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Commissioned by JoAnne Ritacca  
and dedicated to Debra Hays, Kenneth Goldsmith, and JoAnne Ritacca.  
First performed at the 1988 Lyric Art Festival,  
sponsored by the University of Houston  
and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston.

# Four Madrigals of Michelangelo

for High Voice, Violin and Piano

Michelangelo  
Creighton E. Gilbert, tr.

David Ashley White

## I. Because unceasingly I feel the lure

Flowing, not too slow ♩ = c. 63 *mp*

3 3

Voice

*warmly* Be-cause un-ces-ing-ly I feel the lure Of

Violin

*pp* Flowing, not too slow ♩ = c. 63

Piano

*pp*

Ped.

5

*mf* *gradually faster*

eyes I hope for and re-call,

*mf* *gradually faster*

*mf*

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AND SELECTED LETTERS OF  
MICHELANGELO now published by  
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8 Agitated ♩ = c. 76 *f*

where - by — I am in luck,

Agitated ♩ = c. 76

12 Tempo I (♩ = c. 63) *mp*

a - side from be - ing a - live, —

Tempo I (♩ = c. 63)

## II. Beautiful things are the longing of my eyes

Languidly  $\text{♩} = \text{c. } 69$ 

Voice *p*  $\text{3}$   
 Beau - ti - ful things are the long - ing of my eyes,

$\text{3}$  *mf*  
 Just as it is my soul's to be se - cure, But they've no oth - er pow - er That

Voice *f*  $\text{3}$  *gradually moving faster*  
 lifts \_\_\_\_\_ to Heav - en, \_\_\_\_\_ but star - ing at all \_\_\_\_\_ those. \_\_\_\_\_

Vln. *mp* *near the bridge*

10  $\text{♩} = \text{c. } 76$   
 A shin - ing glo - ry falls From fur - thest stars a -

*fp* *ord* *fp*

13 *b*  
 bove, Toward them our wish it pulls, \_\_\_\_\_

*f* *ff* *f*

16 *rit.* **Tempo I** (♩ = c. 69)  
*p*

And here we call it love.

*pizz* *arco* *pp* III

21 *mp* *mf* 3

Kind heart can never have, To enamored and fire it, and to

*mp*

26

counsel, More than a face with eyes that they re-

*p*

30

semble.

*mf* *f*

33 *pp* *ff* *near the bridge* *ord*

37 *pp*

## III. A burning beam from my beloved's eyes

Quickly ♩ = 120 - 126

Voice

Violin *non legato, off the string*  
*mf*

Piano *mf*  
*8<sup>vb</sup>*

4

*f*

*tr*

The musical score is divided into two systems. The first system includes staves for Voice, Violin, and Piano. The Voice staff is mostly empty, with a few notes at the end. The Violin staff has a melodic line starting with a rest, followed by eighth and sixteenth notes, with a dynamic marking of *mf* and the instruction *non legato, off the string*. The Piano part consists of two staves with a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes, marked *mf* and *8<sup>vb</sup>*. The second system starts with a measure number '4' and features a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and a violin staff. The grand staff has a dynamic marking of *f*. The violin staff has a trill marked *tr*. The score includes various musical notations such as rests, notes, stems, beams, and dynamic markings.

7 *f*

A burn - ing beam from my be - lov - ed's eyes Comes

*mf*

*mf*

8<sup>vb</sup>

11

forth and flies; \_\_\_\_\_

*sub p* *f*

15

so bril - liant is its light, \_\_\_\_\_

*f*

8<sup>va</sup>

8<sup>va</sup>

## IV. . . . not only, but my eyes as well

Not too slowly ♩ = c. 66

Voice

Violin

Piano

*pp*

*pp* delicately

*pp*

*p*

...not on - ly, \_\_\_\_\_ but my eyes as well Find death and life in full In

5

*pp*

*p*

*8va*

*p*



10

these of yours, that are u - nique in beau - ty,

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

8va---1

13

The less the in - ju - ry can press and hurt me The more it wounds and

15<sup>ma</sup>--- | 8<sup>va</sup>---