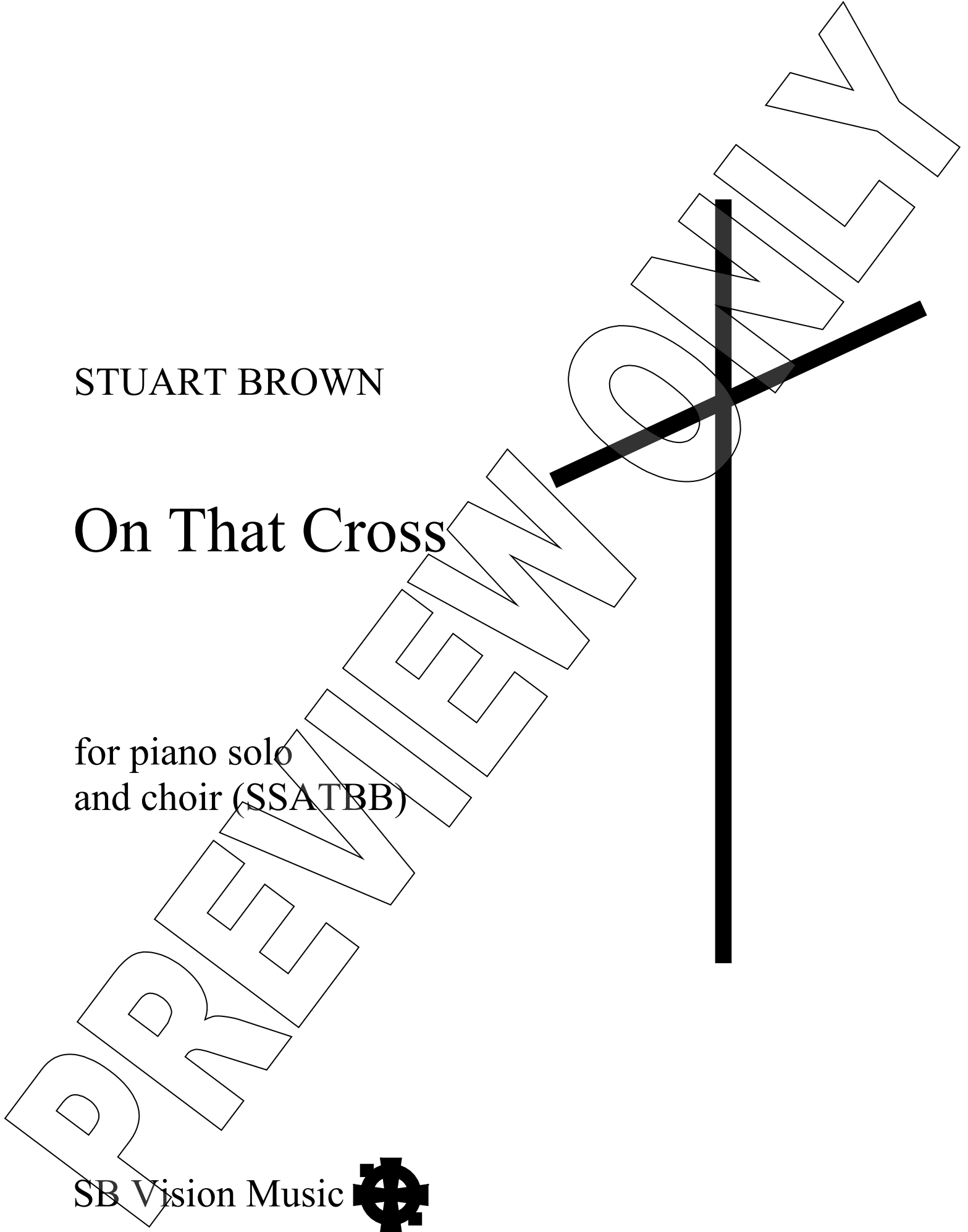


STUART BROWN

# On That Cross

for piano solo  
and choir (SSATBB)

SB Vision Music



## Performance note

I guess most people seeing a piece with a choir and a piano would think of it – not unreasonably – as a choir accompanied by a piano. This piece is subtly different: the way in which I can best explain what was in my mind when I composed it would be to describe it as a piano solo accompanied by choir. While the choir sings music that feels like a slow pavane the pianist plays a series of arpeggios and cluster chords around another relatively simple but unlinked melody. The combined effect is almost hypnotic and if the singers think of the pianist as their accompanist they will almost certainly lose the plot of what they are singing!

