

ROB KEELEY

SIX POEMS OF STEVIE SMITH

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Soprano & Piano

Preview File Only

SIX POEMS OF STEVIE SMITH

Soprano and piano

ROBERT KEELEY

(2000)

1.) AVONDALE    2.) LA GRETCHEN DE NOS JOURS    3.) LE SINGE QUI SWING

4.) TENDER ONLY TO ONE    5.) WILL EVER?    6.) DO TAKE MURIEL OUT

First performance: Jessica Summers and Robert Keeley, March 2002, King's College, London

1.)  
AVONDALE (Stevie Smith)  
for Bayan Northcott on his 60th birthday

Robert Keeley

Brightly

Soprano

*mf*

How sweet the birds of Avon-dale, of Avon-dale, of

Piano

$\frac{2}{4}$  *p* always slightly percussive

*ped.* *p.*

7.

A-von-dale — How sweet the birds of Avon-dale do swoop and sing and call —

*p.* *p.*

13.

The chil-dren too of Avondale of

*cresc.* *f* *p*

19.

Avon-dale, of Avon-dale — the boys and girls of Avon-dale —

*mf* *p.* *cresc.*

Sop. 25. do swoop and sing, do swoop and sing and call

Piano

30.

35. And oh it is a

40. plea - sant sight It is a ve - ry plea - sant sight

45. *f marc.* *pia legato*

Soprano: To see the crea - tures so de - light to swoop and sing

Piano: (mf) f 3/4 mf

51. *f* *mf* *f* *mf*

Soprano: to swoop and sing and call — to swoop and sing and call — in

Piano: (P.) *f* *mf* *f* *mf*

56. *mp (eco)*

Soprano: Avondale in Avon-dale

Piano: *mf dim.* *poco* *p* *at fine*

62. *Pia meno mosso p (come da lontano)* *very long*

Soprano: ...to see them swoop and call —

Piano: (P.)

14.3.2000

2.)

LA GRETCHEN DE NOS JOURS for Bridget Barlow

Regretfully, but not too slow

Soprano

Piano

would he might come A-gain and I up-on his breast a-gain might lie ———— Would I had

{ Semplice

6.

not in fo-lish wrath dri-v'ahim e-ver fumm'g path ———— would that the sun —

(roco tenuto - - -)

11.

his day's course o-ver might that same day's last dawn

(bb) p 4/4 apr. 3/4

15.

re-co-ver. As vain as this vain prayer at all vain prayers ———— that would

19.

past — days — re — call — — — — — Never shall sun — (now sunk a — way) — — — — — rise

24.

up — — — a — gain — — — on yesterday. — — — — — Ne — ver shall love — — — un — time — ly slain — — —

29.

*Svegliandosi*  
Rise — — — — — Rise — — — — —

32

— — — from the grave — — — — — to live a — gain — — — — —

16.3.2000





22. Sing-ing there, swing-ing there, swing - ing there (3.2.2.)

28. Oh ho the swing-ing ape The hap-py peace - ful ani-mal

33. Oh ho the swing-ing ape Oh ho the swing-ing ape

38. love to, love to, I love, I love, I love to, love to See him

43. *gam-bol, see — him, see — him gam-bol, see — him gam-bol, see — him...*

48. *Poco meno mosso*

4.) TENDER ONLY TO ONE

Con moto; but not rushed

Soprano

Piano

*p legato*

Tender only to one, tender and true — The petals swing —

6.

Freely

to my fingering

Is it you or you or you?

11.

(pochiss rit. - - - -) AT:

Tender only to one — I do not know his name — And the friends who fall at the petals — call may

cresc.

16.

think my love — to blame — Tender only to

*f*

*p*

3/4

one I do not know his name — The face it shows — it too well knows who I am

tender to — Ten - der on - ly to

one last pe-tal's la-test breath cries — out a-loud — from the i-cy shroud

His name, his name is Death

5.) WILL EVER? (Stevie Smith)

Prestissimo

Soprano

*f* Will e - ver the storm - (or) - my seas

Piano

*f* *legatissimo*

5.

and the sur - ges deep swing -

9.

ing from left to right across the world stay -

*mf*

*marc.*

14.

in their i - diot pa - cing, si - lent - ly

Sleep in a mem-orial si-lence of pre-cre-a-tion

A-las for the cra-fty hand and the cur-

-ring brain that took from si-lence and sleep

the form of the world

That bound e - ter - nity in - a

mea - s'ring chain of hours re - du - plicate and - se - quential

days (poco largamente) AT? would that the

hour of time as a word unsaid

*f* Turn - ing had turned a - gain to the hourless night Would

that the seas lay hea - vy up - on the dead *p* the light - less

*f* dead - in the grave of a world new drowned

*ad lib.* *rep. ad lib.*





16. never been — and her peace — is from —

espr. (loco)

20. Her friends — went into the for — est and a — cross the ri — ver

p cresc. cresc. f Ped.

24. And the de — sert took their foot — prints And they went with a be —

(Ped.) \* p p sempre legato

28. lie — ver

f Poco più mosso p. p.

31. Ah — they are gone they were so beau — tiful —

35. And she cannot come to them And she kneels in her room at

39. night crying — crying — crying — A-men

44. poco a poco accel. Do — take Ma — riol out — Al — though your name is

49. *f* *sempre accel.* *p* *Alto, ma liberamente*

Death she will not com-plain

54. When you dan

57. (nee her o-ver the blas-ted heath

61. *poco rit.*