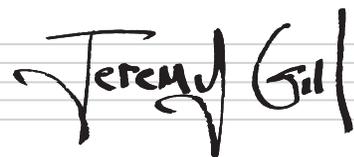


3 Whitman Settings

for mezzo-soprano and piano



Jeremy Gil

3 Whitman Settings

for mezzo-soprano and piano
text by Walt Whitman

Premiere

25 May 2019 at Sala Neumann, Hotel Oasi Neumann, Cortona, Italy
by Rachel Calloway and Brianna Matzke

Contents

Fine, Clear, Dazzling Morning	1
(Hark Close and Still What I Now Whisper)	10
Darest Thou Now O Soul	14

Instrumentation

mezzo-soprano
piano

Duration

approximately 12 minutes

Acknowledgment

composed while a fellow of the American Opera Projects'
Composers & the Voice Workshop

Copyright

© 2014 by Jeremy Gill. All rights reserved.

3 Whitman Settings

Fine, Clear, Dazzling Morning

Fine, clear, dazzling morning, the sun an hour high, the air just tart enough. What a stamp in advance my whole day receives from the song of that meadow lark perch'd on a fence-stake twenty rods distant! Two or three liquid-simple notes, full of careless happiness and hope.

—*Specimen Days*, “A Meadow Lark” (excerpt)

(Hark Close and Still What I Now Whisper)

(Hark close and still what I now whisper to you,
I love you, O you entirely possess me,
O that you and I escape from the rest and go utterly off, free and lawless,
Two hawks in the air, two fishes swimming in the sea not more lawless than we;)

.....

(O I willingly stake all for you,
O let me be lost if it must be so!
O you and I! what is it to us what the rest do or think?
What is all else to us? only that we enjoy each other and exhaust each other if it must be so;)

.....

(I have loiter'd too long as it is,)

.....

(Yet a moment O tender waiter, and I return,)

—“From Pent-up Aching Rivers,” adapted by Jeremy Gill

Darest Thou Now O Soul?

Darest thou now O soul,
Walk out with me toward the unknown region,
Where neither ground is for the feet nor any path to follow?

No map there, nor guide,
Nor voice sounding, nor touch of human hand,
Nor face with blooming flesh, nor lips, nor eyes, are in that land.

I know it not O soul,
Nor dost thou, all is a blank before us,
All waits undream'd of in that region, that inaccessible land.

Till when the ties loosen,
All but the ties eternal, Time and Space,
Nor darkness, gravitation, sense, nor any bounds bounding us.

Then we burst forth, we float,
In Time and Space O soul, prepared for them,
Equal, equipt at last, (O joy! O fruit of all!) them to fulfil O soul.

—“Darest Thou Now O Soul,” from “Whispers of Heavenly Death”

3 WHITMAN SETTINGS

FINE, CLEAR, DAZZLING MORNING

Mezzo-soprano

Piano

$\text{♩} = 56$ $\text{♩} = 112$

p *f, chiaro* *p*

ped.

6

9 *sempre*

mp, quasi lontano

12

p (echo)

15 *mf*

Fine, clear,

18

dazz - - ling morn - - ing,

f,
come prima

Ped.

21

p *f* *p*

24 *mf* *sempre*

the sun an hour_ high,

27 *mp*

the air just

30

tart e - nough.

33

mp, come prima

36

p (echo)

39

What a stamp

p

poco

Ped.

43

in ad - vance my whole day

poco

47

re - ceives from the

più p

51

song of that

pp

p cresc.

54

mea - dow lark perch'd

più f

9 6 6 6 6 7

57

on a fence - stake,

ancora più f

9 6 6 6 6 7

60 **un poco affrettando**

f

Ped.

13 9 6 7

62 **a tempo** *mf*

perch'd,

mp

6 6 6 6 7

64 *come prima*

64 *come prima*

sub. *f* 13

9

7

5

7

13

67 *come prima*

67 *come prima*

9

6

6

9

6

6

sempre

69 *mp*

69 *mp*

twen - ty rods di - - stant!

