



CHRISTMAS  
PASSION

*Traditional Christmas Carols  
arranged by Stephen Melillo*



# CHRISTMAS PASSION

*La Cancion Del Tamborilero* “Carol of the Drum” is arranged with permission, license # 13456224197

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© Stephen Melillo, IGNA Christmas 2018, Cover Photo and Libretto © Stephen Melillo, IGNA 2018, **STORM**records, ASCAP

What is meant by “**Christmas PASSION?**” Offered within this Music is a never-ending recursive loop between the “joy” of Christmas and the unimagined of the Passion. Yes, the Story ends and begins anew in the Resurrection, but the Birth, in order to be killed at the hands of His own creation, summons within, a stunning, circular, never-resolved Paradox. It would be easy to include and connect this Music backward and forwards in Time to all of the **STORMWORKS!** I think **Iconoclast** should be on this album! So should **All This Shall Be Yours**, and the **Prayer of Our Lord**, but you see? It all becomes part of one stunning, circular, never-resolved, paradoxical, looping Story. Please enjoy this offering and listen again and again from year to year to year.

This album is for **everyone**, Christian, Jew, Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist, anyone who follows the *Star*, the quest for Light and the brotherhood of Man. And, as you’ll hear, it’s not all serious. Some marketer might say, “*You can’t have such a wide range of contrasts in emotions and dynamics! You need to find a niche!*” Instead, relish the story, face the joy and the hurt and the daring and the adventure and the humor, the spectacle and the visions that your mind conjures. It’s for **all** of us, not the *niche*.

Godspeed! Stephen Melillo

*with Musical Artists:* Adelmo Guidarelli, Armand Hutton, Aeone, Jann Klose, Michael Ashby, Erin Hannon and Cindy Hughlett.

## **01. What Can I Give Him? (feat. Adelmo Guidarelli)**

*Version 1 to Open our album*, Words by Christina G. Rossetti 1872, Music by Gustav Holst 1906

Vocal performed by Adelmo Guidarelli, recorded by Ric Schnupp

feat. Adelmo Guidarelli - arr. by © Stephen Melillo, IGNA 31 January 2018, on the Feast day of Saint John Bosco.

Consider these lyrics, and let us together, begin this suite of arrangements with these thoughts and lifelong question.

*What can I give Him, poor as I am?*

*If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.*

*If I were a wise man, I would do my part.*

*yet, what can I give Him?*

*Give my Heart.*



## 02. Rest Not Ye Merry Gentlemen segue Emanuel (feat. Adelmo Guidarelli)

English Traditional Christmas Carol, “God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen”  
& Hymn “Veni, Veni Emanuel”

Vocal performed by Adelmo Guidarelli, recorded by Ric Schnupp  
feat. Adelmo Guidarelli - arr. by © Stephen Melillo, IGNA 16 December 2017  
on the Birthday of Beethoven and the date my Mom let us go...

### *Our Story as told to a descendant emissary of David.*

Steeped in a probing wisdom and respect for the Stars, but lacking in the knowledge of ordinary things, like getting some sleep, three astrologers set out to find the newborn King. There is no rest for the battered as they race ever forward with unyielding adventure and sand-storm daring! At journey’s end, they have found the Babe surrounded by a small band of onlookers. The gathering sings, “O come to us, Emanuel.” With furrowed brows the depleted pilgrims wonder why the shepherds ask a Savior to be born, only to reject Him. *Rejoice? Rejoice! Rejoice?*



## 03. Away in a Manger (feat. Cindy Hughlett)

The two most-common settings are by  
William J. Kirkpatrick 1895 and  
James Ramsey Murray 1887

The original lyricist(s) are not yet confirmed.

Vocal performed by Cindy Hughlett.

