



Sarek National Park, Jokkmokk, Sweden

How great Thou Art

Swedish Folg Song "O Store Gud" by Carl Boberg

for SATB divisi a cappella

Jean-Christophe Rosaz



How great Thou Art

Swedish Folg Song

"O Store Gud" written in 1885 by Carl Boberg

arrangement & adaptation: Jean-Christophe Rosaz

♩ = 80

Score for Soprano 1, Soprano 2, Soprano 3, Alto 1, Alto 2, Alto 3, Ténor 1, Ténor 2, Basse 1, Basse 2.

Alto 2: *p* gli altri breathe freely

Alto 3: *mp* solo

Oh Lord, my God When I, in awe-some won - der Con-si - der

The inspiration for the poem came when Boberg was walking home from church and listening to church bells. A sudden storm got Boberg's attention, and then just as suddenly as it had made its appearance, it subsided to a peaceful calm which Boberg observed over Mönsterås Bay.

If later another text was grafted onto this song, I let myself be inspired by the superb original poem by Carl Boberg which truly enters into contemplation before the greatness of God through the magnificence of his Creation. So I decided to choose the 2,3,4 original verses.

Thus the arrangement starts from a simple note adding voices one after the other to expand more and more until the extreme end of the counter Bb of the basses to the high Bb of the sopranos, in the image of this nature so beautiful and grandiose which fascinates us so much.

This composition is for big choir but could also be done by ten singers

"How great Thou art": I can't help but think of a translation "how great is your art"!

5 *mp solo*

A 2 I see the stars, I hear the roll-ing thun-der Thy power through-

A 3 *tutti* *breathe freely*
all the worlds Thy hands have made *bocca chiusa, ossia [u]*

With each return of the theme a new voice is added as if the melody were gaining more and more singers from the choir, thus creating a natural & progressive crescendo

9 *mp solo*

A 1 Then sings my soul, my Sa-vior God to Thee _____ How great Thou

A 2 *tutti*
out the u-ni-verse dis-played *b.c. ossia[u]*

A 3

13 *mp solo*

S 3 Then sings my soul, my Sa-vior God to Thee _____ How great Thou

A 1 art, _____ how great Thou art Then sings my soul, my Sa-vior God to Thee _____ How great Thou

A 2

A 3

original text in swedish:

*O store Gud, när jag den värld beskådar
Som du har skapat med ditt allmaktsord,
Hur der din visdom leder lifvets trådar;
Och alla väsen mätas vid ditt bord:*

*Då brister själen ut i lofsångsljud:
O store Gud, O store Gud!
Då brister själen ut i lofsångsljud:
O store Gud, O store Gud!*

*När jag betraktar himlens höga under,
Der gyllne världsskepp plöja etern blå,
Och sol och måne mäta tidens stunder
Och vexla om, som tvänne klockor gå:*

*När jag hör åskans röst i stormen brusa
Och blixkens klingor springa fram ur skyn,
När regnets kalla, friska vindar susa
Och löftets bäge glänser för min syn:*

*När sommarvinden susar över fälten,
När blommor dofta omkring källans strand,
När trastar drilla i de gröna tätten
Ur furuskogens tysta, dunkla rand:*

*Oh Lord, my God When I, in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder
Thy power throughout the universe displayed*

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art*

*When I behold the high wonders of heaven,
Where golden worldships plough the blue ether,
And sun and moon measure the moments of time
And alternate, like two clocks going:*

*Hearing the voice of thunder in the storm
And the lighting leap out of the sky,
When the cold, fresh winds of rain rush
The bow of promise shines before my sight:*

*When summer wind is blowing over fields,
When flowers scent all around the spring's bank,
When thrushes trill around in the green tents
All From the silence of the pine forest:*

*Ô Seigneur, mon Dieu Quand, émerveillé,
je contemple tous les mondes que Tes mains ont créés,
je vois les étoiles, j'entends le grondement du tonnerre,
ta puissance se déploie à travers l'univers.*

*Alors mon âme chante, mon Dieu Sauveur, pour Toi
Comme Tu es grand, comme Tu es grand
Alors mon âme chante, mon Dieu Sauveur, pour Toi
Comme Tu es grand, comme Tu es grand*

*Quand je contemple les hautes merveilles du ciel,
Les vaisseaux-mondes dorés sillonnent l'éther bleu,
Et le soleil et la lune mesurent les moments du temps
Et alternent, comme deux horloges qui fonctionnent :*

