



SONGS FOR REBECCA

For Voice and Piano

- I. Spiral
- II. Danger
- III. Aves
- IV. Called
- V. Turning

MARK ALBURGER
Op. 34 (1988)

NEW MUSIC

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SONGS FOR REBECCA, Op. 34

(May 16, 1988)

For Voice and Piano

On Found Texts of Rebecca Jones

I. Spiral

II. Danger

III. Aves

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Metamorphoses, reincarnations, and transmigrations from *Mice and Men* (Op. 45), *Orpheus Cycle* (Op. 24), Josquin des Pres's *Scaramella*, and *Waiting for Godot* (Op. 128).

SONGS FOR REBECCA

MARK ALBURGER
OPUS 34 (1988)

I. SPIRAL

Moderato ♩ = 60

Soprano

mp

From what - e - ver step up-on the way I

mp

7

reach for your hand I find you there. You do not know my dreams of start and stop.

15

This spi-ral has no bot - tom and no top The steps be-hind be - low be-neath di - solve a -

22

way I

27

learn in Life's _____ un - dim - ming day

8va

30

Each suc - ces - sive up - ward step is Spi - rit

8va

33

wrought _____ On

8va

35

these _____ my _____ steps _____ of

37

thought

39

This spi - ral has no bot - tom and no top

43

The steps be - hind be - low be - neath di - solve a - way

47

49

Musical score for measures 49-50. The system includes a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment (grand staff). The piano part features a dense texture with sixteenth-note runs in the right hand and a steady eighth-note bass line in the left hand. A dashed line above the piano part indicates a melodic line, with '8^{va}' and '15^{ma}' markings. The key signature is one sharp (F#).

51

Musical score for measures 51-54. The system includes a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment (grand staff). The vocal line contains the lyrics: "This spi - ral has no end _____ no end". The piano accompaniment continues with a similar rhythmic pattern. The key signature is one sharp (F#).

55

Musical score for measures 55-58. The system includes a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment (grand staff). The piano part features a steady eighth-note bass line and a right hand with chords and a melodic phrase in the final measure. A circled melodic phrase in the right hand is marked with *mp*. The key signature is one sharp (F#).

II. DANGER

Moderato ♩ = 50

mf

Soprano

No dan - ger lurks with - out when

3

deep with - in

5

No fear is found nor

7

un - qui - et din hmm. Each

9

day I pray to love

This system contains measures 9 and 10. The vocal line starts with a half note 'day', followed by quarter notes 'I' and 'pray', a dotted quarter note 'to', and a half note 'love' with a long horizontal line underneath. The piano accompaniment features a bass line with eighth-note patterns and a right-hand line with a series of beamed eighth notes, including two groups marked with a '9' indicating a nine-measure phrase.

11

all cre - a - tion more

This system contains measures 11 and 12. The vocal line has a half note 'all', a quarter note 'cre', a dotted quarter note 'a', a quarter note 'tion', and a half note 'more'. The piano accompaniment continues with similar eighth-note patterns in the bass and beamed eighth notes in the right hand, with two groups marked with a '9'.

13

And find one Mind on

This system contains measures 13 and 14. The vocal line begins with a half note 'And', followed by a dotted quarter note 'find', a quarter note 'one', a dotted quarter note 'Mind', and a half note 'on'. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line and beamed eighth notes in the right hand.

15

both sides of the door hmm.

This system contains measures 15 and 16. The vocal line has a half note 'both', a quarter note 'sides', a dotted quarter note 'of', a quarter note 'the', a dotted quarter note 'door', and a half note 'hmm.' with a long horizontal line underneath. The piano accompaniment continues with eighth-note patterns in both hands.

III. AVES

Moderato ♩ = 100

Soprano *mp*

I

5

want the words to flut - ter a -

9

round you and land slow - ly

13

on your shoul - ders _____ in _____ peace _____

non legato

*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 13 through 20. The vocal line starts with a whole note 'on', followed by a half note 'your', and then a half note 'shoul - ders' with a long horizontal line underneath. The next measure has a whole note 'in' with a long horizontal line underneath, followed by a half note 'peace' with a long horizontal line underneath. The piano accompaniment is marked 'non legato' and features a steady eighth-note bass line in the left hand and chords in the right hand. A small asterisk is placed below the first measure of the piano part.

21

I want you to hear them tell you _____

Detailed description: This system contains measures 21 through 25. The vocal line begins with a whole rest, followed by a half note 'I', a quarter note 'want', a quarter note 'you', a quarter note 'to', a quarter note 'hear', a quarter note 'them', and a half note 'tell you' with a long horizontal line underneath. The piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and eighth notes in the left hand. The key signature changes from one sharp (F#) to two flats (Bb) between measures 21 and 22.