Vocals Co-Produced, engineered, mixed & digitally  
edited by Rick Ward at Desert Stream Recording,  
Lubbock, TX.

feat. Cindy Hughlett

arr. by © Stephen Melillo, IGNA 9 January 2018

Let the eye of your mind and heart take you to a cold,  
mysterious night. Strange light, moon, Star, and stars,  
mix with snow. Shepherds look up, then look to a  
baby in swaddling clothes.

**Cindy Hughlett** is a Multi Award Winning,  
Singer / Songwriter and Grammy Voting  
Member from Lubbock Texas.

[www.CindyHughlett.com](http://www.CindyHughlett.com)  
Director – Smallest Gifts  
[www.SmallestGifts.org](http://www.SmallestGifts.org)



Luciano Pavarotti told **Adelmo Guidarelli** to “Make Opera Your Bible” when they first met and since that meeting, he has strived to do so. In addition to opera, Mr. Guidarelli landed two national TV commercials for SONY’s PS4 Pro “Opera Campaign,” one of which debuted during the 2018 Super Bowl game day coverage on NBC. He co-produced a cast album with composer Stephen Melillo

of Melillo’s work *Son of the Storm* on which Adelmo also took on the role of Victor Frankenstein. He has hosted a TV show called “Voices Among Us”, won the 2011 MAC Award for “Best Comedy Performer” for the opera comedy show OPERATION OPERA, was invited by Ryan Seacrest to perform Mozart’s “Non più andrai” on his E! Channel series Bank of Hollywood, was heard on a national commercial for Lidia’s Italian Gourmet Kitchen, and is a featured soloist on a German Children’s CD called “Der Kleine Tanzbar Schubidu”. He is also part of the SONY MBA (*Music Business Association*) catalog singing the seasonal hits “A Christmas Toast” and “Sing Your Song” (*lyrics by Michael MacKenzie Wills*). His debut solo album titled “Treasured Songs of Italy & Germany” spawned an International Association of Independent Recording Artists (IAIRA) certified International #1 hit for his dual language version of “Funiculi, Funicula”, and he won The Akademia Music Award for Best Gospel Song for his rendition of “Sweet Little Jesus Boy”. He is a voting member of The Recording Academy and an annual participant at the Grammy Awards.



#### 04. Ave Maria (feat. Aeone)

*Ave Maria* was published in 1853 as *Méditation sur le Premier Prélude de Piano de S. Bach*. The piece consists of a melody by the French Romantic composer Charles Gounod, which was superimposed over a slightly changed version of the *Prelude No. 1 in C major, BWV 846, from Book I of J.S. Bach's The Well-Tempered Clavier*, written 137 years earlier. Vocals performed, produced, arranged & recorded by Aeone Production Assistance. Vocals engineered, co-mixed with Aeone & digitally edited by Jeff Silverman. [www.palettemusic.net](http://www.palettemusic.net)  
feat. Aeone - arr. by © Stephen Melillo, IGNA 6 January 2018

The Mother of the Infant *knew*, before, during and after...

#### 05. What Child is This? (feat. Jann Klose)

Traditional Carol, words by William Chatterton Dix  
Vocals performed, produced and recorded by Jann Klose  
feat. Jann Klose - arr. by © Stephen Melillo, IGNA 2 January 2018

Indeed. Indeed. What Child *is* This? Who *is* this that comes to us in answer to generations of Prayer? What awaits Him?

#### 06. O Holy Night (feat. Jann Klose)

by Adolphe Adam, Text by Placide Capeau  
Vocals performed, produced and recorded by Jann Klose  
feat. Jann Klose - arr. by © Stephen Melillo, IGNA 6 January 2018

The Son of God, the Son of Man. Yes, it is a night Divine, so extraordinary in the Story of the Universe that even the Angels watch with wonder.

