

PRELUDES AND SONGS

a cycle for soprano and piano

Alastair Stout

to my Mother at 63 - May 30th, 2007

Prelude

ALASTAIR STOUT

molto rubato (♩ = c.126)

Piano

p *sempre flessibile*

3

mf

rall.

Red.

5

mf

p

mf

7

rall.

a tempo

mf

p

f

9 **rall.**

11 **a tempo**

13

16 **rall.** **a tempo**

18 *mf* *rall.* *f*

20 *a tempo* *p* *f*

22 *rall.* *p* *attacca*

Song

GEORGE MACKAY BROWN

Text: *A Child's Calendar from Fishermen with Ploughs* (1971)

John Murray (Publishers), 1991.

quasi recit., molto flessibile (♩ = c.100)

mp (♩ = ♩)

Soprano

No vi - si - tors in Jan - u - 'ry. A snow - man smokes a cold pipe in the yard.

6 *p* *mf*

They stand a - bout_ like an - cient wo - men, The Feb - 'u - ry hills.

p

Red.

10 *p*

They have seen ma - ny_ a com - ing and go - ing, the hills.

Red.

tempo giusto, spiritoso

14 *mf*

In March, Moor - fea_ is lit - tered With knock - kneed lambs. Da - ffo - dils_ at the

mf *p* *mf*

18 *p*

door_ in Ap - ril, Three shawled_ Ma - ry's. A lark

p *mf*

22 = *mf* *pp* *f*

splur - ges in_ ga - li - lees of sky._____

p *mf* *Ped.*

26

And in May peat - men strike the bog with spades, Summ - 'ning black_ fire.

f *mf*

l'istesso tempo, poco rubato

28 *fff* *p*

The June bee

31 *mf* *p*

Bumps in the pane with a hea - vy bag of plun - der. Stran - gers

Red.

33 *mf* *p*

swarm in Ju - ly With cam - 'ras, bi - noc - u lars, bird books. He

Red.

36 *f* *p* *mp*

thumped the crag in Au - gust, A blind, blue whale.

mf *pp* *tr* *Ped.*

l'istesso tempo, tempestoso

38 *ff*

Sep -

f *tr*

39

tem - - ber crofts get

40

wrecked in blond sur - ges.

Ped.

41

They strug - gle, the har - ves - ters,

ff *f cresc.* *8vb*

Ped.

43

they drag

sempre ff

ff

poco accel. ----->

44

loaf and ale - kirk in - to

f cresc. molto

accel. ----->

a tempo

45

win - ter. In Oc - to - ber the fish - mon - ger Ar - gues, pleads,

f *ff*

fff

Red.

tempo primo, calmato e...

fff drammatico!

48

threat - ens at the shore. No - thing in No - vem - ber

lunga pausa

p

l.v.

lunga pausa

52

But tin - kers at the door, keen - ing, with cans._____

p

56

Some De - cem - ber mid - night_____ Christ,_____ lord, lie warm in our

mf *p* *mf*

59

...misterioso

byre. Here are stars, an

p *pp* *bell-like* poco

61 (2.2.3)

ox, po - ver - ty e - nough.

Feb - April 2007
Pittsburgh USA

to my Grandfather at 100 - March 7th, 2011

Prelude

The Image in the Hills

vast (♩ = 64)

ALASTAIR STOUT

1 *ff* *senza espress.* *ppp*

4

7

Piano

Ped.

Duration: c.5 1/2 minutes

11

11

fff

ppp

5

5

5

Ped.

3

Detailed description: This system contains measures 11, 12, and 13. Measure 11 starts with a piano introduction (Ped.) and a forte (fff) chord. Measure 12 features a piano (ppp) section with a quintuplet (5) in the right hand. Measure 13 continues with a quintuplet (5) in the right hand. The bass line includes a triplet (3) in measure 11.

14

14

5

5

5

5

Detailed description: This system contains measures 14, 15, and 16. All three measures feature quintuplets (5) in the right hand.