On first hearing it may appear that the piano and the choir have little in common but the concept is simple enough. Both choir and pianist are meditating on the same theme, but coming at it from totally different directions. There is no “formula” to the way in which we approach the cross of Christ. We come as we are, seeking forgiveness and reconciliation, meeting at the foot of the cross. The juxtaposition of choir and piano represents that meeting and the cluster chords that the pianist plays reinforce a sense of brokenness that is essential to a proper understanding of the music.

I have dedicated this to Canon Andrew White and the Christians of Iraq, knowing that their situation seems impossible in the face of the evil that walks that land, but trusting in the God and Father of the Lord Jesus Christ to do right even if from our earthly perspective we are unable to discern what “right” is.

PREVIEW

# On that Cross

for piano solo and choir (SSATBB)

Stuart Brown

With grace and intensity (♩ = 62)

Piano

The piano accompaniment is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It begins with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The right hand features a melodic line with a triplet of eighth notes and a sixteenth-note triplet. The left hand provides a steady accompaniment with quarter and eighth notes. The score includes first and second endings, marked with repeat signs and asterisks. Fingerings are indicated with numbers 3, 5, and 6.

Soprano 1

The Soprano 1 part begins with a whole rest for the first two measures, followed by a melodic line in the third measure. The lyrics are: 1. On that cross you hang, my Lord, Your

1. On that cross you hang, my Lord, Your
2. To that cross I come, my Lord, I
3. To that cross I cling, my Lord, I

Soprano 2

The Soprano 2 part begins with a whole rest for the first two measures, followed by a melodic line in the third measure. The lyrics are: 1. On that cross you hang, my Lord, Your

1. On that cross you hang, my Lord, Your
2. To that cross I come, my Lord, I
3. To that cross I cling, my Lord, I

Alto

The Alto part begins with a whole rest for the first two measures, followed by a melodic line in the third measure. The lyrics are: 1. On that cross you hang, my Lord, Your

1. On that cross you hang, my Lord, Your
2. To that cross I come, my Lord, I
3. To that cross I cling, my Lord, I

Tenor

The Tenor part begins with a whole rest for the first two measures, followed by a melodic line in the third measure. The lyrics are: 1. On that cross you hang, my Lord, Your

1. On that cross you hang, my Lord, Your
2. To that cross I come, my Lord, I
3. To that cross I cling, my Lord, I

Bass 1

The Bass 1 part begins with a whole rest for the first two measures, followed by a melodic line in the third measure. The lyrics are: 1. On that cross you hang, my Lord, Your

1. On that cross you hang, my Lord, Your
2. To that cross I come, my Lord, I
3. To that cross I cling, my Lord, I

Bass 2

The Bass 2 part begins with a whole rest for the first two measures, followed by a melodic line in the third measure. The lyrics are: 1. On that cross you hang, my Lord, Your

1. On that cross you hang, my Lord, Your
2. To that cross I come, my Lord, I
3. To that cross I cling, my Lord, I

Pno

5va

3 3

6

Ped.

S1

pain-racked face with blood stained, You raise your eyes to  
 see the ground with blood stained. I feel your eyes with  
 see your world with blood stained; I hear your child - ren

S2

pain-racked face with blood stained, You raise your eyes to  
 see the ground with blood stained. I feel your eyes with  
 see your world with blood stained; I hear your child - ren

A

pain-racked face with blood stained, You raise your eyes to  
 see the ground with blood stained. I feel your eyes with  
 see your world with blood stained; I hear your child - ren

T

8 pain-racked face with blood stained, You raise your eyes to  
 see the ground with blood stained. I feel your eyes with  
 see your world with blood stained; I hear your child - ren

B1

pain-racked face with blood stained, You raise your eyes to  
 see the ground with blood stained. I feel your eyes with  
 see your world with blood stained; I hear your child - ren

B2

to  
with  
call

DRAFT

Pno

Piano accompaniment for the first system, showing treble and bass staves with musical notation including triplets and a fermata.