#### 07. Angels We Have Heard on High (feat. Aeone)

Traditional from 1862, Texts by James Chadwick from Luke 2:8-15  
Vocals performed, produced, arranged & recorded by Aeone Production Assistance. Vocals engineered, co-mixed with Aeone & digitally edited by Jeff Silverman. [www.palettemusic.net](http://www.palettemusic.net)  
feat. Aeone - arr. by © Stephen Melillo, IGNA 28 December 2017



**Aeone** is an award-winning artiste/composer known for her unique haunting style with a touch of the Ancient Celt. Her voice and music have been heard in countless Film, TV and CD projects and in over 70 movie trailers including: *The Hobbit*, *Jurassic World*, *300*, *The Last Samurai* and *Tomb Raider*. She was the voice of TNT's Emmy nominated "*Mists of Avalon*", John Ottman's end title for "*Orphan*" and Bear McCreary's (2018) score for "*Break My Heart a Thousand Times*" to name a few. Aeone has released 6 critically acclaimed albums, winning an HMMA award for her 2015 "*Love is the Healer*".  
<http://www.aeone.com/>







For me, this arrangement exists in a recursive space-time continuum. When listening, I feel all moments at once. Though I *know* what is coming, I surrender to it, forcing myself away from the emotion. I try to listen as a detached Composer/Arranger.

**But**, then comes:

**3:23**... This is the first moment where a *goal*, namely that of extending the “Gloria” without modulating it, and without breaking the flow of it by exceeding its own predetermined limits, brings tears. I cannot fight it. I will cry. Then, at:

**3:52**... the piece makes its strategic move to the key of “**G**.” The **Gloria. God**. Despite knowing in advance what will come, tears of Joy flow. Then, at:

**4:10**... I weep. Those harmonies, that sequence of events, those orchestrations... (*does it sound as if I am not writing this Music?*) and the forever un-namable Music itself, leaps across all of Time and Space and History and Prayer. I feel an opening of once clenched fists, a falling to the knees... a Pleading in the face of an Eternal Love that requires no pleading, a constant looking up, unworthy of the Supreme Sacrifice and unspeakable Love. And yet, He is born. *Is it the same for you?*



## 08. The Littlest Drummer Boy & the Angel Girl (feat. Michael Ashby & Erin Hannon)

originally as *La Cancion Del Tamborilero* “Carol of the Drum” by Katherine D. Davis, M. Clavero

Vocals performed by Michael Ashby and Erin Hannon

feat. Michael Ashby and Erin Hannon - arr. by © Stephen Melillo, IGNA 15 January 2018

A small child stands stalwart in the cold, snowy night. With only a small hand drum, he is prepared to offer Music for the newborn Savior. He is approached by a young Angel-girl. Suddenly, the camera goes into the drummer’s Mind, where he and she are joined by all sorts of Percussion forces, not just from the Middle East, but from India and Africa and the Americas! The entire Timeless world joins in rhythmic adoration. After all, it is never the single, tattered hand drum that the little drummer hears. It is, instead, the world of unlimited imagination! When the littlest drummer’s *Dream-Gift™* is over, the camera zooms out from his mind and back to the cold, starry night. There we see only the manger, the littlest drummer and his new friend, the little Angel girl.



Born and raised in Virginia, **Michael Ashby** is impossible to pin-down musically. He has performed styles ranging from Heavy Metal and Irish “bar band” to Contemporary Opera and Musical theatre. He is a USMC and Iraq War Veteran and currently serves in the Army National Guard, continuing his life as a true “Warrior Poet”. Michael has worked with award winning composer and good friend Stephen Melillo in the past; most notably with his performance as *Satan* on the piece, “*All This Shall Be Yours*”. He is also on the cast recording of “*Son of the Storm*” and is the lead singer for the *HeartSTORM* project. Michael has performed in cabarets for the Williamsburg Players and performed in their production of “*Jekyll and Hyde*” as Simon Stride and as the understudy for *Jekyll/Hyde*. That production is also where Michael met his wonderfully talented partner for this recording, Erin Hannon.