17

17

fff

8va-1

8va-1

3

Ped.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 17, 18, 19, and 20. Measures 17 and 18 are silent. Measure 19 begins with a forte (fff) section. Measure 20 features an octave (8va-1) marking and a triplet (3) in the bass line.

21

21

8va-1

pp

Detailed description: This system contains measures 21 through 26. Measures 21-23 are silent. Measure 24 features a piano (pp) section with an octave (8va-1) marking.

27

27

mp

ppp

3

5

5

Ped.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 27, 28, 29, and 30. Measure 27 starts with a mezzo-piano (mp) section. Measure 28 features a piano (ppp) section with a triplet (3) in the bass line. Measures 29 and 30 feature quintuplets (5) in the right hand.

31 attacca

poco p

Song

GEORGE MACKAY BROWN

Text: *The Image in the Hills* from *The Year of the Whale* (1965)
John Murray (Publishers), 2005.

1 **andante** (♩ = 60) the song should be sung with minimal vibrato throughout *p*

Lang - - - - -

p *8va*

Red.

3 *mp* *mf* *p*

guage, o - pen the sa - cred qua - rry.

mp

5

Pa - gan in clouds a stone

pp *poco* *ppp*

ppp \flat $\frac{3}{8}$

7 *mf* *pp* *rall.* *molto* *a tempo* *mf*

i - mage, She guards the field, the ri - ver, the birds. The dark,

mp

9 *p* *mp* *mf*

dark hills roll a-cross her sil-ence, roll a-cross her si-lence. Be-yond their

p *pp*

Ped.

11 *f* *mp* *mf* *f*

scars and tu mults, she sees A blond mor-ning of ho-ney and flee-ces.

p *f*

ped.

13 *quasi recit.* *f*

Build an arch of hard square words...

declamato *fff*

15 *ff* *mf*

Ap - ril flows from her wound - ed hands.

ff *mf*

ped.

17 *mp* (♩=♩) **tempo giusto** *pp*

The gen tle beasts and le - gends ga ther._____

mp *pp* *p* *pp*

Ped.

20 *p* *mf*

Carved_____ (arved) on bro - ken stone,

mp *p* *p* *mp*

22 **risvegliato (poco animato)** *mf* *f* *ff*

By the well. A stag runs, hard in light, Be

mf *f* *ff*

Ped.

rilassi la tempo

24 *f* *p*

5:6

fore the fa-ding tan-gle of hound and horn...

poco piu lento (♩ = 54)

27 *mf*

3 3 3

Stone and li-ta-ny___ fold___ her now. Stand_ in the po-em,___

29 *rall.* *mf* *p senza vib.*

3 3

nude cold girl,___ Till the Word wakes and all stones die.

p *mp* *pp*

Ped.

Prelude

...events at the Leaping Dolphin...

andante (♩ = c.72)

1

p

Ped.

This system contains measures 1 through 3. The music is in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 1 starts with a half rest in the right hand and a half note G2 in the left hand. Measure 2 features a half note G2 in the right hand and a half note G2 in the left hand. Measure 3 contains a half note G2 in the right hand and a half note G2 in the left hand. The piece begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and includes a pedal point (Ped.) in the left hand.

4

mf

This system contains measures 4 through 6. The music continues in 4/4 time. Measure 4 has a half note G2 in the right hand and a half note G2 in the left hand. Measure 5 has a half note G2 in the right hand and a half note G2 in the left hand. Measure 6 has a half note G2 in the right hand and a half note G2 in the left hand. The dynamic is mezzo-forte (*mf*).

7

mf

This system contains measures 7 through 9. The music continues in 4/4 time. Measure 7 has a half note G2 in the right hand and a half note G2 in the left hand. Measure 8 has a half note G2 in the right hand and a half note G2 in the left hand. Measure 9 has a half note G2 in the right hand and a half note G2 in the left hand. The dynamic is mezzo-forte (*mf*).

