

## From the Composer

“For Love” was commissioned by the Westminster Choir College Chapel Choir (Sun Min Lee, director) and the Westminster Conservatory Youth Chorale (Frank Abrahams, director) for a joint concert featuring Stravinsky’s *Symphony of Psalms*. In a nod to Stravinsky—and as a compositional challenge—I wrote my piece using the same octatonic collection found in the opening of the Stravinsky.

The text I chose to set is from Saint Josemaría Escrivá’s *The Way*. Originally published in 1939, *The Way* is a collection of 999 points for meditation and prayer. Escrivá (1902–1975) was a Spanish priest and founder of Opus Dei, a Catholic institution whose mission is to help people turn their work and daily activities into occasions for growing closer to God, for serving others, and for improving society.

The music opens centered on B $\flat$ , but both D and D $\flat$  appear, an intentional muddying of the modal waters. Major cadences follow on G major, E major, D $\flat$  major, E major and, with conclusive finality, B $\flat$  major.

—Ronald A. Hemmel

# FOR LOVE

St. Josemaría Escrivá, 1902–1975

Ronald A. Hemmel

Andante ♩. = 60

*p*

*Red.* \* *Red.* \* *simile*

4 *S, A* *p* 2  
Do ev - 'ry - thing for love.

7 *T, B* *p* 2 2 2 2  
Do ev - 'ry - thing for love, do

*Red.* *Red.* *Red.* \*

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10

ev - 'ry-thing for love, do ev - 'ry-thing for

Red. Red. Red. \* Red. \* Red. \*

12 *mf*

love. In that way there will be no

*mp* 2 2

Red. \* Red. \* Red. \* Red. Red.

15

lit-tle things: ev - 'ry-

*mp* 2 2 2 2

In that way there will be no lit-tle things:

\* Red. Red. Red. Red. \* Red. Red. \* Red. Red.