

Three Poems of Walter de la Mare



for mezzo soprano and piano

1985

Gary Bachlund

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Three songs for mezzo soprano and piano

Walter de la Mare (1873-1956)

Alas, Alack

Gary Bachlund

moderato

1. *mf* *mp* *p*

Ann, Ann! Come!

4 Quick as you can! There's a fish that talks in the

6 fry - ing pan. Out of the fat,

8 as clear as glass, he put up he mouth and moaned

mf

10

"A - - - las!"

13

Oh, most mourn - ful 'A - las, A - lack!' Then he

p

15

poco ritardando

turned to his sizz - ling and sank him back.

col canto

17

8va

circa 55"

The Song of the Shadows

moderato e con rubato a piacere

2. *mp* *ten.*

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

5 *a piacere*

Sweep thy faint strings, mu - si - cian, with thy long lean hand; —

slow arpeggio

7

— down-ward the star - ry ta - pers burn,

10

sinks soft the wan - ing sand; the old hound whim - pers —

13

couched in sleep, the em - bers smol - der

mp

17

recitativo, hushed

low; A - cross the walls. the sha-dows come

p

Ped.

21

come prima, con rubato

and go; Sweep soft - ly thy strings, Mu - si - cian,

slow arpeggio

23

the min - utes mount to hours; Frost on the

25

wind - less case - ment weaves a la - byrinth of flowers;

mp

3 3

Detailed description: This system contains measures 25 and 26. The vocal line is in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are "wind - less case - ment weaves a la - byrinth of flowers;". The piano accompaniment is in grand staff. Measure 25 has a 3/4 time signature, and measure 26 has a 4/4 time signature. The piano part features a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand in measure 26, with a dynamic marking of *mp*.

27

Ghosts lin - ger in the dark - en - ing air:

3

Detailed description: This system contains measures 27 and 28. The vocal line is in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps and a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are "Ghosts lin - ger in the dark - en - ing air:". The piano accompaniment is in grand staff. Measure 27 has a 3/4 time signature, and measure 28 has a 2/4 time signature. The piano part features a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand in measure 27, with a dynamic marking of *mp*.

30 *come prima*

Hear - ken at the o - pen door; Mu - sic hath called them, dream - ing,

mp

slow arpeggio

Detailed description: This system contains measures 30 and 31. The vocal line is in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps. The lyrics are "Hear - ken at the o - pen door; Mu - sic hath called them, dream - ing,". The piano accompaniment is in grand staff. Measure 30 has a 2/4 time signature, and measure 31 has a 4/4 time signature. The piano part features a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand in measure 31, with a dynamic marking of *mp* and the instruction "slow arpeggio".

33 *ritardando*

Home once more.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 33 and 34. The vocal line is in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps. The lyrics are "Home once more.". The piano accompaniment is in grand staff. Measure 33 has a 4/4 time signature, and measure 34 has a 2/4 time signature. The piano part features a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand in measure 33, with a dynamic marking of *mp* and the instruction "ritardando".

circa 2' 10"

Silver

brightly, but not too fast

3. *mp*

4 *poco ritardando* *tempo di "Valse triste"*

Slow - ly, si - lent - ly,

8

now the moon walks the night in her sil - ver

poco crescendo

12

shoon; This way and that, she

16

peers, and sees sil-ver fruit up-on

20

sil-ver trees; One by one the case-ments catch her

24

beams be-neath the sil-very thatch; Couched in his ken-nel,

28

like a log, with paws of sil-ver

32

sleeps the dog; From their sha - dowy cote the white breasts peep of

pp

36

doves in sil - ver fea - thered sleep; a har - vest mouse goes

mp

40

scam - per - ing by with sil - ver claws, and

44

sil - ver eye; And move - less fish in the

mp

48

wa - ter gleam, by sil - ver reeds in a sil - ver

Musical score for measures 48-51. The vocal line is in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The lyrics are: "wa - ter gleam, by sil - ver reeds in a sil - ver". The piano accompaniment consists of two staves (treble and bass clefs) with various chords and melodic lines. There are four fingerings indicated below the piano staves: 1 2 3 4, 1 2 3 4, 1 2 3 4, and 1 2 3 4.

52

stream.

Musical score for measures 52-55. The vocal line is in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps. The lyrics are: "stream.". The piano accompaniment consists of two staves (treble and bass clefs) with various chords and melodic lines. There are four fingerings indicated below the piano staves: 1 2 3 4, 1 2 3 4, 1 2 3 4, and 1 2 3 4. Dynamics include *p* and *pp*.

circa 2' 15"

8^{vb}-----