

The Master's Canvas

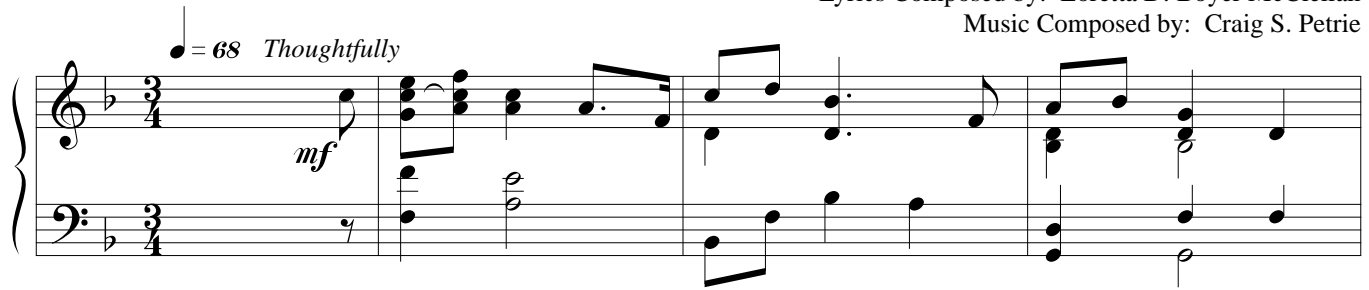
(My Relief Society)