Soprano, **Erin Hannon**, began her career in her hometown of Virginia Beach, VA, taking on small roles with the Virginia Musical Theater. She studied to get her Music degree at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA, where she fell in love with opera. Erin changed her sights to studying opera and music history, and while still in school, she performed with the Virginia Opera, and sang the role of Papagena in Mozart’s *Die Zauberflöte* in Rome, Italy. In 2005, Erin was invited to Tokyo, Japan to record *Kakehashi: That We Might Live*, a 70-minute work commemorating the sacrifices of WWII in the Pacific by Composer, Stephen Melillo. Three hundred

American vocalists sang with 143 instrumental musicians of the Japanese Military. Erin continued her studies at The Boston Conservatory where she received a Masters of Music in Opera Performance, and has since performed many roles, some of which have taken her back to Europe. Most recently, Erin has performed the roles of Mademoiselle *Silberklang* in *Der Schauspieldirektor*, Lucy in *Jekyll and Hyde*, The Wardrobe in *Beauty and the Beast Broadway*, and Suor Angelica in Puccini’s *Suor Angelica*. Other roles include Donna Elvira in Mozart’s *Don Giovanni*, Mimi in *La Boheme*, Arabella in Strauss’s *Arabella*, Violetta in *La Traviata*, Magda in *La Rondine*, Gretel in *Hansel und Gretel*, and Gianetta in *L’Elisir d’Amore*.



## 09. The 12 Days & 15 KEYS of Christmas! (feat. Armand Hutton)

Traditional with additions by Frederic Austin

Production Assistance. Vocals engineered, and digitally edited

by Jeff Silverman. [www.palettemusic.net](http://www.palettemusic.net)

Vocal arrangement and vocals recorded, performed, and produced by Armand Hutton

feat. Armand Hutton - arr. by © Stephen Melillo, IGNA 6 January 2018

To be honest, every time this song comes on the radio, I can't wait until it's finished. Maybe they'll play some Frank Sinatra tune next, Bing? Nat? Or maybe the Harry Connick Jr. *Sleigh Ride*, which I love! Then I looked up the lyrics. What do they mean? I won't share all of it because I'm sure you can google it, but from 1558 to 1829, Catholics in England were prohibited by law from practicing their Faith. The 12 days refers to the period between Christmas Day and the Feast of the Epiphany, usually celebrated on 6 January. The 12 days, it turns out, is a "coded message" of ideas to be remembered!

Every so often I get advertisements discussing the "12 KEYS." I always jokingly ask, "What happened to the other 3 keys?" That gave me the idea for the arrangement, a Key a day! "Ha!" says the 12 KEYS advertiser! "Got you! 12 days, 12 keys! See?"

Nope. Correct to the history and theory of Music, it's sharp enharmonic keys on the way up and flat enharmonic keys on the way down. It's 15 keys! Even in this humorous take on the *12 Days of Christmas*, the Creator of the Universe tells us something about the order of things. (smile here!)

One day during a trumpet lesson at Boston Conservatory, Mr. Nat Paella placed a single, densely note-laden sheet in front of me. Every measure was written for a differently keyed trumpet. Measure 1 was trumpet in Bb, measure 2 was in C, measure 3 was in F, and it went on and on, through all of the many trumpets. I was expected to sight-read and transpose everything back to my Bb trumpet. It was a mindstorm for sure! In some ways, this arrangement, moving through different keys with each phrase of the *Two turtle doves, Three French hens, Four calling birds, Five golden rings (makes me think of Musashi!), Six geese a-laying, Seven swans a-swimming, Eight maids a-milking, Nine ladies dancing, Ten lords a-leaping, Eleven pipers piping, and Twelve drummers drumming (I wonder if they played with the littlest drummer?)* puts the Vocalist into the same, potentially harrowing world!

Enter the Grammy-nominated, Vocalist and Vocal Arranger, **Mr. Armand Hutton!** This somewhat humorous arrangement challenges the singer, the listener and the music-theorist alike! Enjoy!



