

Michael Zev Gordon

nine birds rising

for

mixed chorus

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nine birds(rising
through a gold moment)climb:
ing i

-nto
wintry
twi-

light
(all together a
manying
one

-ness)nine
souls
only alive with a single mys-

tery(liftingly
caught upon falling)silent!

ly living the dying of glory

e e cummings

Notes for performance

The spatial disposition of the choir should be as follows:

S A T B B T A S

The work should be sung with the minimum of vibrato.

Accidentals, as normal, apply throughout the bar.

Duration, approx. 5 minutes.

nine birds (rising)

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for
mixed chorus

$\text{♩} = 56$ With a pure, steady sound

Soprano I
Alto I
Tenor I
Bass I
Soprano II
Alto II
Tenor II
Bass II

Lyrics: nine birds (ri ai)

Dynamic markings: pp, mf, sub mf

Vowel sounds: ai, ri

* All vowels are written in standard phonetics and throughout the piece echo the syllable they immediately follow, thus 'ai' echoes 'ri' in 'rising' and so on.

S. I *p* *mf*
I climb:

A. I *pp* *pp* *sempre stabiliss.*
through a gold moment)

T. I *pp*
ai

B. I *pp*
ai

S. II *p*
I

A. II *pp* *pp* *sempre stabiliss.*
through a gold moment)

T. II

B. II *p*
ai

B

S. I *p* *p* *pp*
ai climb: ing

A. I *pp*
ai

T. I *pp* *mf* *pp* *pp*
ai ai ai ai

B. I *mf* *pp*
ai

S. II *p*
ai

A. II *mf*
ai

T. II *mf* *mf*
ai ai

B. II *mf*
ai

S. I. *mf* *p* *pp* *p*
 A. I. *mf* *pp* *pp*
 T. I. *pp*
 B. I. *pp*
 S. II. *mf* *pp* *p*
 A. II. *mf* *pp* *pp*
 T. II. *pp* *pp*
 B. II. *pp*

twi- ai ai ai ai

S. I. *pp* *p* *p sempre dolciss.*
 A. I. *pp* *pp* *p* *p*
 T. I. *pp* *pp* *p*
 B. I. *pp* *pp*
 S. II. *pp* *p sempre*
 A. II. *pp* *p* *p*
 T. II. *pp* *p*
 B. II. *pp* *pp*

light) ai (all to ge-ther a ma-my light ai ai ai light ai ai ai light ai ai ai light ai ai ai light ai ai ai light ai ai ai

S. I
ing one ū

A. I
ai (all) to ge ther a ma ny

T. I
ai ai ai

B. I
ai ai ai

S. II
ny ing one ū

A. II
ai (all) a ma

T. II
ai ai ai

B. II
ai ai ai

p *p sempre dolciss.*

S. I
ū ū

A. I
ū ū

T. I
ai to ge ther a ma ny ing one ū

B. I
ai ai ai ai ū ū

S. II
ū ū ū

A. II
ny ing one ū

T. II
ai a ma ny ing one

B. II
ai ai ai ai ū ū

p sempre

E

p *p sempre dolciss.*

S. I

A. I

T. I

B. I

S. II

A. II

T. II

B. II

p *p sempre dolciss.*

p *pp* *p sempre dolciss.*

S. I

A. I

T. I

B. I

S. II

A. II

T. II

B. II

one -ness

one -ness

pp *mf sempre cantabiliss.*

Score for voices and piano. The vocal parts are Soprano (Sop.), Soprano I (S. I.), Alto I (A. I.), Tenor I (T. I.), Bass I (B. I.), Soprano II (S. II.), Alto II (A. II.), Tenor II (T. II.), and Bass II (B. II.). The piano accompaniment consists of the right hand (R. H.) and left hand (L. H.).

Lyrics: *nine* *souls on ly* *a* *live* *ai*

Dynamic markings include *pp*, *mf*, *submf*, and *mf sempre cantabiliss.*. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and fermatas. The piano part features chords and melodic lines in both hands.

S. sop. *mf* with a single mys-

S. T. *mf* ai

M. T. *mf* ai

T. T. *mf* ai

B. T. *p* *mf* *mf* ai

S. II *p* *mf* ai

A. II *mf* ai

T. II *mf* ai

B. II *mf* ai

ai ai

4 4 3 4

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S. solo *sempre mf*
 S. I *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf sempre*
 A. I *mf* *mf* *mf sempre*
 T. I *mf* *mf* *p* *mf sempre*
 B. I *mf* *mf* *mf sempre*
 S. II *mf* *mf* *mf sempre*
 A. II *mf* *mf* *mf sempre*
 T. II *mf* *mf* *p* *mf sempre*
 B. II *sub mf* *mf sempre*

Musical score for a string ensemble (S. I, A. I, T. I, B. I, S. II, A. II, T. II, B. II) and solo voice (S. solo). The score is in 4/4 time and features dynamic markings such as *mf* (mezzo-forte), *mf sempre*, *p* (piano), and *sub mf* (sub-mezzo-forte). Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-5 on the strings. A large watermark "Preview File Only" is overlaid on the score.

(sempre mf)

S. solo

I ste ry

S. I

A. I

T. I

B. I

S. II

A. II

T. II

B. II

mf *lift - ing - ly* *caught* *u - pon* *fall - ing* *p*

S. I

A. I *p* *closed mouth* *p sempre* *si - lent* *p sempre*

T. I *closed mouth* *p sempre* *(v)*

B. I *closed mouth* *p sempre* *(v)*

H

S. II

A. II *p* *closed mouth* *p sempre* *ai -* *p sempre*

T. II *closed mouth* *p sempre* *(v)*

B. II *closed mouth* *p sempre* *c.m.*

p sempre

S. I
ai (ai) ai

A. I
ai ai

T. I
c.m. c.m.

B. I
c.m. c.m. c.m.

S. II
ai

A. II
ai (V)

T. II
c.m. c.m.

B. II
c.m. c.m. c.m.

pp

lent

p *pp*

si *lent* ly

li ving

pp

lent

pp

ai ly li ving

p

si

the dy- ing ai I of glo- ry

ai ai ai

p *pp* *p* *pp* *p* *pp*

c.m. *c.m.* *c.m.*

ing ai I ai

ai ai

the dy ai

p *pp* *p* *p* *pp* *pp*

c.m. *c.m.* *c.m.*

rit. *rit.* *rit.* *rit.* *rit.* *rit.*

lungo *lungo* *lungo* *lungo*

c.m. *c.m.* *c.m.* *c.m.*