26

of _____ bliss _____

Detailed description: This system contains measures 26 through 30. The vocal line starts with a whole rest, followed by a half note 'of' with a long horizontal line underneath, and then a half note 'bliss' with a long horizontal line underneath. The piano accompaniment continues with chords in the right hand and eighth notes in the left hand. The key signature changes from two flats (Bb) to one sharp (F#) between measures 26 and 27.

32

Musical score for measures 32-35. The system consists of three staves: a vocal line (treble clef, 4/4 time) with whole rests, and a piano accompaniment (grand staff, 4/4 time). The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line and a treble line with chords and eighth-note patterns.

36

Musical score for measures 36-39. The system consists of three staves. The vocal line (treble clef, 5/4 time) contains the lyrics "stand", "still", and "and" with long horizontal lines indicating sustained notes. The piano accompaniment (grand staff, 5/4 time) continues with eighth-note bass lines and chordal accompaniment.

40

Musical score for measures 40-43. The system consists of three staves. The vocal line (treble clef, 6/4 time) contains the lyrics "they", "will", and "ga - ther" with long horizontal lines indicating sustained notes. The piano accompaniment (grand staff, 6/4 time) continues with eighth-note bass lines and chordal accompaniment.

IV. CALLED

Moderato ♩ = 100

Soprano *mf*

It is not said that mourn-ing ——— shall be turned in - to un - morn - ing: ces -

mf

mf

5

sa - tion of suf - fer - ing, mer - ci - ful blank, the af - ter - math of cri - sis passed.

mf

mf

9

Nor is there pro - missed priv' - ledge — of a pro - longed con - va - le - scent who

This musical system covers measures 9 through 12. It features a vocal line in 3/4 time and a piano accompaniment in 3/4 time. The piano part consists of a right-hand treble clef staff with chords and a left-hand bass clef staff with a walking bass line. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). Measure 12 ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

13

earns, by mere feat of sur - vi - val, — the flo - wers, the fruit, the mi - ni - stra - tions...

This musical system covers measures 13 through 16. It continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment from the previous system. The piano part maintains the same harmonic and rhythmic structure. Measure 16 ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

Moderate 1 ♩ = 250

But in - stead it's dan - cing dan - cing we are

called, in - vi - ted as we are from the dark depths to acts called up

from the dark depths to acts of glad - ness

* keyboard reduction - Josquin des Pres - *Scaramella*

that e - la - ted leap e - ven the young come to

The first system of the musical score consists of a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line is written on a single staff with a treble clef. The lyrics are: "that e - la - ted leap e - ven the young come to". The piano accompaniment is written on two staves (treble and bass clefs) and features a steady bass line and a more active treble line with chords and moving lines.

earth find soon e - nough joy, bound - ing up and down

The second system of the musical score continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "earth find soon e - nough joy, bound - ing up and down". The piano accompaniment continues with similar rhythmic patterns and chordal structures.

joy bound - ing up and down for joy

The third system of the musical score concludes the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "joy bound - ing up and down for joy". The piano accompaniment ends with a final chord and a double bar line.

V. Turning

♩ = 50

Soprano

We can't turn a - way from Pro - vi - dence

2

be - cause which e'er we face the

3

Spi - rit is there in e - v'ry place

4

e - v'ry di - rec - tion

5

e - v'ry - where Spi - rit is there

6

Whe - ther _____ we _____ turn _____ to _____ left or right _____

7

to north, south, east, or west

8

we meet en - chant - ment and we are _____ blessed _____

9

up - ward or down be - low a - bove _____

10

we meet de - light Whe-ther we plunge or plot a course

11

What - e - ver race What - e - ver goals Love's law ex - tolls

12

oh _____ Love's law ex - tolls Love's law ex - tolls

13

Whe - ther we _____ build _____ for ce - tu - ries

14

Love's law ex - tolls Whe - ther

15

we _____ let to - mor - row bound our _____ aim

16

Whe - ther we build for cen - tu - ries hence _____

This system shows measure 16. The vocal line begins with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a quarter note F#4. The piano accompaniment consists of a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a simple bass line in the left hand.

17

or for to - - - mor - row

This system shows measure 17. The vocal line starts with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a quarter note F#4. The piano accompaniment continues with the same eighth-note pattern in the right hand and bass line in the left hand.

18

Soul set the pace _____ Al - ways the same

This system shows measure 18. The vocal line begins with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a quarter note F#4. The piano accompaniment continues with the same eighth-note pattern in the right hand and bass line in the left hand.

19

In - - - stant and e - ver in grace

This system shows measure 19. The vocal line starts with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a quarter note F#4. The piano accompaniment continues with the same eighth-note pattern in the right hand and bass line in the left hand.

20

Soul sets _____ the pace the pace

This system shows measure 20. The vocal line begins with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a quarter note F#4. The piano accompaniment continues with the same eighth-note pattern in the right hand and bass line in the left hand.