Solo for lower voices

Lyrics Composed by: Loretta D. Boyer McClellan

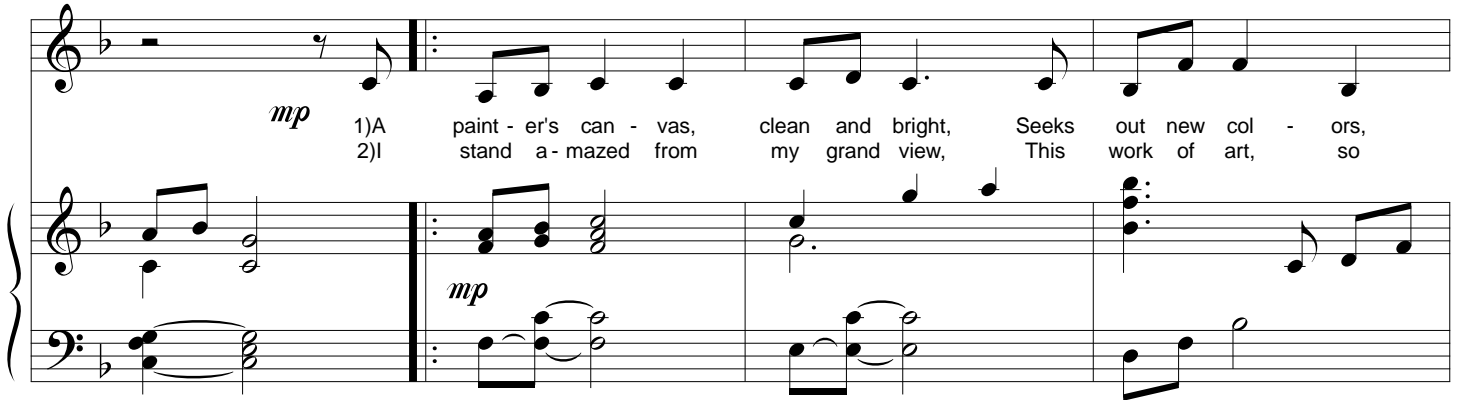
Music Composed by: Craig S. Petrie

$\bullet = 68$ Thoughtfully



mp

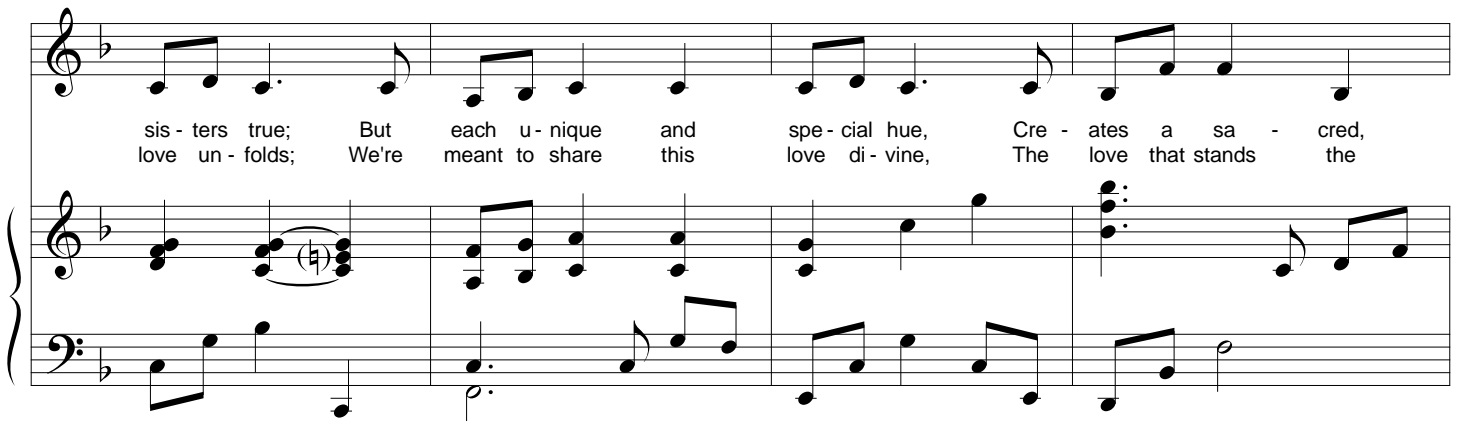
1)A paint - er's can - vas, clean and bright, Seeks out new col - ors,
2)I stand a - mazed from my grand view, This work of art, so



once was white; A vi - brant gold and na - vy blue, The col - ors of our
pure and new; I gaze up - on, the worth it holds, The Mas - ter's hand, His



sis - ters true; But each u - nique and this spe - cial hue, Cre - ates a sa - cred,
love un - folds; We're meant to share this love di - vine, The love that stands the



match-less view; test of time; A paint-ing part of hist - o - ry, - Sis - ters of Re - lief So -
 As car - ing hands reach to em - brace, See smiles up - on each

ci sis - e - ty. The Mas - ter's can - vas is beau - ti - ful, It
 sis - ter's face; pp mf

warms my heart, it stirs my soul, This sis - ter - hood it rep - re - sents, To

mag - ni - fy his love His love 2)1
 3)The

p name I call this mas - ter - piece, Is one that makes one whis - per sweet; Two

words that mean love, char - i - ty, Is my "Re - lief So - ci - e - ty". Is

my "Re-lief So - ci - e - ty".

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"I have always been ever-grateful for my membership in this divinely-inspired, international women's organization founded in the United States of America in 1842: The Relief Society. When I was recently called in June, 2001 as the Relief Society President of the new Crystal Lake 1st Ward of the Buffalo Grove, Illinois Stake, I felt many emotions. Two of them were profound happiness and joy in being able to view each sister in the ward as individual daughters of God and as they relate to one another as sisters in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. I felt that I had a unique perspective and vantage point to witness this "orchestration of art", this "collaboration of sisterhood". Being an artist, I saw this experience as a painting. A painting whose composition was one that encompassed joy, friendship, kindness and charity - the pure love of Christ. These attributes are synonymous with the women's auxiliary of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints: The Relief Society. The title has a symbolic meaning two-fold: of a master-artist and "The Master", meaning Jesus Christ.

Writing these lyrics was a "first" for me, so I sought counsel from two Relief Society sisters of mine: Fran Ripley and Michele Renzy. They suggested that I ask Brother Craig Petrie in another ward in the stake if he would compose the music for me. They spoke of how he has such a gift for music and how he could create an inspirational complement for my words. It was a blessing to me to be introduced to him and his talents as a musician. His wife, Deulene Petrie, gave the voice to this song the first time, so that I may hear the music's beauty in its fullest and experience the process of truly creating a musical testimony of Jesus Christ, the Relief Society and its sisters that I deeply love." - Loretta D. McClellan