



WHEATMYER

ROBERT MYERS

Thirteen

Psalm 13, adapted

for SATB / Piano / Bb Clarinet / Cello / Timpani

THIRTEEN

Psalm 13, adapted

Text

Psalm 13 adapted by **Robert Myers**

Music

Composed by **Robert Myers**

for

SATB Choir with Piano, Bb Clarinet, Cello, Timpani

VOCAL RANGES:

Soprano — B3 - Ab5

Alto — A4 - D5

Tenor — Db3 - G4

Bass — A2 - D4

DURATION: 5:59

Psalm singing dates back at least to the time of King David. It was adopted as a primary musical form of the early church as evidenced by Col. 3:16 and was maintained in the Western church throughout medieval times. Psalms were the featured texts of most of the Reformers and were the sole mode of sacred singing among the first American settlers. Unfortunately, Psalm singing became passe' with the rise of revivalism in the 19th century and with the adoption of popular music in churches during the 20th century. THIRTEEN is one member of Robert Myers's first suite of new Psalm settings, offered as a musical exposition of Scripture, to help the church bring Psalms back into modern worship.

The thirteenth Psalm contains a complaint, a petition, and a confession of faith in God. THIRTEEN portrays each of these sections with text painting appropriate to the psalmist's words. A relentless, limping timpani beat undergirds the choir's "how long" plea in the complaint. The petition is presented in a dissonant recitative which transitions through a shimmering tonal cluster into a joyful, major-key, confession of faith blended with a NT perspective from Eph. 3:20-21. THIRTEEN is moderately difficult but uses a very light orchestration in an effort to complement the vocal performance with rich instrumental color that can be easily programmed.