10

ff

f

mf

f

This system contains measures 10 through 13. The music continues in 4/4 time. Measure 10 has a half note G2 in the right hand and a half note G2 in the left hand. Measure 11 has a half note G2 in the right hand and a half note G2 in the left hand. Measure 12 has a half note G2 in the right hand and a half note G2 in the left hand. Measure 13 has a half note G2 in the right hand and a half note G2 in the left hand. The dynamics range from fortissimo (*ff*) to forte (*f*).

Duration: c.4 1/2 minutes

rall. **a tempo**

12

p

delicato

3

3

8va

15

5

3

3

3

3

3

18

3

3

3

6

3

mf

f

21

3

6

3

3

3

3

f

ff

p

23

Musical score for measures 23-24. Measure 23 features a sixteenth-note triplet in the right hand with a dynamic of *f*. Measure 24 features a triplet in the right hand with a dynamic of *p* and a *rall.* marking. The left hand has a triplet in measure 23 and a triplet in measure 24.

25

a tempo

Musical score for measures 25-26. Measure 25 features a triplet in the right hand with a dynamic of *p*. Measure 26 features a triplet in the right hand with a dynamic of *p* and a quintuplet in the left hand. The left hand also has a triplet in measure 25 and a quintuplet in measure 26. The tempo marking is *a tempo*.

27

Musical score for measures 27-28. Measure 27 features a triplet in the right hand with a dynamic of *f*. Measure 28 features a quintuplet in the right hand with a dynamic of *ff* and a triplet in the left hand. The left hand has a triplet in measure 27 and a triplet in measure 28.

29

Musical score for measures 29-30. Measure 29 features a quintuplet in the right hand with a dynamic of *mp* and a triplet in the left hand. Measure 30 features a triplet in the right hand with a dynamic of *mp* and a triplet in the left hand. The left hand has a triplet in measure 29 and a triplet in measure 30.

32 *poco rall.*

p *mp* *p*

attaca

Song

GEORGE MACKAY BROWN

Text: *Gossip in Hamnavoe: About a Girl from Travellers* (2001)

John Murray (Publishers), 2005.

con movimento (♩ = c.80)

1 *mf*

I tell you, man, A

p *f* *p* *mf*

mer - maid's been ta - ken in the nets!

p

5

Go a-long to the fish-er - men's pier.'

7

'She must be some-bo-dy from the fair-

9

The girl They draw a star of

11

fla-mingdag-gersround.' 'Oh no, no. I think.

f *mp*

mf *f*

Red.

14

she's The new mi - ni-ster's niece, a

f

mf *ff* *mf*

16

bo-nny lass, On ho - li - day from the col - lege.'

mf

f *mp*

18

'A girl with ho-ney-co-loured hair?

20

No girl like that here. oh, whose the prin-cess at the

22

end of the close?' The

Ped.

25

p *f*

3

3 3 3

pi-ty is, a girl's beau - - - - - ty

mf *f* *ff*

mf *f*

28

(2.3)

3

Stacks in this heart and that Such ho-ney loads of pain!

(2.3)

mf *ff* *fff* *fffz*

ff

31

l'istesso tempo *mp* *mf*

3

'One old po - et doe - sn't grum ble. She

pp

Ped. 3

33

Quick-ened a dead tree. His pen flower'd

mf *p* *mp*

p *mf*

35

a-mong the gales and snow.' _____

pp *ff*

39

'Oh, she'll be back, That dear one

mf *p* *mf*

p

Ped.

43

mf

Is gold of our

p

5

45

corn, She's Ork-ney's rain and

mp

p

47

spin - drift..." lunga

lunga

5 (l.v.)

Other songs by Alastair Stout

City of Passions and Poetry (2006)

for soprano, piano and tape, text by Foroogh Farrokhzaad

In Downstairs Darkness (2001)

for soprano, piano, bass clarinet and tom-tom, text by Roger McGough

Songs (1997-?)

for mezzo soprano and violin, texts by Johnny Lennie
and from the Song of Solomon

For more information please go to

WWW.STOUTWORKS.NET