*J'entends le tonnerre dans la tempête
Et l'éclair jaillir du ciel,
Quand les vents froids et frais de la pluie se précipitent
L'arc de la promesse brille à mes yeux :*

*Quand le vent d'été souffle sur les champs,
Quand les fleurs embaument les rives du printemps,
Quand les grives roucoulent sous les tentes vertes,
Tout cela dans le silence de la pinède :*

17

p

S 3 art, how great Thou art! Oh _____ the won - - - ders

A 1 art, how great _____ art! Oh _____ the won - - - ders

mp (tutti)

A 2 2) When I be - hold the high won - ders of hea - ven, Where gol - den

A 3

p

T 1

8

bocca chiusa, ossia [u]

21

p

S 2 sun _____ and moon _____ mea -

S 3 of hea - ven, sun _____ and moon _____ mea -

A 1 of hea - ven, And sun and moon mea - sure the mo - ments of time And al - ter -

A 2 ves - sels plow the e - ther blue, sun _____ and moon mea -

A 3 sun _____ and moon mea -

T 1

8

25 *mp*

S 2 sure the time Then sings my soul, my Sa-vior God to Thee_____ How great Thou

S 3 sure the time Then sings my soul, my Sa-vior God to Thee_____ How great Thou

A 1 nate, like two clocks go - ing: Then sings my soul, to Thee_____ How great Thou

A 2 sure_____ the time Then sings my soul, to Thee_____ How great Thou

A 3 sure the time Then sings my soul, to Thee How great Thou _

T 1 Then sings my soul, to Thee_____ How great Thou

29

S 2 art,_____ how great Thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sa-vior God to Thee_____ How great Thou

S 3 art,_____ how great Thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sa-vior God to Thee_ How great Thou

A 1 art,_____ how great Thou art! Then sings my soul, to Thee_ How great Thou

A 2 art,_____ how great Thou art! Then sings my soul, to Thee Thou

A 3 art, Thou _ art! Then sings my soul, to Thee Thou

T 1 art, Thou art! Then sings my soul, to Thee Thou

33

mp

S 2 art, how great Thou art! The _____ voice in the storm _ the

mp

S 3 art, how great Thou art! The _____ voice in the storm the

mp

A 1 art, how great Thou art! The _____ voice in the storm the

mf

A 2 art, how great Thou art! 3)Hea-ring the voice of thun-der in the storm _ and the

mp

A 3 art, how great Thou art! The voice in the storm the

T 1 art, how great Thou art! *mp* The voice

T 2 *mp* The voice in the storm the

mp

B 1 *mp* The voice in the storm the

bocca chiusa, ossia [u]

37 *mp*

S 1 the _____ fresh winds _____ rush _____ the

S 2 light in the sky the _____ fresh winds _____ rush _____ the

S 3 light in the sky the _____ fresh winds rush the

mf

A 1 light in the sky And when the cold, fresh winds of rain rush _____ the bow of

A 2 light - ing leap out of the sky the _____ fresh winds _____ rush _____ the

A 3 light in the sky the fresh winds _____ rush the

T 1 in the sky the fresh winds rush the

T 2 light in the sky the fresh winds _____ rush _____ the

B 1 the fresh winds rush the

41 *mf*

S 1 pro - mise fore my sight Then sings my soul to Thee__ How great Thou

S 2 pro - mise fore my sight Then sings my soul, my Sa-vior God to Thee_____ How great Thou

S 3 pro - mise fore my sight Then sings my soul, my Sa-vior God to Thee_____ How great Thou

A 1 pro-mise shines be-fore my sight Then sings my soul to Thee_____ How great Thou

A 2 pro - mise fore my sight Then sings my soul_____ to Thee_____ How great Thou

A 3 pro - mise fore my sight Then sings my soul to Thee__ How great Thou

T 1 pro - mise fore my sight Then sings my soul to Thee_____ How great Thou

T 2 pro - mise fore my sight Then sings my soul to Thee Thou

B 1 pro - mise fore my sight Then sings my soul_____ to Thee_____ Thou

45

S 1
art, — Thou — art! — Then sings my soul to Thee How great Thou

S 2
art, — how great Thou art! — Then sings my soul, my Sa-vior God to Thee — How great Thou

S 3
art, — how great Thou art! — Then sings my soul, my Sa-vior God to Thee How great Thou

