Nunc Dimittis

by Paul Smith

for SATB
COMPOSER’S NOTE

Since my childhood, I’ve been singing this beautiful text in evensong services. For me it is often the most magical moment of the service. It is a text which connects deeply with me, and speaks of a quiet sense of hope and peace. This composition is created with those ideas in mind. The music should be sung with smooth, soft lines and gentle, peaceful phrases. It need never be rushed and can always have a sense of space and tranquility.

I am deeply grateful to VOCES8 for their uplifting and moving interpretation of this work.

Paul Smith

A recording of Nunc Dimittis is available on the VOCES8 album Reflections
(VCM Records, VCM125)

Nunc dimittis servum tuum, Domine, secundum verbum tuum in pace:
Quia viderunt oculi mei salutare tuum
Quod parasti ante faciem omnium populorum:
Lumen ad revelationem gentium, et gloriæ plebis tuae Israel.
Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto,

Luke 2:29–32

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace according to thy word.
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,
Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles and to be the glory of thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Translation from the Book of Common Prayer, 1662
Nunc Dimittis

Tranquil and meditative ($j = 100$)

Paul Smith

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Piano

(for rehearsal only)

Nunc dimittis servum tuum, nunc dimittis servum

Nunc dimittis servum tuum, nunc dimittis servum

Nunc dimittis servum tuum, nunc dimittis servum

Nunc dimittis servum tuum, nunc dimittis servum

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\[ \text{pa-ce, pa-ce, pa-ce: Qui-a-vi-de-runt} \]

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\[ \text{o-cu-li me-i sa-lu-ta-re tu-um. Quod para-sti an-te} \]

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