

Choral Music of Our Time

EDMUND FINNIS

Moonless Darkness

for mixed choir
text by Gerard Manley Hopkins

(2024)

Sample Copy for use at ABCD 2025

Edmund Finnis

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(2024)

ED 14245

ISMN 979-0-2201-4014-3

 **SCHOTT**

First Performance: 3 December 2024
Choir of New College, Oxford
Robert Quinney, conductor
New College Chapel
Oxford, UK

Duration: c. 2 minutes

Text:

Moonless darkness stands between.
Past, the Past, no more be seen!
But the Bethlehem-star may lead me
To the sight of Him Who freed me
From the self that I have been.
Make me pure, Lord: Thou art holy;
Make me meek, Lord: Thou wert lowly;
Now beginning, and alway:
Now begin, on Christmas day.

Gerard Manley Hopkins (1844-1889)

Edmund Finnis

Moonless Darkness

text by Gerard Manley Hopkins (1844-1889)

Poco adagio, mysterious

p

SOPRANO

MOON - less dark - ness stands be - tween. Past, the Past, no

ALTO

MOON - less dark - ness stands be - tween. Past, the Past, no

TENOR

MOON - less dark - ness stands be - tween. Past, the Past, no

BASS

MOON - less dark - ness stands be - tween. Past, the Past, no

PIANO
(for rehearsal only)

p

7 *mf* *pp*

S. more be seen! But the Beth - le - hem star may lead me

A. *mf* *pp*

more be seen! But the Beth - le - hem star may lead me

T. *mf* *pp*

more be seen! But the Beth - le - hem star may lead me

B. *mf* *pp*

more be seen! But the Beth - le - hem star may lead me

mf *pp*

13

S. *mf* *p*
To the sight of Him Who freed me From the self that

A. *mf* *p*
To the sight of Him Who freed me From the self that

T. *mf* *p*
To the sight of Him Who freed me From the self that

B. *mf* *p*
To the sight of Him Who freed me From the self that

Piano accompaniment: *mf* *p*

poco rall. **Poco meno mosso**

19

S. *pp tenderly*
I have been. Make me pure, Lord: Thou art ho - ly;

A. *pp tenderly*
I have been. Make me pure, Lord: Thou art ho - ly;

T. *pp tenderly*
I have been. Make me pure, Lord: Thou art ho - ly;

B. *pp tenderly*
I have been. Make me pure, Lord: Thou art ho - ly;

Piano accompaniment: *pp tenderly*

poco rall. **Tempo primo**

25

S. *mf* *p*
Make me meek, Lord: Thou wert low - ly; Now be - gin - ning,

A. *mf* *p*
Make me meek, Lord: Thou wert low - ly; Now be - gin - ning,

T. *mf* *p*
Make me meek, Lord: Thou wert low - ly; Now be - gin - ning,

B. *mf* *p*
Make me meek, Lord: Thou wert low - ly; Now be - gin - ning,

Piano accompaniment: *mf* *p*

poco rall. **Poco meno mosso** **rall.**

31

S. *pp*
and al - way:— Now be - gin, on Christ - mas day.

A. *pp*
and al - way:— Now be - gin, on Christ - mas day.

T. *pp*
and al - way:— Now be - gin, on Christ - mas day.

B. *pp*
and al - way:— Now be - gin, on Christ - mas day.

Piano accompaniment: *pp*

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