A 1
art, — how great Thou art! — Then sings my soul to Thee How great Thou

A 2
art, — how great Thou art! — Then sings my soul — to Thee Thou

A 3
art, — how great Thou art! — Then sings my soul to Thee Thou

T 1
8
art, — Thou art! — Then sings my soul to Thee Thou

T 2
8
art, — Thou art, — Then sings my soul to Thee Thou

B 1
art, how great Thou art, — Then sings my soul — to Thee — Thou

49

mp

S 1 art, how great Thou art! Oh!

mp

S 2 art, how great Thou art! Oh!

mf

S 3 art, how great Thou art! 4)When sum-mer wind is blow-ing o-ver fields, When flo-wers

mp

A 1 art, how great Thou art! Oh!

mp

A 2 art, how great Thou art! Oh!

mf

A 3 art, how great Thou art! 4)When sum-mer wind is blow-ing o-ver fields, When flo-wers

mf

T 1 art, how great Thou art! 4)When sum-mer wind is blow-ing o-ver fields, When flo-wers

mp

T 2 art, how great Thou art! Oh!

B 1 art, how great Thou art! 4)When sum-mer wind is blow-ing o-ver fields, When flo-wers

mp

B 2

Oh!

53 *cresc.* -----

S 1 All _____ from the si - lence

mf

S 2 When thru-shes trill a - round in the green tents___ All from the

S 3 scent all a-round the spring's bank, All _____ from the si - lence of___

cresc. -----

A 1 All _____ from the si - lence

mf

A 2 When thru-shes trill a - round in the green tents___ All from the

A 3 scent all a-round the spring's bank, All _____ from the si - lence of___

cresc. -----

T 1 scent all a-round the spring's bank, All _____ from the si - lence___

mf

T 2 When thru-shes trill a - round in the green tents___ All from the

cresc. -----

B 1 scent all a-round the spring's bank, All _____ from the si - lence

mf

B 2 When thru-shes trill a - round in the green tents___ All from the

57

mf

S 1 of the fo - rest my _____ soul sings to

mf

S 2 si - lence of the pine fo - rest my _____ soul sings to

f

S 3 — the fo - rest Then sings my soul, my Sa - vior God to

f

A 1 of the fo - rest Then sings my soul, my Sa - vior God to

f

A 2 si - lence of the pine fo - rest — Then sings my soul, my Sa - vior God to

f

A 3 — the fo - rest Then sings my soul, my Sa - vior God to

f

T 1 of the fo - rest Then sings my soul, my Sa - vior God to

f

T 2 si - lence of the pine fo - rest — Then sings my soul, my Sa - vior God to

f

B 1 of the fo - rest Then sings my soul, my — Sa - vior God to

f

B 2 si - lence of the pine fo - rest — Then sings my soul, my Sa - vior God to

60

f

S 1 Thee How great, how great Thou art! Then sings my

f

S 2 Thee How great, how great Thou art! Sings my

f

S 3 Thee How great, how great Thou art! Then sings my

f

A 1 Thee How great Thou art, how great Thou art! Sings my

f

A 2 Thee How great Thou art, Thou art! Then sings my

f

A 3 Thee How great Thou art, Thou art! Sings my

f

T 1 Thee How great Thou art! Then sings my

f

T 2 Thee How great Thou art! Then sings my

f

B 1 Thee How great Thou art, how great Thou art! Sings my

f

B 2 Thee How great Thou art! Then sings my

63 *sempre cresc.* *ff*

S 1 soul, my Sa - vior God to Thee How great, _____ how great Thou art!

S 2 soul, God to Thee How great Thou art, how great Thou art! *ff*

S 3 soul, my Sa - vior God to Thee _____ How great Thou art, how great Thou art! *ff*

sempre cresc. *ff*

A 1 soul, God to Thee How great Thou art, o Thou art! *ff*

A 2 soul, my Sa - vior God to Thee _____ How great Thou art, how great Thou art! *ff*

A 3 soul, God to Thee How great Thou art, Thou _____ art! *ff*

sempre cresc. *ff*

T 1 soul, my Sa - vior God to Thee How great Thou art, o Thou art! *ff*

T 2 soul, my Sa - vior God to Thee _____ How great Thou art, how great Thou art! *ff*

sempre cresc. *ff*

B 1 soul, God to Thee How great Thou art, Thou art! *ff*

B 2 soul, my Sa - vior God to Thee How great, How great Thou art, Thou art! *ff*