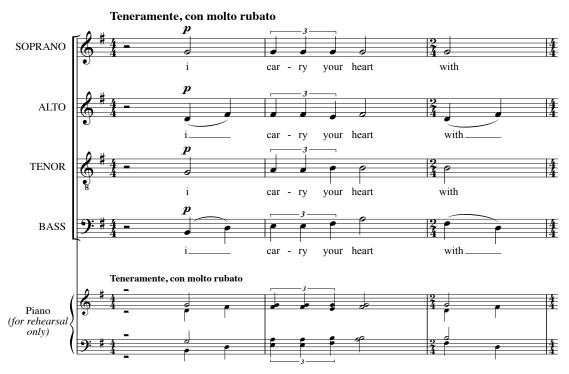
i carry your heart

E.E. CUMMINGS ERIC WHITACRE





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fear

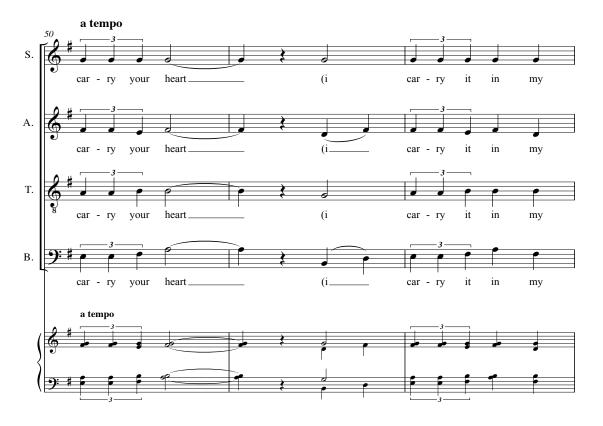


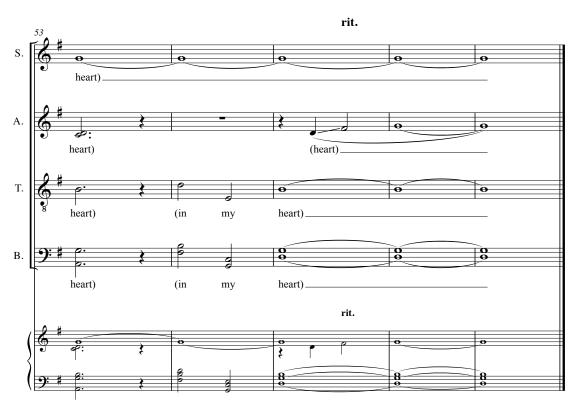












Los Angeles, May, 2016

NOTES FROM THE COMPOSER

Seven years ago, one of my best friends in the world, Omar Crook, got married to another one of my best friends in the world, Amy Arms. Omar asked me before the wedding if I would set e.e. Cummings' iconic poem 'i carry your heart' for the ceremony. I tried and tried to find the music in the poetry but came up empty, so instead I did the next best thing: I gave a terrible best man's speech.

Five and a half years later I was sitting at the piano, working on another piece, and I stumbled on a single music gesture that unlocked the poem for me. That musical gesture is heard first in the opening lines of the poem:

i carry your heart with me. (i carry it in my heart). i am never without it.

The idea that 'i am never without it' was the core of the piece's construction. And so, I finally wrote the piece and surpised them with it. I was giving a concert with the Los Angeles Master Chorale and I invited them to come without giving them any idea what we would perform. We made it through the entire concert and then, as an encore, I announced, "this is for my dear friends Omar Crook and Amy Arms, a gift for their wedding day – a little late." Now every time I hear it I think of this very intimate love and, very specifically, Omar and Amy.

First performance June 5th, 2016 by the Los Angeles Master Chorale, Grant Gershon, Artistic Director.

Conducted by the composer.

TEXT

i carry your heart with me (i carry it in my heart) i am never without it (anywhere i go you go, my dear; and whatever is done by only me is your doing, my darling) i fear

no fate (for you are my fate, my sweet) i want no world (for beautiful you are my world, my true) and it's you are whatever a moon has always meant and whatever a sun will always sing is you

here is the deepest secret nobody knows
(here is the root of the root and the bud of the bud
and the sky of the sky of a tree called life;
which grows

higher than soul can hope or mind can hide) and this is the wonder that's keeping the stars apart

i carry your heart (i carry it in my heart)

ABOUT THE COMPOSER



Grammy-winning composer and conductor **Eric Whitacre** is one of the most popular musicians of our time. His concert music has been performed throughout the world by millions of amateur and professional musicians alike, while his ground-breaking Virtual Choirs have united singers from over 110 different countries. A graduate of the prestigious Juilliard School of Music, Eric was recently appointed Artist in Residence with the Los Angeles Master Chorale having completed a five-year term as Composer in Residence at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge University, UK.

As conductor of the Eric Whitacre Singers he has released several chart-topping albums including 2011's bestselling *Light and Gold*. A sought after guest conductor, Eric has conducted choral and instrumental

concerts around the globe, including sold-out concerts with the London Symphony Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and the Minnesota Orchestra. In addition to several collaborations with legendary Hollywood composer Hans Zimmer, he has worked with British pop icons Laura Mvula, Imogen Heap and Annie Lennox.

A charismatic speaker, Eric has given keynote addresses for many Fortune 500 companies and global institutions including Apple, Google, the World Economic Forum in Davos, the United Nations Speaker's Programme and two main stage TED talks.