

From the Editor

Seeking Satisfaction

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*“Excellence requires work, time,
experience, and talent.”*

—David Brooks, *New York Times*,
7 December 2017

David Brooks’ missive sounds pretty straightforward, does it not? With a sustained effort of “work, time, experience, and talent,” all will be achieved. Well, anyone reading this column knows that simply is not the case. It is true I am taking Brooks’ quote a bit out of context, and I will refrain from besmirching this journal with political commentary, however his words spoke to me as I read them a few months ago. How many college and university choral conductors do you know that are entirely satisfied with every aspect of their professional life? I cannot name one, though many, if not most, strive to make their situations as artistically fulfilling as possible. Publication remains a powerful vehicle of expression, an art unto itself, and excellence in writing certainly “requires work, time, experience, and talent.” To that end, please consider mining your doctoral research and submitting your finest scholarship to *TCS* straight away.

Volume 7, Number 1 of *TCS* includes three feature articles. Jace Saplan urges us to thoughtfully consider inclusivity of transgender singers in the choral rehearsal. Bryson Mortensen offers his research concerning Edward Elgar’s early editing process of *From the Bavarian Highlands*. Vaughn Roste explores Michael John Trotta’s *Seven Last Words* and its Carnegie Hall premiere. In addition, several book and choral reviews round out the issue.

Finally, we bid adieu to Peter Durow and thank him for his years of service as the inaugural editor of our Recording Reviews column. Interested in serving as a *TCS* Associate Editor in charge of recording reviews? Contact me.

—Sean Burton

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