3

6

6

6

6

6

6

71

71

6

6

6

6

6

6

74

p

Two or three li - quid sim - ple

p, lontano *più p*

(*Ped. sempre*)

82

mf, come una risposta

notes. ah ah_

mf

(*Ped. sempre*)

89

meno f *più p*

99

f *p* *f* *p*

Ped. come prima

102 *mf*

f *p* Fine,

105

clear, daz - - - ling morn - - - ing,

108

full of care - - -

111

less,

cresc.

114 *f*

ah

poco f

119 *mp*

care-less happ - i -

p

Red.

126

ness and hope.

mp

più p

135

8va

(HARK CLOSE AND STILL WHAT I NOW WHISPER)

Mezzo-soprano

$\text{♩} = 54$ *pp* *poco*

(Hark__ close and still what I now whis - per to you,

Piano

pp

Ped.

3

4

whispered (giddy): *poco* *molto*

I love you, O you en - ti - re -

poco *pp* *poco f*

Ped.

3

8^{va}7

7

rit. $\text{♩} = 60$ *p*

ly pos - sess me, O that you and I e - scape from the rest and go ut - ter - ly

mp *p*

3

10

off, free and law less,

cresc. *f* *mp*

8va *Ped.*

12

mp, dolce *rit.* *molto* *Ped.*

Two hawks in the air, two fish-es swim-ming in the sea not more law less than

veloce

15

p *mp, declamatorio*

we;) (O I will - ing - ly stake all for you, O

pp *pp*

Ped. *3*

18

più mosso (e accel.) *sub. ♩ = 54*

let me be lost if it must be so!

mf *8va* *Ped.*

molto rubato

27

meno f 5

, *dolce*, *p*

else to us? on - ly that we en - joy each o - ther and ex -haust each o - ther if it must be

30

G.P.

♩ = 54

p < >

so;) (I have loi -ter'd too long as it is,)

p, *delicato*

8va-1

Ped.

34

p

(Yet a mo - ment O ten - der

poco cresc.

8va-1

37

wai - ter, and I re - turn.)

pp

8va-1

DAREST THOU NOW O SOUL

$\text{♩} = 58$

Mezzo-soprano

Piano

p *più p*

Ped.

4 $(\frac{4}{4})$ *p, semplice*

Da - rest thou now O soul, Walk out with me

pp *poco*

7 *cresc.*

toward the un - known re - gion, Where nei - ther ground is

f

un poco più mosso (♩ = 63)

10

for the feet nor a - ny path to fol - low?

14

No map there, nor guide, Nor voice sound - ing, nor touch

18

of hu - man hand, Nor face with bloom - ing flesh, nor lips, nor eyes,

22

are in that land.

rit. . . . ♩ = 58 (tempo primo)

26 $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{3}{2}$

I know it not O soul, Nor dost

pp *cresc.*

più p *più f*

29 $\frac{4}{4}$ *f*

thou, all is a blank be-fore us, All waits un-dream'd of in that

pp *f* *(p)* *più f*

sonoro

32

re gion, that in-ac-ces-si-ble land.

f *p* *sub. f*

37 $\text{♩} = 63$ *urgente, ma p*

Till when the ties loo-sen, All but the ties e-ter-nal, Time and

p *più p* *sub. f*

* begin arpeggiation on beat and arpeggiate freely; r.h. is strictly in tempo (not adjusted to l.h.)

40

p, cresc. poco a poco

Space, Nor dark - ness, gra - vi - ta - tion, sense,

trem. (b) *8va*

meno f *pp* *cresc. poco a poco* trem.

45

nor a - ny bounds bound - ing us.

cresc. *f*

49 ♩ = 72

p *delicato, cristallino*

ped. sempre

50

sonoro, estatico

Then we burst

cantando *8va*

51

forth, we

8va

52

float, In

(8) 15ma 8va

53

Time and Space O

8va

54

soul, pre - -

(8) 8va

55

pared for them,

8^{va} 15^{ma} 8^{va}

56

(8)

57

E - - qual, e - -

8^{va} 15^{ma} 8^{va}

58

quipt at last,

(8)

59

(O

8^{va} 15^{ma} 8^{va}

60

joy!

(,) O

dim.

61

fruit of all!)

8^{va}

rit.

62

63 *mf* $\text{♩} = 58$

them to ful - fil O soul.

p *mf*

66

pp *mp*

8va

69

più p *mp* *ten...*

8va