S1

hea - ven's gate And breathe these words of grace: "Oh  
 love look down As ten - der - ly you say: "Dear  
 call up - on Your name and you re - ply: "Oh

S2

hea - ven's gate And breathe these words of grace: "Oh  
 love look down As ten - der - ly you say: "Dear  
 call up - on Your name and you re - ply: "Oh

A

hea - ven's gate And breathe these words of grace: "Oh  
 love look down As ten - der - ly you say: "Dear  
 call up - on Your name and you re - ply: "Oh

T

hea - ven's gate And breathe these words of grace: "Oh  
 love look down As ten - der - ly you say: "Dear  
 call up - on Your name and you re - ply: "Oh

B1

hea - ven's gate And breathe these words of grace: "Oh  
 love look down As ten - der - ly you say: "Dear  
 call up - on Your name and you re - ply: "Oh

B2

hea - ven's gate And breathe these words of grace: "Oh  
 love look down As ten - der - ly you say: "Dear  
 call up - on Your name and you re - ply: "Oh

R

REHEARSAL

11

*Sva*

Pno

S1

Fa - ther, please for - give them, for They know not what they're  
 child your life with pro - mise filled Is ran - somed by my  
 men who dare to call on gods To jus - ti - fy your

S2

Fa - ther, please for - give them, for They know not what they're  
 child your life with pro - mise filled Is ran - somed by my  
 men who dare to call on gods To jus - ti - fy your

A

Fa - ther, please for - give them, for They know not what they're  
 child your life with pro - mise filled Is ran - somed by my  
 men who dare to call on gods To jus - ti - fy your

T

Fa - ther, please for - give them, for They know not what they're  
 child your life with pro - mise filled Is ran - somed by my  
 men who dare to call on gods To jus - ti - fy your

B1

Fa - ther, please for - give them, for They know not what they're  
 child your life with pro - mise filled Is ran - somed by my  
 men who dare to call on gods To jus - ti - fy your

B2

Fa - ther, please for - give them, for They know not what they're  
 child your life with pro - mise filled Is ran - somed by my  
 men who dare to call on gods To jus - ti - fy your

R

W

Pno

S1

do - ing. For - give them, for I pay the price For all of sin's  
pas - sion, For with my blood I pay the price For all your trans -  
ha - tred, Of this be sure: I love you still, My cross your sal -

S2

do - ing. For - give them, for I pay the price For all of sin's  
pas - sion, For with my blood I pay the price For all your trans -  
ha - tred, Of this be sure: I love you still, My cross your sal -

A

do - ing. For - give them, for I pay the price For all of sin's  
pas - sion, For with my blood I pay the price For all your trans -  
ha - tred, Of this be sure: I love you still, My cross your sal -

T

do - ing. For - give them, for I pay the price For all of sin's  
pas - sion, For with my blood I pay the price For all your trans -  
ha - tred, Of this be sure: I love you still, My cross your sal -

B1

do - ing. For - give them, for I pay the price For all of sin's  
pas - sion, For with my blood I pay the price For all your trans -  
ha - tred, Of this be sure: I love you still, My cross your sal -

B2

do - ing. For - give them, for I pay the price For all of sin's  
pas - sion, For with my blood I pay the price For all your trans -  
ha - tred, Of this be sure: I love you still, My cross your sal -

R

Piano accompaniment (Pno) starting at measure 18. The score includes a treble and bass clef. The right hand features chords and melodic lines, with some measures containing triplets (marked '3') and a sixteenth-note figure (marked '6'). The left hand provides a steady bass line. A 'rit.' (ritardando) marking is present in the right hand. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

S1  
 ru - in, For all the sin of man."  
 gres - sion, For all the sin of man."  
 va - tion, From all the sin of man."

S2  
 ru - in, For all the sin of man."  
 gres - sion, For all the sin of man."  
 va - tion, From all the sin of man."

A  
 ru - in, For all the sin of man."  
 gres - sion, For all the sin of man."  
 va - tion, From all the sin of man."

T  
 ru - in, For all the sin of man."  
 gres - sion, For all the sin of man."  
 va - tion, From all the sin of man."

B1  
 ru - in, For all the sin of man."  
 gres - sion, For all the sin of man."  
 va - tion, From all the sin of man."

B2  
 ru - in, For all the sin of man."  
 gres - sion, For all the sin of man."  
 va - tion, From all the sin of man."