

UNA DANZA DE AMOR

chamber opera in one act



Music by FREDERICK FRAHM

Melody and lyrics for 'This is Goodbye'

By Jennie Garcia

Libretto by ANDREA FELLOWS WALTERS

Libretto adapted from interviews with Jennie Garcia

A part of the Santa Fe Opera / Lifesongs project

Una Danza de Amor

Prologue

Our dance was tentative at first
I remember him, so handsome, yet just a boy
We learn to dance, by default,
yet still walking to school
These steps became habit

Duetto

Violin and Cello soli

Waltz

Piano trio and dancers

Recitative

King of the Jitterbug,
no longer just a boy
I see him, and we dance
Birdsong, wherever we go: the Lovebirds
The war cuts in
Though apart, there is so much love
On furlough with just four days a wedding
me, in a silken dress,
he, in his uniform, no longer just a boy

Chorus

Ave Maria,
gratia plena,
Dominus tecum.
Benedicta tu in mulieribus,
et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesu.

Sancta Maria,
Mater Dei,
ora pro nobis peccatoribus,
nunc et in hora mortis nostrae.
Amen.

Recitative

Laundry on the line pin by pin
I am drawn inside to my piano, key by key
My heartbreak in verse
As stories of his straying take hold
We are stilled

Aria

This is goodbye, this is the end.
There's nothing left, O help me to forget.
Your love is gone, mine lingers on,
What can I do, but say goodbye to you?

Everybody wants to know
What happened to our love affair
But all I know is you left me
With this heart so full of misery.

This is goodbye, this is the end...

Recitative

O Scion of Spain,
O Son of Padua,
My Anthony,
My advocate!
O hear my prayer, and restore to me my heart,
my love, my all.
And I will sing glory to God.

Chorus and solo

Gloria Patri, et Filio,
et Spiritui Sancto.
Sicut erat in principio,
et nunc, et semper,
et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen.
Alleluia.

Recitative

Dancing, our routine,
but not our lives
Morning,
he makes breakfast,
And as I ready, with cologne behind my ear
He leans in,
And we dance again

Waltz reprise

Piano trio and dancers