

Marianne Reidarsdatter Eriksen

[ə'meɪzɪŋ]



## Performance notes



A slim arrow between or underlining the lyrics means the vowels flow into the next vowel. The vowels in these sections should be sung a little nasally to create a metallic atmosphere.

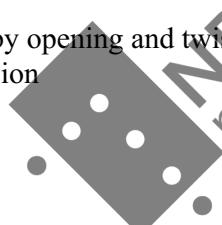
Thick arrows are used as symbols of accelerating rhythm. See explanations on wah-wah.



The sign < in front of a vowel means you should close the sound with your tongue. The tongue curls backwards behind the upper teeth, touching the palate, and makes the tone resonate back in the oral cavity.  
E.g. <r sounds like a broad american 'r'.

## Wah-wah

The wha-wah-sound should be repeated rapidly, notated both as accelerating rhythm or tremolos. In accelerating notated rhythms such as  and  the vowel changes from a dark to a light nuance by gradually turning the sound into a metallic timbre to imitate a brassy wah-wah mute.  
This could be done by opening and twisting the sound as the lips turn into a smile, to create a slim and metallic impression

 Θ is the phonetic symbol of the first a-vowel in 'amazing'

Lyrics:

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound  
that saved a wretch like me.  
I once was blind, but now I see  
I was lost, I was found

(inspired by the original John Newton text)

This piece was premiered by Vivianne Sydnes and Oslo Domkirkes Vokalensemble, October 2021

# Amazing

M.R. Eriksen  
2017/2021

*Lento*  
 $\text{♩} = 60-70$

Soprano 1

Soprano 2

Alto 1

Alto 2

Tenor 1

Tenor 2

Bass 1

Bass 2

**pp**  $\ll p$  ni - ao

**pp**  $\ll p$  > ni - a - o

**pp** mo

**pp** mo

**pp** mo  $\xrightarrow{\text{tongue curled backwards}} \text{r}$  (tongue curled backwards behind the upper front teeth, touching the palate, "closing" the sound)

**pp** mo  $\xrightarrow{<\text{a}}$   $\xrightarrow{-}$   $\xrightarrow{<\text{å}}$

**pp** **pp** my - u - o - å - a (sim...)

**pp** **pp** my-u-o-å.-a (sim...) my-u-o-å-a (sim...)

Nasal sound sung  
repeatingly rapid. Mouth closed while the tongue  
vibrates and hits behind the lower teeth  
(like saying "oj" inside the mouth)

(like saying "oh" inside the mouth)

**S1**

**S2**

**A1**

**A2**

**T1**

**T2**

**B1**

**B2**

*accel.*

(mo)(sim..)

*ppp*

*rit.*

wah...(sim..)

mo -<r a → o wah o wah o

my → <i <o

*ppp*

*II*

S1

(sim.)

*accel.* **p>pp** **p**

wah... (sim.)

S2

*accel.*

*rit.* **ppp**

o wah wah... (sim..)

wah....(sim.)

A1

my >

my ————— i —————

A2

ni —————

T1

*rit.*

8

NB  
noter  
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T2

mo ————— a ————— o ————— m ————— m

B1

*ppp* *accel.* **pp>pp** *rit.* **ppp**

><m wah....(sim..)

B2

m

15

S1      *pp rit.*      *ppp*

wah... (sim.)      ni

S2      *pp*

ni å -

A1

a o → m

A2

å

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T1

*<r*

T2

*accel.*      *pp rit.*      *ppp*

wah... (sim..)      (gradually to a whisper)

B1

B2

18

S1      accel...      ***ppp***

wah....

