Tenant and Cross Purpose:

Two songs for Baritone and Cello



A recitative and aria, setting "Redemption" by George Herbert (1633) and a response by Art Eschenlauer (2018)

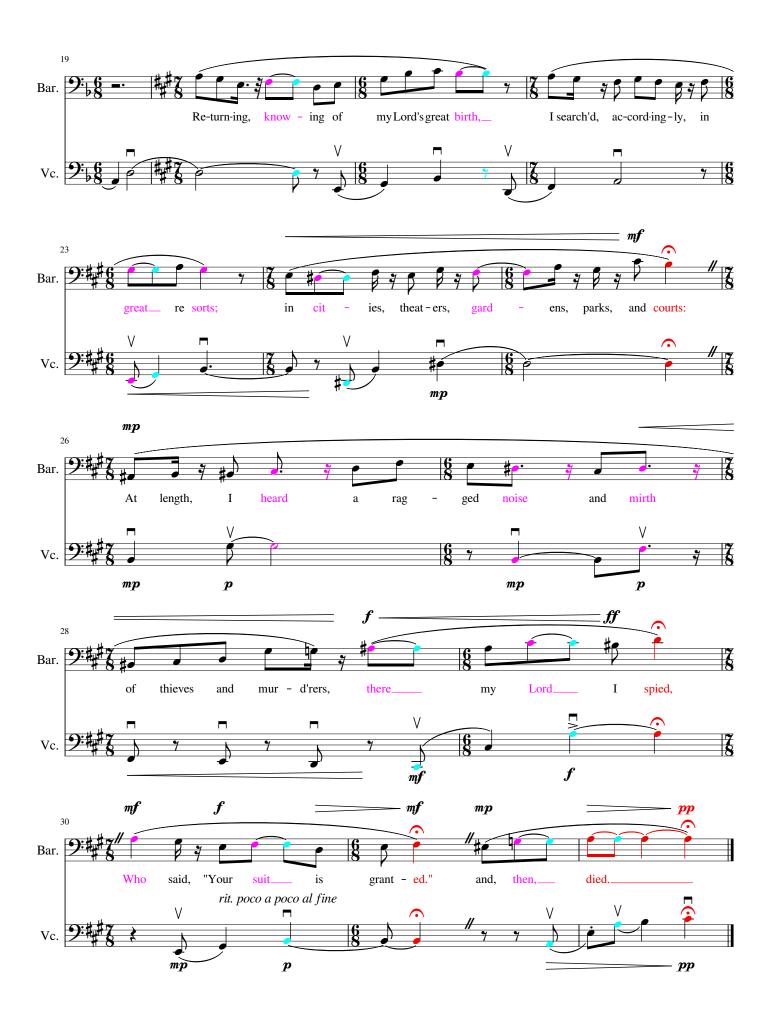
Music by Art Eschenlauer

http://eschenlauer.com/music/CrossPurpose/

The Tenant

A recitative inspired by Don Freund's setting of George Herbert's "Redemption"





Cross Purpose

Text: A response to George Herbert's "Redemption" (1633), Art Eschenlauer (2018)

Tune: "METANOIA" Art Eschenlauer (2019)





5

Cello

The Tenant

A recitative inspired by Don Freund's setting of George Herbert's "Redemption"

"Redemption" by George Herbert, 1633; paraphrased by Art

Art Eschenlauer, Lent 2018



Cello

Cross Purpose



The texts

The text of "The Tenant" my a paraphrase of the poem "Redemption", from George Herbert's *The Temple* (1633, Cambridge, England, Thomas Buck and Roger Daniel).

¶ Redemption.

Having been tenant long to a rich Lord,
Not thriving, I refolved to be bold,
And make a fuit unto him, to afford
Anew small-rented lease, and cancell th'old.

Inheaven at his manour I him fought:

They told me there that he was lately gone
About fome land, which he had deerly bought
Long fince on earth, to take possession.

I straight return'd, and knowing his great birth,
Sought him accordingly in great reforts;
In cities, theatres, gardens, parks, and courts:

At length I heard a ragged noise and mirth

Of theeves and murderers: there I him espied,

Who straight, Your suit is granted, said, & died.

The poem "Cross Purpose" was my response.

The Tenant

As long-time tenant to a wealthy Lord, not thriving, I resolved to be bold and make suit to the owner to afford a new, reduc'd-rent lease, and cancel th'old.

At Heaven's manor, thus, my Lord I sought. They told me that my Lord was lately gone about some land on Earth, so dearly bought quite long ago, to take possession.

Returning, knowing of my Lord's great birth, I searched, accordingly. in great resorts; in cities, theaters, gardens, parks, and courts:

At length, I heard a ragged noise and mirth of thieves and murd'rers, there my Lord I spied, Who said, "Your suit is granted," and then died.

Cross Purpose

At Heaven's manor's door, I stood and knocked to ask my Lord about this mystery.

I hoped my loving Lord would help me see how, from my sin, my spirit is unlocked.

"My cross is where your condemnation ends so you can view your past with despair, and, freed from Satan's sway, you can repair relationships and start to make amends."

It seems I want to have a better past with facts that are much less unsettling.

I want my Savior's precious blood to bring me far from those regrets that hold me fast.

"My child," my Lord said, "that can never be. accept your past, and know you live with me."

Musical inspiration

My setting of "The Tenant" was inspired by (and is almost a paraphrase of) Don Freund's setting of "Redemption": https://donfreund.com/three-poems-of-george-herbert

Cover image

Michel Hertrich, 1877, "Porte à Turckheim", (hanging in the Musée Unterlinden, Colmar, France): https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Porte %C3%A0 Turckheim 1877 Michel Hertrich.jpg