PINGOS D'ÁGUA
for S.A.T.B. Chorus, a cappella

Music by
Henrique de Curitiba

Un poco dolente

*Sing the syllables of the two words in a percussive way, sustaining the sound of the consonants

Duration: ca. 2:40

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tanto bate-á-te que furará em pedra tão dura

tanto bate-á-te que furar pin-gam pin-gam pin-gos pin-gam

furará pin-gam pin-gam á-gua mo-le

tanto bate-á-te que furará pin-gam

água que bate á-gua que furará

pin-gam pin-gam

bate furará pin-gam pin-gos

pin-gam pin-gam bate furará

água mo-le em pedra dura tanto bate-á-te que furará

* The sopranos may sing the following three measures (25-27) without text, vocalizing on "Ah".
Pingos D'água

Pingos D'água was written under the spell of a misty winter evening, while listening to the monotonous falling of rain drops. This kind of “dropping effect” pervades the entire work, creating a continuous movement that is also a delicate background over which the melody is stated imitatively in the various voices. The text is based on a Brazilian proverb and refers to drops of water drilling a hole in the stone upon which they fall. The choir should develop a peculiar sonority imitating the sound of falling drops of water.

— Henrique de Curitiba

Drops of water drip water soft on
Pin-gos d’água pin-gam á-gua mo-le em
peen-gohs dah-gwah peen-gahm ah-gwa maw-lihm

rock hard very much hits until that bores a hole
pe-dra du-ra tan-to tão ba-te a-té que fu - ra
pá-druh dōo-ruh tahn-taw tahn bah-tee ah-teh keh fō-ruh

Soft water drops for a long time on a hard rock and bores a hole.

Henrique de Curitiba was born in 1934 in the city of Curitiba, south of Brazil. He studied piano in the local conservatory and also played the organ in the Catholic cathedral where he wrote his first choral compositions. In 1954 he moved to San Paulo to study piano with Henry Jolles and composition with H.J. Koellreuter who were both distinguished German musicians. Following the completion of his studies, Henrique began his teaching career at the Federal University of Curitiba and in 1981 received a scholarship to Ithaca College (New York) where he earned the degree Master of Music in composition under the guidance of Karel Husa. De Curitiba is well known in Brazil as a composer and has many works published in his native country and in Europe.

I hope you enjoy Pingos D’água.

Henry H. Leck
Professor of Choral Music - Butler University
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