

Choral Audition

Pro Musica - 2024-2025

Batter My Heart – Richard Nance

Hello Pro Musica hopefuls,

The choral audition piece for 24-25 is a hard-hitting, soul-searching song full of frustration, repentance, and thanksgiving to Jesus. Richard Nance's music matches the thematic content with aggressive rhythm and moderate dissonance, so be prepared.

Preparation:

1. I would highly recommend listening to recordings of the piece. I have placed an excellent recording on the choral website (www.llachoral.com/audition), and please note the section for your audition (the last 4 pages of the song) begins at 2:35. Even so, I highly recommend you listen to the entire song a few times.
2. Once you have listened numerous times, it is time to conquer the rhythm. Practice speaking the words in rhythm a few times. Maybe speak along with the recording until you get the feel for it. Once it feels familiar and natural, move on to the next step.
3. Next is adding correct notes. Feel free to choose whichever part works best for your voice, and pay attention to which notes to sing if your part splits. As for learning your part, start slow. If you have the piano chops to play your part, do so. If not, find a friend who can. Be very careful, as learning wrong notes makes singing the correct notes much more difficult. Once you can sing your notes slowly and with confidence, gradually speed it up to performance tempo.
4. Last is adding all the dynamics, articulation and passion, working hard to really make music out of your part.
5. The icing on the cake is to practice singing with the recording. Can you sing your part while hearing all the other parts? Let's hope so, since that is what you will need to do in the choral audition;)

Let me know if you have any concerns/questions.

Good luck and God bless,

Kristian Leukert
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START HERE

34 *dim.* *mp* *legato* 3
 S tie or break that knot a - gain; Take me to You, im -
 A tie or break that knot a - gain; Take me to You,
 T tie or break that knot a - gain; Take me to You, im -
 B tie or break that knot a - gain; Take me to You,
 34 *dim.* *mp* *legato* 3
legato 3

37 *cresc.*
 S pris - on me, for I, Ex - cept You en - thrall me,
 A im - pris - on me, I, Ex - cept You en - thrall me,
 T pris - on me, for I, Ex - cept You en - thrall me,
 B im - pris - on me, I, Ex - cept You en - thrall me,
 37 *cresc.* 3
cresc. 3
 3

40 *mf* *cresc.* *f*

S
nev - er shall be free, Nor ev - er chaste, ex - cept You rav - ish me, you

A
nev - er shall be free, Nor ev - er chaste, ex - cept You rav - ish me,

T
8 *mf* *cresc.* *f*
nev - er shall be free, Nor ev - er chaste, ex - cept You rav - ish me,

B
mf *cresc.* *f*
nev - er shall be free, ex - cept You rav - ish me, you

40 *mf* *cresc.*

43 *dim.* *rit.* *p* *a tempo* *f* *3* *dim.*

S
rav - ish me, you rav - ish me. Oh, Bat - ter my heart, three - per - soned

A
dim. *rit.* *p* *a tempo* *f* *3* *dim.*
rav - ish me, you rav - ish me. Oh, Bat - ter my heart, three - per - soned

T
dim. *rit.* *p* *a tempo* *f* *3* *dim.*
rav - ish me, you rav - ish me. Oh, Bat - ter my heart, three - per - soned

B
dim. *rit.* *p* *a tempo* *f* *3* *dim.*
rav - ish me, you rav - ish me. Oh, Bat - ter my heart, three - per - soned

43 *dim.* *rit.* *p* *a tempo* *f* *3* *dim.*

46 *mp* *f* *3* *dim.* *mf* *cresc.*

S God. _____ Bat - ter my heart, _____ three - per - soned God; for You As yet but

A God. _____ Bat - ter my heart, _____ three - per - soned God; for You As yet but

T God. _____ Bat - ter my heart, _____ three - per - soned God; for You As yet but

B God. _____ Bat - ter my heart, _____ three - per - soned God; for You As yet but

49 *f* *dim.* *mp* *cresc. 3* *f*

S knock, breathe, shine, _____ and seek to mend; _____ That I may rise and stand, _____ o'er -

A knock, breathe, shine, _____ and seek to mend; That I may rise and stand, _____ o'er -

T knock, breathe, shine, _____ and seek to mend; That I may rise and stand, _____ o'er -

B knock, breathe, shine, _____ and seek to mend; That I may rise and stand, o'er -

12 Ending No. 1

S 52 *dim.* *rit.* *p* DONE!

throw me, and bend Your force to break, blow, burn, and make me new, and make me new.

A *dim.* *rit.* *p*

throw me, and bend Your force to break, blow, burn, and make me new, and make me new.

T *dim.* *rit.* *p*

throw me, and bend Your force to break, blow, burn, and make me new, and make me new.

B *dim.* *rit.* *p*

throw me, and bend Your force to break, blow, burn, and make me new, and make me new.

52 *dim.* *rit.* *p*

52 *dim.* *rit.* *p*

Ending No. 2 (optional)

S *dim.* *rit.* *p*

break, blow, burn, and make me new, and make me new.

A *dim.* *rit.* *p*

break, blow, burn, and make me new, and make me new.

T *dim.* *rit.* *p*

break, blow, burn, and make me new, and make me new.

B *dim.* *rit.* *p*

break, blow, burn, and make me new, and make me new.

dim. *rit.* *p*

