

An Analysis of Amy Dunker's *Ave Maria*

By

Dr. Amy Dunker

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Voicing: SSA a cappella

Composer: Amy Dunker

Text Author: Traditional Liturgical

Language: Latin

Harmonic Language: Neotonal

Meter: 4/4

Texture: Homophony, Counterpoint

Duration: 2 1/2 Minutes

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Composition Year: 2005

Premiere: This work was premiered on May 7, 2008 by the Edgewood College (Madison, Wisconsin) Women's Chorus, Kathleen Otterson, conductor

Composer Biography:

Composer-trumpeter-educator Amy Dunker's music resists easy categorization. From avant-garde improvisation to minimalistic sound sculptures to neo-romantic echoings, Amy delves deeply into the nature of human experience. Her works have been performed throughout the United States, Czech-Republic, Italy, Ireland, the Ukraine, France, Thailand, Japan, Mexico, Germany, Great Britain, and Puerto Rico. Amy Dunker is an Associate Professor of Music at Clarke College where she teaches composition, theory, aural skills and trumpet. Amy received her bachelor's degree (music education) from Morningside College, a master's degree in trumpet performance from the University of South Dakota, a master's degree in composition from Butler University and a doctorate in composition from the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music. Major influences in her musical education include Stanley DeRusha, Chen Yi, James Mobberley and Michael Schelle. Amy's works have been recorded on the ERM Media, NextAGem, Centerpoint and Whatsit labels. Her music is published by Alliance Publications, Inc.

Other Choral Works by Amy Dunker:

- A Day (SSAATB) AP-10045
Blow, Blow Thou Winter Wind (SSA and 3 Flutes) AP-10025
Celtic Blessing (SATB) AP-10027
O Magnum Mysterium (SATB and Organ) AP-10024
What Cheer? (SATB) AP-10023

Notes:

This setting of the “Ave Maria” text pays homage to Jacques Arcadelt in its contrapuntal conception as well as the use of quotations from Arcadelt’s own SSA setting of the same text.

Form:

Introduction	ms. 1 – 8	
A	ms. 8 – 29	
B	ms. 30 – 39	
Coda	ms. 40 – 41	“Amen”

Theme 1 (Soprano I, ms. 8 - 12):

mp

A - ve, Ma - ri - a, gra - ti - a ple - na._____

Countermelody (Alto, ms. 9 – 13):

mp

A - - - ve, Ma - ri - a, gra - ti - a

A

ple - na,

Theme 2 (Soprano I, ms. 30 – 35):

San -

S 1 *mp*

- cta Ma - ri - - a, ma - ter De - i, o -

S 1

34

ra pro no - bis,

Quotation from Jacques Arcadelt's Ave Maria (Soprano I, ms. 20 -23):

*_

be - ne - di - cta

S 1

21

tu in mu - li - e - ri - bus

- *

Range:

Soprano I	C4 – G5
Soprano II	C4 – D5
Alto	A3 – A4

Text:

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum. Benedicta tu in mulieribus, et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Iesus. Sancta Maria, Mater Dei, ora pro nobis peccatoribus, nunc, et in hora mortis nostrae.
Amen

Hail Mary, full of Grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the Fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and in the hour of our death. Amen.

Dr. Amy Dunker is an Associate Professor of Music at Clarke College in Dubuque, IA, USA where she teaches composition, theory, aural skills, trumpet and directs the new music ensemble.

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