**Armand Hutton** was a member of the acapella/vocal play sensation "Naturally 7" for nearly a decade. While with the group he performed with and befriended many artists including Quincy Jones, Coldplay, Ludacris, David Foster, and Jamie Foxx. They toured with Michael Bublé for over 6 years around the world and have been featured on four of his albums as well as numerous nationally syndicated television shows.

He has written and produced songs and arranged vocals for several recording artists. Including "Need You With Me" which landed on the top 10 smooth jazz Billboard charts, and his acapella arrangement of "Do You Hear What I Hear" was nominated in the 58th Grammy Awards in the "Best Arrangement, Instrumental or Acapella" category.

Aside from currently singing with NBC's The Singoff runner-ups "Street Corner Symphony," and facilitating a weekly songwriting class for 6th-8th graders on a volunteer basis, Armand runs his record label Hutton Records. With it, he seeks to establish a strong creative network within the label as well as a strong presence in the community.



# The 12 Days & 15 Keys of Christmas!

arranged by © Stephen Melillo, IGNA 6 January 2018



Musical score for measures 22-60, arranged in three systems. Each system contains three staves: Melody (Mel.), Guitar (Gui.), and Bass. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and bar lines, with measure numbers 22 through 60 indicated at the top of each system.



Musical score for measures 61-101, arranged in three systems. Each system contains three staves: Melody (Mel.), Guitar (Gui.), and Bass. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and bar lines, with measure numbers 61 through 101 indicated at the top of each system.



The image displays a musical score for 'Stille Nacht for Soliloquy Piano'. It is arranged for three parts: Melody (Mel.), Guitar (Gui.), and Bass. The score is divided into six systems, each containing three staves. The melody line is written in treble clef, while the guitar and bass lines are in their respective clefs. The key signature changes from G major to B-flat major, and the time signature changes from 3/4 to 4/4. Measure numbers 102 through 146 are indicated at the beginning of each system. The music is a quiet, contemplative piece, reflecting the 'Stille Nacht' (Silent Night) theme.

## 10. Stille Nacht for Soliloquy Piano

Melody by Franz Xaver Gruber, Text by Joseph Mohr  
 arr. by © Stephen Melillo, IGNA 19 January 2018  
 played and recorded on 23 January 2018

It was 3:33 am, just today, in the silent stillness of the night when I sat down to have my personal moment with the Child in the manger. It's difficult to imagine this played under sunny blue skies. Stars are needed. Cold air. Quiet. As a kid growing up, I would enter Corpus Christi Church in Port Chester, New York on my birthday, the 23rd of December, and sing Happy Birthday to the little statuette in the manger scene. Not much of a singer then or now, not much of a pianist now, I continue to offer my *littlest drummer boy* prayers nevertheless. Please listen to the *touch* with me, *stumble* with me... reflect on each moment. As I wrote in *Only for Now*, a young adult novel, the Baby will become a Man and a Sacrifice that requires a Lifetime of contemplation will be made some 33 years later.





## 11. **Glory to the Newborn King! (feat. Erin Hannon)**

a medley of traditional Christmas Carols  
with modified lyrics by Stephen Melillo

### ***O Come All Ye Faithful***

John Francis Wade is assumed to have written *Adeste Fideles*.  
The English lyrics to the carol were written by the priest,  
Frederick Oakeley.

### ***Hark the Herald Angels Sing***

A carol that first appeared in 1739 in the collection,  
*Hymns and Sacred Poems*. Music by Felix Mendelssohn  
Lyrics by Charles Wesley.

### ***Silent Night***

Melody by Franz Xaver Gruber, Text by Joseph Mohr

feat. Erin Hannon -

arr. by © Stephen Melillo, IGNA 10 October 1993  
as the concert band work, *O Come Holy Night*,  
and for Vocalist & Orchestra on IGNA 23 July 2018.

