

["...TO WAIT FOR BIRDS..."]

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William Carlos Williams

for mezzo-soprano voice and piano

Ezra Donner

(b. 1986)

1. This is Just to Say

Penitent ♩ = 80

Voice (mezzo-soprano)

Piano

pp molto legato

p *mf*

I have eat-en _____ the plums that were

6 in the ice-box _____ and which you were prob-a-bly sav-ing

10 _____ for break-fast _____ For give me

f sub. *sfz*

16 _____ they were de-li-cious _____ so sweet and so cold

p

2. Flowers by the Sea

Dramatic ♩ = 92

Voice (mezzo-soprano)

Piano

pp *mp* *p*

30 *p* When

37 *mf* o - ver the flow - er - y, sharp pas - ture's edge, un - seen, the salt o - cean lifts its

42 *f* *p sub.* form chic - o - ry and dai - sies tied, re - leased, seem hard - ly flowers a -

42 *mp* *p sub.*

48 *f*

lone _____ but col-or and the move-ment or the shape, per-haps,

48

53 *mp* *mf* *p*

of rest-less ness, whereas the sea _____ is circled and

53

60 *mf* *p*

sways _____ peace fully up - on its plant - like stem _____

60 *mf* *mp* 8va

65

(8va) _____

65 *p* *pp*

3. The Young Cat and the Chrysanthemums

Precarious $\text{♩} = 92$

Voice (mezzo-soprano)

Piano

p

poco rit. -----, *a tempo*

73

p

mf

p

You mince,

poco rit. -----, *a tempo*

77

mf

poco rit. -----, *a tempo*

you start ad-vanc-ing in-di-rect-ly

mf

pp

81

mf

p

your tail up-right knock-ing a-bout a-mong the frail heav-i-ly flow-ered

mf

pp

mf **poco rit.** **a tempo**

85 *mf* *sprays*

85 *mf* *p* *8va* (loco)

89 *p* *mf* Yes, you are love - ly with your in -

89 *p* *mf* *8va* (loco)

93 *mf* *p* *mf* gra - ti - at - ing man - ners, sleek sides and small white paws

93 *p* *mp* *mf* *8va* (loco) *G*

96 *p* *mf* but I wish you had not come here.

96 *mf* *p*

4. The Sadness of the Sea

Despairing ♩ = 108

Voice (mezzo-soprano)

Piano

L. H.

mf

p *mf*

108

3

This is the sad-ness of the sea

pp

115

mf

waves like words all bro - - - ken

115

R. H.

mp

121 *p* *mf*

A same - ness of lift - ing and fal - ling mood

127 *p* *mf* *p*

I lean watch - ing the de - tail of brittle crest

8va

135 *mf*

the del - i - cate im - per - fect foam

pp

141 *p* *f*

yel - low weeds One — piece — like an - oth - - - er —

149

f

f

156

mf *p*

There is no hope if not a cor-al is - land slow - ly

156

mp

$\text{♩} = 54 (\leftarrow \text{♩} = \text{♩} \rightarrow)$

163

mf *p*

form - ing To wait for birds to

163

mf

* *Leg.*

170

mf *p* *mf*

drop the seeds will make it hab-it-ab-le

170

mp *f sub.*

*

5. The Girl

Mysterious ♩ = 80

Voice (mezzo-soprano)

p

with big breasts un - der a blue

Piano

pp sempre

Red.

182 *mf*

sweat-er

p

bare - head-ed

182

mp

pp

189

mf

pp

3

cros - sing the street read ing a news - pa - per,

189

mp

p sub.

194 *f* stops,

194 *f*

✱

Slower ♩ = 60 *mf* a tempo

198 turns, and looks down as though

198 *pp*

Rec.

✱

202 *p* she had seen a dime on the pave - ment

202

✱