♩} = 36$   
*sostenuto con passione*

160

*f*

S. Here I am am. Here I am

A. Here I am am. Here I am am

T. Here I am am. Here I am am

B. Here I am am. Here I am am

164

*mf*

S. I am, wai - ting to hold you." you.

A. I am, wai - ting to hold you. (you.)

T. I am, wai - ting to hold you.

B. I am, wai - ting you.

*ff*

*Gliss. very slow*