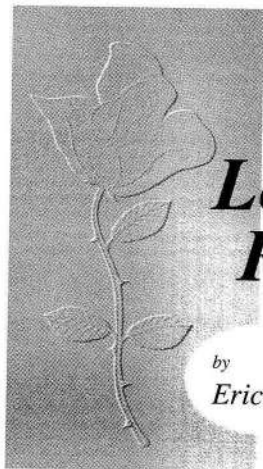


SATB
a cappella
duration: 3:33

Whitacre, GO, LOVELY ROSE



Go, Lovely Rose

by
Eric Whitacre

Three Flower Songs

I Hide Myself

With a Lily in Your Hand

Go, Lovely Rose



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Go, Lovely Rose

Edmund Waller

Eric Whitacre

Sweetly blossoming $\text{♩} = c. 80$

Soprano *pp* *mp* *mp* *mp*

Go, love - ly rose Tell her that

Alto *pp* *mp* *mp* *mp*

Go, love - ly rose Tell her, tell her that

Tenor *pp* *mp* *mp* *mp*

Go, love - ly rose Tell her, tell her that

Bass *pp* *mp* *mp* *mp*

Go, love - ly rose Tell her, tell her that

For rehearsal only

6 she knows,

wastes her time and me, That now she knows, When I re -

wastes her time and me, That now she knows, When I re-sem - ble

wastes her time and me, That now she knows,

wastes her time and me, That now she knows,

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sem - ble her to thee, How sweet *senza vibrato*
 her to thee, How sweet and fair she seems to be.
 her to thee, How sweet
 her to thee, How sweet

13 Poco più mosso
mp

Tell, tell her that's young, And shuns to have her
 Tell, tell her that's young, shuns to have her
 Tell, her that's young, And shuns to have her
 Tell, her that's young, shuns to have her

Poco più mosso
mp

18 *p*

gra - ces spied, gra - ces spied, That hadst thou

gra - ces spied, gra - ces spied, That hadst thou

gra - ces spied, gra - ces spied, *tenors div. between alto/bass line*

gra - ces spied, gra - ces spied, That hadst thou

p

rocking gently

sfz sprung

sfz sprung

mp ten. solo

in de - serts where — no men a - bide, —

sfz sprung

23

sop. solo

Thou _____ must have un-com-men - ded died.

mp sops. sing top alto line

Thou _____ must have un - com - men - ded died

mp tutti

Thou _____ must have un - com - men - ded died.

mp

Thou _____ must have un - com - men - ded died.

mp

26

pp thoughtfully

Small is the worth Of beau - ty from the

pp

Small is the worth Of beau - ty from the

pp

Small is the worth Of beau - ty from the

pp

Small is the worth Of beau - ty from the

pp

light re - tired; Bid

light re - tired; Bid

light re - tired; Bid

light re - tired; Bid her come

mf with renewed motion

mf

poco accel. *mf cresc.* to be de -

poco accel. *mf cresc.* de -

poco accel. *cresc.* Suf - fer her - self to be de -

poco accel. *cresc.* forth, Suf - fer her - self to

poco accel. *cresc.* forth, Suf - fer, suf - fer her - self

poco accel. *cresc.*

rit. 37 *f* much slower
 sired. de-sired, And not blush so to be ad-
 sired, de-sired, *f* much slower
 sired, And not blush so to be ad-
 rit. *f* much slower
 be de-sired, And not blush so to be ad-
 rit. much slower
 to be de-sired, And not blush so to be ad-
 rit. *f* much slower
 mired. Then die.
 mired. Then die, then die.
 mired. Then die.
 mired. Then
 quickly *ff*
ff molto rit. *ff*
ff molto rit.

Adagio

43 *p* *mp*

then die that she the com-mon fate of

then die that she the com-mon fate of

then die that she the com-mon fate of

die, then die she the com-mon fate of

p *mp*

Adagio

p *mp*

* close to "n" on beat 2

47 *p* *senza vibrato*

all things rare

all things rare May read in thee;

all things rare

all things rare

p

49 *As the beginning*

p *mp* *p* , *slowing*

How small a part of time they share, That are so

p *mp* *p* , *slowing*

small a part of time they share, That are so

p *mp* *p* , *slowing*

How small a part of time they share, That are so

p *mp* *p* , *slowing*

How small a part of time they share, That are so

As the beginning

p *mp* *p* , *slowing*

mf *mp*

won-drous sweet and fair!

mf *mp*

won-drous sweet and fair!

mf *mp*

won-drous sweet and fair, and fair!

mf *mp*

won-drous sweet and fair!

mf

The Composer: Eric Whitacre (b. 1970)

An accomplished composer, conductor and clinician, Eric Whitacre is one of the bright stars in contemporary concert music. Regularly commissioned and published, Whitacre has received composition awards from ASCAP, the Barlow International Composition Competition, the American Choral Directors Association, the American Composers Forum, and this spring was honored with his first Grammy nomination (contemporary classical crossover). This year he became the youngest recipient ever awarded the coveted Raymond C. Brock commission by the American Choral Directors Association; commercially he has worked with such luminaries as Barbara Streisand and Marvin Hamlisch.

Whitacre has already achieved substantial critical and popular acclaim. The American Record Guide named his first recording, *The Music of Eric Whitacre* one of the top ten classical albums in 1997, and the Los Angeles Times praised his music as "electric, chilling harmonies; works of unearthly beauty and imagination."

Eric received his M.M. in composition from the Juilliard School of Music where he studied composition with John Corigliano.

Performance notes from the composer

The piece is structured around the cyclical life of a rose, and is connected throughout by the opening "rose motif," a seed that begins on the tonic and grows in all directions before it blossoms, dies and grows again. Each season is represented: spring begins the piece, summer appears at m.15, fall at m.28, winter at m.39, and spring returns at m.49. The form is based on the *Fibonacci* sequence (the pattern found in plant and animal cell divisions)—its fifty-five measures are a perfect *Fibonacci* number. The Golden Mean appears at m.34 as all parts are reunited to complete the flower before its final blossom and inevitable cycle of death and rebirth.

Each performance should be approached with the child-like innocence and naivety that allows us to marvel at the return of the rose each spring. The *sforzandos* throughout must be light and gentle.



Eric Whitacre
August, 2001

The Poem: Go, Lovely Rose by Edmund Waller, 1606–1687

Go, lovely rose
Tell her that wastes her time and me,
That now she knows,
When I resemble her to thee,
How sweet and fair she seems to be.

Tell her that's young,
And shuns to have her graces spied,
That hadst thou sprung
In deserts where no men abide,
Thou must have uncommended died.

Small is the worth
Of beauty from the light retired;
Bid her come forth,
Suffer herself to be desired,
And not blush so to be admired.

Then die! that she
The common fate of all things rare
May read in thee:
How small a part of time they share,
That are so wondrous sweet and fair!

English poet, Edmund Waller was educated at Eton College and the University of Cambridge. He became a member of Parliament while still a young man. As an active politician, he was involved in a conspiracy, threatened with a death sentence, and for some time banished from England. In 1651 he resolved the problems, and returned to his homeland.

His *Go, Lovely Rose* is one of the most famous lyric poems in English literature. It circulated for some twenty years before finally being published in 1645 as part of Waller's *Poems*.

Range:

