## Gabriel Jackson

## Enjoyment (A Modern Madrigal)

for six solo voices (SSATBarB)

ENJOYMENT (A MODERN MADRIGAL) was commissioned by I Fagiolini with funds provided by the Arts Council of Great Britain and was first performed by I Fagiolini at the Spitalfields Festival on June 8th 1992.

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Duration: 11 minutes

Gentle Angel, Gentle Child,
Innocent Creature, whose peace I disturbed,
Innocent Soul, whose love for all men
I stole to myself,
Sweet Being I burned for,
Outside yourself, away from all others,
I nurtured your dependence
And greedily breathed your quickened breath.

Gentle Angel, Gentle Child,
Ached for Beauty bound tight,
Wrested from you were oaths of devotion
And eagerly fed was your trust
Until, sated on your flesh,
I strayed and sought distraction.
I have disappointed and confused you
And you loved still.

Tormentor, I have blamed you and loathed you.

I have manipulated you and lied to you.

I have deceived you negligently and resourcefully,

I have exposed you to mortal danger,

I have poisoned your blood

And betrayed you in ways you have yet to imagine.

I have made you weep bitter tears

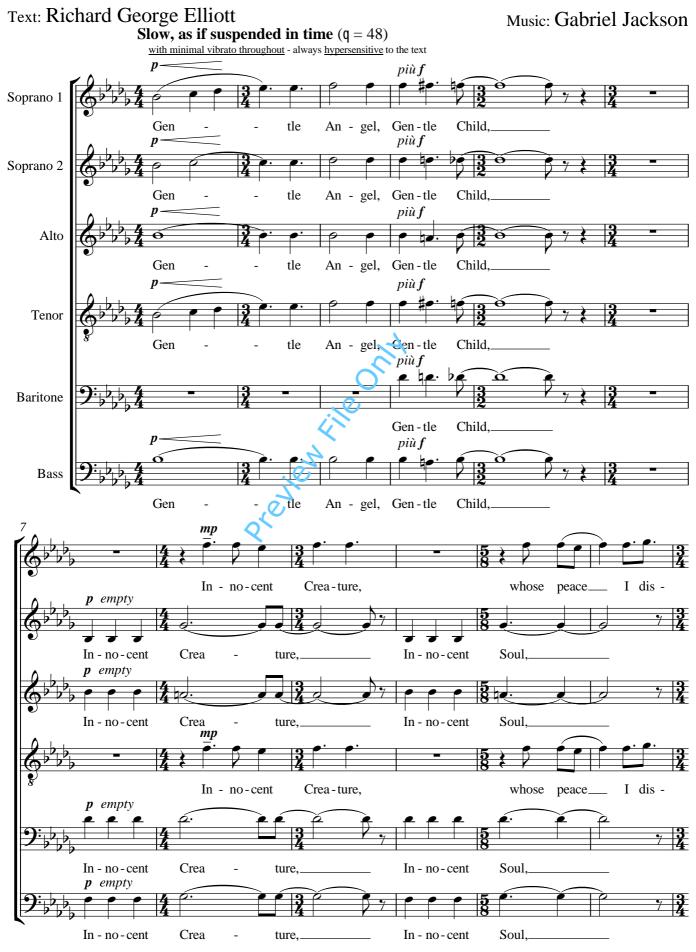
And you loved still.

I have laughed at your misery.
I have dismissed your sorrow.
I have mocked your devotion
And rejected your solicitude.
I have taught you unhappiness
And you turned away from me.

You, to whom judgement and mercy belong,
Gracious Spirit, cherished Friend,
Let me kneel before you and beg
Grant your forgiveness and accept me anew.
Take pity on my suffering,
Restore my soul to joyfulness.
Do not abandon me now to myself.
Do not let me die without your love.

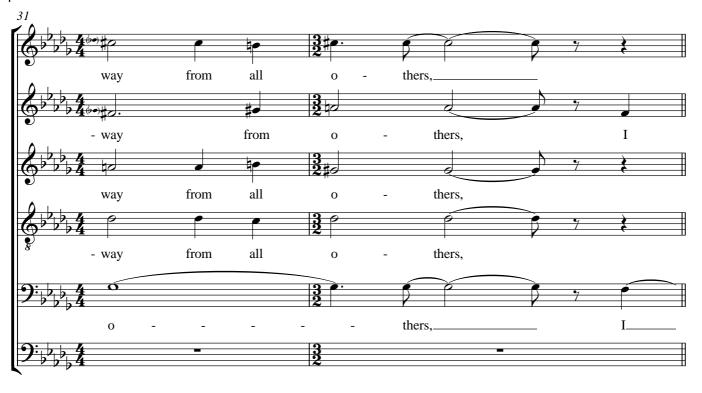
Richard George Elliott

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