

Gary Bachlund

HOT HOUSE BALLADS

FOR MEDIUM VOICE AND PIANO

1991

www.bachlund.org

Hot House Ballads

Four songs for medium voice

Music and texts by
Gary Bachlund

Hot and Blue

$\text{♩} = 60$ *sultry and slightly inexact*

1. *mp*

I am earth that's not yet plowed, all a-

4 lone with - in a crowd. Cold-ly wait - in' for the sun, sum-mer's

6 night is not yet done. Come ca - ress me, you want to. You'll find me cold_ and_

9 hot and blue... I am fires_ not yet stoked; I'm a

11

drug that's not been smoked. I am ice that's boil-in' hot, come and

13

taste just what I got. Will you touch me? Would you dare to? I

15

— pro-mise you I'm hot... hot and blue.

17

pp

circa 1' 35"

Heavenly Days

♩ = 50

2.

1

4

come down to earth— from hea-vens a - bove,— to fa-ther-ly arms and mo-ther's love.— 1

(8)-----| 8^{vb}-----|

8

come down by birth— from hea-vens on high,— to walk here be-low a heav'n-ly sky.—

(8)-----| 8^{vb}-----|

12

♩ = 54

Now I walk through hours and walk through days, with the pains and plea-sures of earth-ly

(8)-|

16

ways. But I dream of when there were heav'n-ly days._____

20

Heav'n-ly days be-fore birth_ with stars all a - blaze._ Heav'n-ly

24

days be-fore birth_____ with stars all a - blaze._ Those hea-ven - ly days._____

27

circa 1' 45"

8va

Hot House

$\text{♩} = 90$ easily, as if accompanied by a dulcimer

3. *mp*

The hot house once

6

blos-somed with col - or and hue, bright with the sun as it

11

went stream - ing through. The bright-ness of warmth is now run a -

16

way and the win - ter has come with its i - cy bou - quet. Now the

21

panes are all broken where beauty once grew, and now cold are the

26

dead where the winter winds blew. Now the long white rain freezes,

31

ga - ther - ing gray, as the struc - ture is fall - en to death and de -

36

ritardando

cay.

p

No Body Blues

$\text{♩} = 90$ *hot and cool, not fast*

4. *mf*

I sit on my porch through the whole damn day, but

call-ers don't e - ver come my way. No bo - dy, no bo - dy, no bo - dy

5 e - ver, e - ver stops by to stay. The

7 stove is - n't warm and the din-ner's not served, and lone - li - ness seems what I sure - ly de - served. No

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and a 12/8 time signature. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 90, with the instruction 'hot and cool, not fast'. The score is divided into four systems, each with a measure number (4, 3, 5, 7) at the beginning. The piano accompaniment includes dynamics like 'mf' and various articulations such as slurs and accents. The lyrics are written below the vocal line, with some words hyphenated across measures.

9

— bo - dy, no bo - dy, no bo - dy e - ver, e - ver — stops by to

11

stay. The bed is un-made and the clock ticks off time, the

13

hours just fade and the sha - dows climb. No bo - dy, no bo - dy, no bo - dy's

15

mine. Once a stran - ger showed love, and, more strang - er still, there -

17

once was a time when I had my fill. That once is now gone but the lone - ly blues

Musical score for measures 17-18. The vocal line is in the upper staff, and the piano accompaniment is in the lower two staves. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). Measure 17 contains the lyrics 'once was a time when I had my fill. That once is now gone but the lone - ly blues'. Measure 18 continues the melody and accompaniment.

19

stay. ...lone - ly, lone - ly blues stay. Mmm.

Musical score for measures 19-20. The vocal line is in the upper staff, and the piano accompaniment is in the lower two staves. The key signature has three flats. Measure 19 contains the lyrics 'stay. ...lone - ly, lone - ly blues stay. Mmm.'. Measure 20 continues the melody and accompaniment. The piano part includes a copyright notice: '13 VIII 1991 Sherman Oaks'.

circa 1' 20"