The wise men, their caravan, the shepherds, the onlookers,  
and even the Angels, then, now, and always, revisit their recent  
journey in heart, mind, and Soul. They see the *Star of the East*  
call to them. They relive the lifelong adventure of deserts and  
Time crossed. Pulses quicken. They feel anew the misting  
of eyes and chilled hastening of breath as they face that first  
startling moment, beholding the newborn King. Their Story  
will play again and again as if looped on the disc of a repeating  
Universe. It will transcend their own lives and become a part  
of ours.

Always.



**Jann Klose** is an award-winning pop singer-songwriter, who has released six albums and two EPs. Jann was raised in Kenya, South Africa, Germany, and the United States and now resides in New York City. His music has been streamed over 1,000,000 times online and his new album *IN TANDEM* feat. collaborations with Annie Haslam (Renaissance), Karen Zoid, RJ Benjamin, Tamara Dey, Ziyon (Liquideep), Peter Gabriel, Tlale Makhene, James Stewart (The Usual), Larry Beckett (Tim Buckley) is now available via Gallo Record Company / Sheer Sound. Jann is an ambassador for Desmond Tutu's Tutudesk campaign.

Jann's most recent solo album, *MOSAIC* featuring 'Make It Better' entered the Roots Rock charts at #22 and won three 2014 Independent Music Awards. The single 'Make It Better' is featured on the Billboard Top 10 charting compilation album 'Action Moves People United.' The record also made the first round of the 2014 Grammys® in the categories Pop Vocal Album and Album Of The Year.

His voice is featured in the movie 'Greetings From Tim Buckley' (Universal) as the voice of Tim Buckley starring Penn Badgley and Imogen Poots. His songs have been heard on the Grammy® nominated 'Healthy Food For Thought' compilation as well as MTV Cribs and movies 'Dead Broke' (Warner Bros) featuring Paul Sorvino and 'A Venue For The End Of The World' (BrinkVision) featuring Dick Cavett and Ian Anderson. Most recently Jann scored the music for the award-winning short 'The Beauty of Disaster.'

He has performed as an actor and singer in touring companies of Broadway musicals, including 'Jesus Christ Superstar,' 'Jekyll & Hyde,' and 'The Who's Tommy.' In 2005, the off-Broadway production 'Moonlight Interior,' a musical based on Klose's music, premiered in New York City.

Jann Klose has periodically collaborated with members of classical rock group Renaissance and tours regularly in the U.S., Europe, Africa and Asia. He has worked with a wide range of artists including Pat Benatar, John Oates of Hall and Oates, Suzanne Vega, Paula Cole, Annie Haslam, Ann & Liz Callaway, Gary Lucas, Brett Dennen, Rusted Root, Vonda Shepard, Ben Taylor, RJ Benjamin, Karen Zoid, Tamara Day, Ziyon (Liquideep), Shekhinah, Amanda Black, Jeffrey Gaines, Bret Michaels, Rosanne Cash, The Byrds' Roger McGuinn, Marty Stuart, The Yardbirds' Jim McCarty, Pete Seeger and Les Paul.

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## 12. What Can I Give Him?

*Version 2 to Close our album*

Words by Christina G. Rossetti 1872

Music by Gustav Holst 1906

arr. by © Stephen Melillo, IGNA 31 January 2018

on the Feast day of Saint John Bosco.

Consider these words, and listening to the Music, imagine yourself saying them, singing them, or perhaps praying them. In this way, with question and resolve to offer one's Heart, we begin again the full and never-ending circle of this album.

*What can I give Him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.  
If I were a wise man, I would do my part.  
yet, what can I give Him?  
Give my Heart.*




This album is lovingly, humbly dedicated to those who follow the *Star*.

In addition to their obvious Gifts, everyone on this album has something in common, namely, that they had my vote in the Grammys. Always wanting to write for them, *Christmas Passion* became just the right vehicle at just the right Time.

