

Thixo Onothando
arr. Barrett

SATB, unaccompanied

WW1705

Thixo Onothando

SATB with Three Solos

Michael Barrett, arranger



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About the Work

In 2015, I was invited to give workshops to community choirs in the Mpumalanga Province which is situated on the Eastern border of South Africa. A school choir sang this very simple religious hymn, and I remember being truly moved by their performance. I approached these learners and asked them to teach me this beautiful melody. I transcribed it, and a year later, *Thixo Onothando* was arranged for and performed by the Tuks Camerata at the South African University Choir Competition called Varsity Sing.

Thixo Onothando is a popular isiXhosa hymn performed throughout churches in South Africa. It is an uplifting song of praise that is led by a group of soloists who portray the role of religious leaders. In traditional South African music, it is appropriate to add movement to songs, be they sacred or secular. The University of Pretoria (Tuks) Camerata recorded this version during a national competition in 2016. For some ideas on what moves to incorporate, be sure to watch their video on Youtube.

A note on pronunciation:

- All vowels are pure and pronounced the same as in Latin.
- The “x” in *Thixo* contains a lateral click sound. This is achieved by placing the tip of the tongue against the hard palate (as if producing an “n” sound). Place one side of the tongue against the side of the jaw and withdraw sharply, keeping the tip of the tongue against the hard palate. This sound resembles that of spurring on a horse.
- In this piece, all “h’s” are silent, except for the borrowed English word “Hosanna”.

Thixo Onothando

Thixo onothando,	<i>God of love,</i>
ndimi phambi kwakho	<i>I stand before thee</i>
Thixo onothando,	<i>God of love,</i>
ndiph’ uthando ndifakaze ngawe.	<i>give me love so I may testify about you.</i>
Hosanna phezulu,	<i>Hossana above,</i>
hosann’ enyangweni	<i>hosanna in the highest.</i>
Thixo ndila namhla,	<i>God I am here today,</i>
hosanna.	<i>hosanna.</i>

**For a spoken and IPA pronunciation guide and video, visit waltonmusic.com, search WW1705.*

About the Arranger

Michael Joseph Barrett is the Director of Choral Activities at the University of Pretoria (South Africa), the conductor of the renowned Tuks Camerata and a Senior Lecturer in Choral Conducting in the Department of Music. His compositions and arrangements have been performed throughout the world, and his arrangements of traditional South African songs are especially popular. Michael has won many choir competitions and regularly adjudicates and presents workshops on South African Music both nationally and abroad. The University of Pretoria (Tuks) Camerata is one of South Africa’s finest choral ensembles, having won many accolades and awards over the years. Michael has been the conductor of the Tuks Camerata since 2013 and he regularly attends symposia and conferences all over the world to remain at the forefront of choral music education.

Duration: Approx. 3:00

for the Tuks Camerata

Thixo Onothando

God of Love

SATB with Three Solos

Traditional isiXhosa
 Arranged by
 MICHAEL BARRETT (b. 1983)

Joyful, unhurried (♩ = ca. 70)

1. S
2. SA
3. SAT
4. SATB

mf

5 → SATB
 6 → shuffle starts
 7 → cont.

Soprano
Alto

Thi - xo o - no - than - do, ndi - mi pham - bi kwa - kho.

Tenor
Bass

Thi - xo o - no - than - do, ndi - mi pham - bi kwa - kho.

P

3

Thi - xo o - no - than - do, ndi - ph' u - than - do ndi - fa - ka - ze nga - we.

1. - 3.

Thi - xo o - no - than - do, ndi - ph' u - than - do ndi - fa - ka - ze nga - we.

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5. **4.** *f*

Solo 1 Thi-xo ndi - la nam-hla.

Solo 2 *f* Thi-xo ndi-

SA ndi-ph'u-than-do ndi-fa-ka-ze nga-we. Thi - xo o-no-than-do,

TB ndi-ph'u-than-do ndi-fa-ka-ze nga-we. Thi - xo o-no-than-do,

7. *f*

Thi - xo ndi - la nam - hla. _____

la nam - hla. Thi - xo ndi - la nam - hla. _____

ndi - mi pham-bi kwa-kho. Thi - xo o - no-than-do,

ndi - mi pham-bi kwa-kho. Thi - xo o - no-than-do, _____

9. **1.** **2.** *f*

Thi-xo ndi - Ho - san -

ndi-ph'u-than-do ndi-fa-ka-ze nga-we. ndi-ph'u-than-do ndi-fa-ka-ze nga-we.

ndi-ph'u-than-do ndi-fa-ka-ze nga-we. ndi-ph'u-than-do ndi-fa-ka-ze nga-we.

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1.

na. Ho - san -

san - na. Ho -

Ho-san - na.

Thi - xo o - no - than - do, ndi - ph' u - than - do ndi - fa - ka - ze nga - we.

Thi - xo o - no - than - do, ndi - ph' u - than - do ndi - fa - ka - ze nga - we.

STOP
claps

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2.

Thi - xo ndi - la nam - hla. Thi - xo ndi -

Thi - xo ndi - la nam - hla. Thi - xo ndi -

Thi - xo ndi - la nam - hla. Thi - xo ndi -

ndi - ph' u - than - do ndi - fa - ka - ze nga - we. Thi - xo o - no - than - do,

ndi - ph' u - than - do ndi - fa - ka - ze nga - we. Thi - xo o - no - than - do,

molto allargando

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la nam - hla. Thi - xo ndi - la nam - hla. _____

la nam - hla. Thi - xo ndi - la nam - hla. _____

la nam - hla. Thi - xo ndi - la nam - hla. _____

ndi - mi pham-bi kwa-kho. Thi - xo o - no-than-do,

ndi - mi pham-bi kwa-kho. Thi - xo o - no-than-do, _____

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Ho - san - na. _____

Ho - san - na. _____

Ho - san - na. _____

ndi - ph'u-than - do ndi - fa - ka - ze nga - we. _____

ndi - ph'u-than - do ndi - fa - ka - ze nga - we. _____

August 2016