

*In loving memory of August M. Scattini*

# SEMPITERNA

for a cappella mixed chorus with divisi

(2008)

by  
Jeffrey Parola

# SEMPITERNA

(texts and translations)

## 1. De profundis (Ps. 130:1–2)

De profundis clamavi ad te Domine:  
Domine exaudi vocem meam.

*Out of the depths I have cried to thee, O Lord:  
Lord, hear my voice.*

## 2. In manus tuas (Ps. 31:6)

In manus tuas commendabo spiritum meum.  
Redimisti me Domine Deus veritatis.

*Into thy hands I commend my spirit.  
Thou hast redeemed me, O Lord God of truth.*

## 3. In pace (Ps. 4:9, 132:4)

In pace in idipsum,  
dormiam et requiescam.  
Si dedero somnum oculis meis,  
et palpebris meis dormitationem,  
dormiam et requiescam.

*In peace, in true peace,  
I shall sleep and rest.  
If I give slumber to my eyes,  
and to my eyelids drowsiness,  
I shall sleep and rest.*

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### Composer's Note:

Two Latin words, "semper," meaning "always," and "aeternus," meaning "forever," combine to form the single word, "sempiternus," which means "everlasting." The title *Sempiterna*, which suggests "everlasting things," attempts to summon the essence of death's great mystery in the context of this composition.

The work strives to be a meditation on passing from temporal to eternal life. Each of the three movements depicts a specific stage of the transition: the throes of death, the willful resignation of the soul to the trust of the Creator, and the soul in a state of never-ending serenity and peace.

*Sempiterna* is dedicated to my grandfather, August M. Scattini, who passed away 18 August 2007.

### Thank you:

Grandpa Augie, Grandma Josie, Mom, David Macias, Mrs. Holly, David Conte, Vance George, Sam Smith, Robin Estrada, Schola Cantorum San Francisco, Ateneo Chamber Singers, and San Francisco State Chamber Singers.

- Jeffrey Parola

For more information about performing/purchasing this work or others by Jeffrey Parola, please visit [www.parola.org](http://www.parola.org), or e-mail [jeffrey@parola.org](mailto:jeffrey@parola.org).

# 1. De profundis

Psalm 130:1-2

Jeffrey Parola (b. 1979)

**Lento e grave** ( $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 46$ ) *pp slow, gradual cresc.*

Soprano  
De - pro - fun -

Alto  
*pp slow, gradual cresc.*  
De - pro - fun - - dis cla

Tenor  
*pp slow, gradual cresc.*  
De - pro - fun - - dis

Bass  
*pp slow, gradual cresc.*  
De - pro - - fun - dis

Keyboard (rehearsal only)

10 *p gradual cresc.*

S. - - dis - - cla - - ma - vi ad te

A. ma - - vi ad te Do - -

T. - - cla - - ma - vi ad te Do -

B. cla - - ma - - vi ad te Do

Kbd.

# 2. In manus tuas

Psalm 31:6

Jeffrey Parola (b. 1979)

**Adagio con moto** (♩ = ca. 66)

Soprano *p* In ma - nus tu - as, in ma - nus

Alto *p* In ma - nus, ma -

Tenor *pp div.* In ma-nus tu - as, in ma - nus tu - as, in ma - nus tu - as,

Bass *pp div.* In ma - nus tu - as, In ma - nus tu - as,

Keyboard (rehearsal only)

6

S. *p* tu - as, in ma - - - nus

A. *p* - nus tu - as, in ma - - - nus

T. *pp div.* in ma-nus tu - as, in ma - nus tu - as, in ma - nus tu - as,

B. *pp div.* in ma - nus tu as, in ma - nus tu as, in ma - nus

Kbd.

# 3. In pace

Psalm 4:9, 132:4

Jeffrey Parola (b. 1979)

Slow, calm and sustained (♩ = ca. 76)

*p* *p* *sim.*

Soprano  
In pa - ce in id ip - sum, in pa - ce

Alto  
In pa - ce in id ip - sum, in pa - ce

Tenor

Bass

Keyboard (rehearsal only)

10

*mf*

S.  
in id ip - sum, in pa - ce in id ip - sum, in pa - ce

A.  
in id ip - sum, in pa - ce in id ip - sum, in pa - ce

T.  
In pa - ce in id ip - sum, dor - mi - am et

B.

Kbd.