Before the Grammys, I had known Adelmo Guidarelli, who played “Victor” not just in the 2017 Cast Album recording of *Son of the Storm*, but also in the original 1990 staging. Though Michael Ashby had been playing my concert Music as a high school horn player, I didn't know him until he called from Iraq while serving as a US Marine. I offered chapstick and wet-wipes. He instead requested *A Hymn to the Marines*. Like Adelmo, he too was in the 2017 *Son of the Storm*, and all of us have been buddies for many years. Erin Hannon was in the chorus that sang with the *Japan Air Self Defense Force Band* in the world-historic recording of *Kakehashi: That We Might Live* in 2005. Now, in addition to recently discovering that she too is a fellow Boston Conservatory graduate, she's in a position, potentially, to stage *Son of the Storm!*

Circles. Loops. We each have a history and a personal story... all of which came together to tell the *One Story* shared in this recording. All it needs now is *your Story*.

We hope you will enjoy it always. Godspeed! 

Stephen's *Symphony III: Lightfall*, was nominated for the *Pulitzer* and *Nemmers Prize in Music*. Winner of three 2009 *Telly & Ava Awards* for his 2005 Visualized Concert, *Kakehashi: That We Might Live*, Stephen's concert-version was also nominated for the *Pulitzer Prize in Music*. His 15 feature film scores include the *Oscar*-nominated *12:01PM* and the horror thriller, *The Unwilling*, both directed by Jonathan Heap. An ASCAP Concert Awards recipient each year since 1992, Stephen's more than 1180 works include 4 symphonies, several concerti and over 33-hours of Music for Ensembles of the 3rd Millennium™. With 28 CDs and 6 books on *iTunes*, and simply by word-of-mouth, Stephen's pioneering, self-publishing entity known as *STORMWORKS* has gone from 0 to many thousands of worldwide renderings since 1992.



If you've received a personal "Thank You" from me, you've also received a bonus mp3 track: "The Question," written in 1982 as Musical Haiku #4.

"The Question" is fitting in many ways for inclusion on the *Christmas Passion* Album. Most especially, it joins other works that have a question mark as part of their title.

What Can I Give Him?  
What Child is This?

Like the three magi, so much of our Journey starts and ends in Question.

Please accept this small Gift with my thanks.

Godspeed!

Stephen Melillo  
Composer

## THE QUESTION

In the stars I see you 3/13/82  
Like an opened hand

If my thoughts can touch you  
Will you soothe my craft?

In the Stars I see You  
Like an opened hand  
If my thoughts can touch You  
Will You grasp my heart?

On a cross You waited  
For the light of hope  
From the dark I ask You  
Will You Answer Me?

Can I sing to you, Lord?  
I bring to You this simple question  
From my heart  
I ask it.....

AMEN.  
Can I sing to You, Lord?  
Do my words arrive?  
All my dreams will touch You  
Through-out Time I call You.....

Amen.

*Stephen Melillo*  
*Sincerely,*  
*Stephen Melillo*



# "THE QUESTION"

*Stephen Melillo*

*(DYNAMICS)*

*(SUDDEN AGITATION)*

*(SUDDENLY SLOWER + PP)*

*(SLIGHTLY BACK)*

*(SLIGHT STRESS)*

*(SLOWER WITH STATEMENT)*

*(CRESC. SUDDENLY)*

*(LAST CLASH - LAST TUD)*

*(QUIET + THOUGHTFUL AGAIN)*

*(BIB. STRESSED DESPERATELY)*

*(INEVITABLE RETURN)*

DS. REFERENTIAL TO ♩. - take ♩

*(DEEPEN AND EXPAND WITH MUSIC)* *(SLOW WITH STATEMENT)*

*(RELEASE PEDAL - SUSTAIN 'D')*

*Amiruly*  
*Stephen Melillo*

PERFORM VERY FREELY WITH FEELING.

♩ = YOUR HEART RATE