S2      ***p*** ***pp***      ***ppp***      ***pp*** ***p*** ***ppp***

ni - å <r

A1      ***ppp***

m      m

A2      ***ppp***

m

T1      ***pp***

a      ma(i)

24

S1

S2      ***p*** <sub>3</sub>      ***pp***

how sweet

A1      ***p***      ***pp***      ***p*** <sub>3</sub>

A - ma - zing      a - ma-zing

A2      ***p***      ***pp***      ***p*** <sub>3</sub>

A - ma - zing,      a - ma - zing

T1

29

S1

S2      *p*      *mp*      *p*

the      sound

A1      *p*

how sweet,

A2      *mp*      *p*

grace      how sweet,      how

T1      *p*

how sweet,      how

*NB noter*  
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S1      *p*      *mp*      *pp*

how sweet\_ the sound\_ that saved

S2

A1      *pp*

how sweet\_ the sound

A2      *pp*

sweet,      how sweet      the sound      me

T1      *p*

sweet      the sound      that\_ saved

35                    *ppp*

S1

S2                    *p*                    *mp*                    *pp*                    *pp*  
*A-mazing grace*                    like me

A1                    *p*  
*that saved*

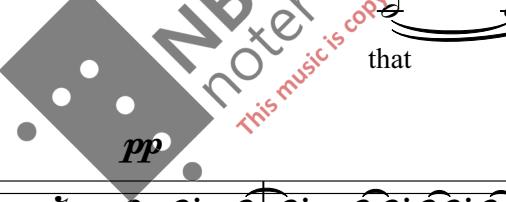
A2                    *p*  
*that saved a wretch like* *\_*

T1                    *pp*  
*a - ma-zing grace, a - mazed*

T2                    *p*                    *pp*  
*that saved*

B1                    *ppp*                    *pp*  
*A - ma-zing, ma - zing, ma-zing grace*

B2                    *ppp*  
*(s)aved*                    *that*



40

S1 *p* I once was blind *pp* *p* *pp*

S2 *pp* like

A1 *p* A - ma - zing, how

A2 *pp* me *p* A - ma - zing

T1 *p* *pp* *NB* *noter* This music is copyright protected

T2 *p* *pp* I once was blind

B1 *pp* a m $\Theta$

B2 *pp* a - ma - zing how sweet

44

S1      I                          the                          sound

S2      me                          a

A1      sweet

A2      a - ma - zing            grace                          how

T1      a - ma - zing            grace                          the                          sound

T2      zing                          the

B1      a - ma - zing            grace                          how sweet the sound

B2      a - ma - zing            grace                          how sweet

47

S1      *p*      *mf*      *mp*  
 but now I

S2      *pp*      *accel.* wah... wah...(sim.)

A1      *p*      *pp*  
 how sweet A -

A2      *p*      *pp*  
 sweet how sweet, how sweet A - ma - zing grace,

T1      *p*      how sweet, how sweet, how sweet the sound the

T2      *p*      how sweet the soun - (n) -

B1      *pp*  
 sweet

B2      *pp*  
 sweet my-o-u-<r-å

50

S1      see      I      *ppp*      *p*      *pp*

S2      *rit.*      *ppp*

A1      ma - zing grace, a - ma zing grace, a - ma - zing grace, a - ma - zing grace,

A2      a - ma - zing grace, a - ma zing grace, a - ma - zing grace, a - ma - zing

T1      *pp*  
I see      wah (sim.)

T2      (d)

B1      I

B2      *pp*  
my-u-o-a-å

55

*p* legato

S1 I I

S2 *p* I was lost I

A1 a - ma - zing grace a ma - zing grace, a - ma - zing\_ grace

A2 grace a

T1 *pp*

T2 *pp* wah (sim.) *pp* *pp*

B1

B2

59

S1

S2 *p* *legato*

A1 a - ma - zing

A2 *pp* < *p* > *pp* < *p* > *pp* (m)

T1 8 my - u - o - a - å

T2 8 my - u - o - a - å

B1

B2

*NB noter*  
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63

S1 *pp*  
 my i o u →

S2 (optional) *ppp*  
*pp*  
 my i - o - u →      i - o - u →

A1 *pp*  
*m*

A2 *pp*  
*m*

T1 *pp*  
*m*

T2 *pp* < *p* = *pp*    *pp*  
*m*                    *m*

B1 *pp*  
*m*

I was found

B2