Veni, Veni Emmanuel

ERO CRAS (I Will Come)

MICHAEL JOHN TROTTO

SATB (divisi) Voices a cappella with Optional Percussion

Duration: 3:35

RANGES:

Soprano I & Soprano II

Alto

Tenor

Bass

FREE MP3 rehearsal and accompaniments

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Program Notes

The text for the hymn Veni, Veni Emmanuel first appears in the eighteenth century in the Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum (Cologne 1710). It is based on the much older "O" Antiphons which have their origins in the ninth century. When the antiphons are placed in the reverse chronological order, the first letter (after the “O”) forms the acrostic ERO CRAS, literally "tomorrow, I will be" translated here as "I will come!" This piece was conceived as a dialogue between the supplicants and the creator, a combination of old and new, juxtaposing a personal longing for something still to come, with the steadfast assurance of something ever-present, yet not always seen. While the original theme is associated with the Christmas season, the wider theme of longing for something greater is universal to the human condition and allows this piece to be programmed throughout the year. While the tune used is a variant of the original chant tune based on my childhood memory of the singing the melody that is true to my experience, the existence of the third scale degree in the choral ostinato ensures that the tune's familiar contour will be instantly recognized.

The “O” Antiphons

December 23: O Emmanuel (O With Us is God)
December 22: O Rex Gentium (O King of the nations)
December 21: O Oriens (O Morning Star)
December 20: O Clavis David (O Key of David)

December 19: O Radix Jesse (O Root of Jesse)
December 18: O Adonai (O Lord)
December 17: O Sapientia (O Wisdom)

The “O” Antiphons

Veni, veni Emmanuel!
captivum solve Israel!
qui gemit in exsilio,
privatus dei filio.

Refrain: Gaude, gaude, Emmanuel
nascetur pro te, Israel.

O come, O come, the “I am” that is with us
break the bond of the captive people!
who mourn in exile
Derived of the incarnation of the Father.

Rejoice! Rejoice! The great “I am”
will be born for you.

Veni, veni, rex gentium,
veni, redemptor omnium,
Ut salvas tuos famulos
peccati sibi conscios

O come, gatherer of all nations,
come to make all whole,
to save your servants
from their separateness.

Veni, veni o Oriens,
solare nos adveniens,
noctis depelle nebulas,
dirasque mortis tenebras.

O come thou light of life (Morning Star)
to shine on us by your coming,
dispel the clouds of night,
drive away the shadows of death.

Optional Introduction:

The director may wish to use a cascading handbell and wind-chimes introduction using the following notes repeated at random for ca.10 seconds ending with F# and C#, this can easily be followed by the chant incipit from which the rest of the work can continue as notated. When handbells are not available, the piece may start with the chant or begin as notated.
Veni, Veni Emmanuel
ERÔ CRAS (I Will Come)

for SATB Voices (divisi) \textit{a cappella} with Optional Percussion*

18th-century Latin Hymn
9th-century Origin

For the Pearland High School Chamber Choir,
Derrik Bready and Zachary Foster, Directors, and their performance at the 2014 SWACDA Convention

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*MICHAEL JOHN TROTTA

Longingly $\text{j} = 60$

\begin{align*}
\text{Soprano 1} & \quad p \\
\text{Soprano 2/Alto} & \quad p \\
\text{Tenor} & \quad O \ve-
\text{ni, O Ve-
\text{ni, ve-
\text{n}i Em-
\text{u}n-
\text{e}l, Ve-
\text{n}i, ve-
\text{n}i, ve-
\text{n}i, O ve-
\text{n}i, O Longingly \text{j} = 60}
\end{align*}

\begin{align*}
\text{Bass} & \quad O \ve-
\text{n}i, O Ve-
\text{n}i, ve-
\text{n}i, ve-
\text{n}i, O ve-
\text{n}i, O Longingly \text{j} = 60
\end{align*}

\begin{align*}
\text{Piano (for rehearsal only)} & \quad p
\end{align*}

*The parts for Optional Percussion appear on pp. 16–18.

** An "x" notehead = foot stomp.

*** In all cases of three note divisi - S2 top note/Alto div.

**** Add S2 or A1 to melody as needed.

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O come, O come, the "I am" that is with us

"I will come"

break the bond of the captive people
Is-rael,
qui ge-mit in ex-

Ve-ni, ve-ni, ve-ni, Ve-ni, ve-ni, ve-ni, Ve-ni, ve-ni,
Ve-ni, ve-ni, ve-ni, Ve-ni, ve-ni, ve-ni, Ve-ni, ve-ni,
Ve-ni, ve-ni, ve-ni, Ve-ni, ve-ni, ve-ni, Ve-ni, ve-ni,
Ve-ni, ve-ni, ve-ni, Ve-ni, ve-ni, ve-ni, Ve-ni, ve-ni,
Ve-ni, ve-ni, ve-ni, Ve-ni, ve-ni, ve-ni, Ve-ni, ve-ni,
Ve-ni, ve-ni, ve-ni, Ve-ni, ve-ni, ve-ni, Ve-ni, ve-ni,
Ve-ni, ve-ni, ve-ni, Ve-ni, ve-ni, ve-ni, Ve-ni, ve-ni,

si-li-o,
priva-tus De-i

Ve-ni, ve-ni, ve-ni, Ve-ni, ve-ni, ve-ni, ve-ni, Ve-ni, ve-ni,
Ve-ni, ve-ni, ve-ni, Ve-ni, ve-ni, ve-ni, Ve-ni, ve-ni,
Ve-ni, ve-ni, ve-ni, Ve-ni, ve-ni, ve-ni, Ve-ni, ve-ni,
Ve-ni, ve-ni, ve-ni, Ve-ni, ve-ni, ve-ni, Ve-ni, ve-ni,
Rejoice! Rejoice!

The great "I am"

will be born for you.

Emmanuel, nasceetur pro te

Gaudete! Emmanuel.

Veni, veni, Veni, veni, Veni, veni, Gaudete!
O come, gatherer of all nations,
Is - ra - el!
Ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni,
Ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni,
Ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni,
E - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni,
Ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni,
Come to make all whole,
Ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni,
RO CRAS!
E - RO
Ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni, ve - ni,
RO
Gen - ni - tum, ve - ni Re - dem - tor om - ni -
Gen - ni - tum, ve - ni Re - dem - tor om - ni -
Gen - ni - tum, ve - ni Re - dem - tor om - ni -
Gen - ni - tum, ve - ni Re - dem - tor om - ni -
Gen - ni - tum, ve - ni Re - dem - tor om - ni -
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To save your servants,

Ve-ni, ve-ni, ve-ni. O! _ E - RO CRAS!

CRAS! _ E - RO CRAS!

Cras!

um, ut sal-vas tu-os fa-mu-los,

um, ut sal-vas tu-os fa-mu-los,

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From their separateness.

Rejoice! Rejoice!

E - RO CRAS!_ Gau-de! Gau-de! Em-

E - RO CRAS! _ Gau-de! Gau-de! Em-

cati si-bi con-sci-os.

cati si-bi con-sci-os.

cati si-bi con-sci-os.

cati si-bi con-sci-os.

cati si-bi con-sci-os.

cati si-bi con-sci-os.
The great "I am"
will be born for you.

Who will come?

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"I will come!"

E - RO CRAS Ve - RO

E - RO CRAS

E - RO CRAS
Dispel the clouds of night,

CRAS!

Drive away the shadows of death.

RO

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RO CRAS!

te ne bras.

Gau

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,

ni ve ni, ve ni, Ve ni, ve ni, ve ni ve ni, ve ni,
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