

THE HOLST SONGBOOK Volume 1

High voice

O LADY, LEAVE THY SILKEN THREAD

Thomas Hood

Gustav Holst H4, 1897

edited by John Wright

Allegretto

Voice *p*

O La-dy leave thy silk en thre And flow' - ry ta-pes-

Piano *p*

8

-trie: There's li-vin' ro- on the bush And blos- soms on the tree;

14

Stop where thou wilt, thy care - less hand. Some ran- dom bud will meet; Thou

19 *cresc.* *p*

canst_ not tread, _____ Thou canst_ not tread, _____ but thou wilt find _____ The dai - sy at thy

cresc. *dim.* *pp*

8va-----|

25

feet. _____ 'Tis like the birth-day of _____ the world, _____ When

8va-----|

31

earth _____ was _____ in _____ room; _____ The light is made _____ of ma - ny

(8)^{va}-----|

37

dyes, _____ The air is all _____ per - fume; _____ There's crim-son buds and white_ and

43

cresc.

dim.

pp

blue, The ve - ry rain-bow showers_ Have turned _____ to blos-soms where they fell, _____ And

cresc.

dim.

49

sown the earth with flowers. _____ There's

sempre dim.

54

fai - ry tu - lips _____ the east, The gar - den of the sun; _____ The ve - ry

59

streams re-lect _____ the hues _____ And blos - som as _____ they run: _____

64

cresc.

While Morn opes like a crim - son rose, Still wet with pear - ly showers: Then,

68

la - dy, leave the silk - en thread Thou

cresc.

72

dim.

pp

twin - est in to flowers!

pp

8va

-----|

8va

-----|

SPRING'S MESSAGE

Frühlingsbotschaft

Heinrich Heine

Gustav Holst H14 No.3, 1897

edited by Paul Sarcich

p

Soft and gent-ly through my soul,
 Lei - se zieht durch mein Ge-müt

pp legato

5

Sweet - est bells are sing - ing;
 Lie - bli-ches la - den te

Spend you forth my lit - tle song of
 Klin - ge klei - es Früh-ling-s-lied,

8

spring-time blithe-ly sing - ing
 Kling hin-aus ins Wei - te

of spring-time blithe-ly sing - - - ing.
 Kling hin-aus ins Wei - - - te.

12

Speed you on - ward to a house
 Kling hin - aus, bis an das Haus,

15

Where sweet flowers are fleet - ing, per - ch ance a rose you see,
 wo die Blu - men sprie - ßen We. du c - ne Ro - se schauts,

18

Say I send her greet - ing, Say I send her greet - - -
 sag, ich laß sie grü - ßen sag, ich laß sie Grü - - -

21

-ing.
 -ßen.

morendo

AWAKE, MY HEART

Robert Bridges

Gustav Holst H14 No.4, 1898
edited by John Wright

Allegretto giocoso

ff
con pedale

8

f

A - wake my heart, to be loved, a - wake, a -

dim.

13

-wake! ...rk-ness sil-vers a - w ay, ... morn doth break, ... It

19

leaps in the sky: u i ri - sen lus - tres slake ... The o'er-ta - ken moon, a - wake O

24 *p dolce*

heart, a - wake! She too that lo-veth a - wa-keth and hopes for thee,

f *p*

30 *sc.*

Her eyes al - rea-dy have sped the shades that flee, Al - rea-dy they watch the

cresc.

36

path thy feet shall take: A - wake, O heart to be loved, a - wake, a - wake!

culla voce *f* *ff*

43

dim.

50

2. And if thou tar-ry from her, if this could be, _____ She co-meth her-

mf

55

-self, O heart, _____ to be loved, to thee; _____ For thee would un - a -

60

- sha-med her-self _____ for _____ A- waken to be loved, my heart, a - wake, _____ a -

65

p dolce

- wake! _____ Lo all things wake and tar-ry and look for thee: _____

f

p

70

She look - eth and saith, "Oh sun, now bring him to me.

75

cresc.

rall.

Come more a-dored, O a - dored for his com-ing's sake, A - wake my heart to be
colla voce

80

ff

loved, a - wake, a - wake

85

SONG TO THE SLEEPING LADY

George MacDonald

Gustav Holst H17, 1897
edited by Peter Clulow

Allegretto con moto *p dolce*

Rest is now fill'd full of beau - ty, And can

sempre legato
p
con pedale

4
give thee up, I w - ; Come hea forth, for oth - er

7
du - - y Mo - tion pi - neth for her queen.

10 **Animato**

cresc.

Or, if need - ing years_ to wake thee From thy slum - brous

cresc.

13

mf *d.n.*

so - li-tudes, Come, seek - ing, and_ be - take thee To the

mf *dim.*

16

pp

friend - - ly, sleep - - ing woods.

pp

19

dolce

Sweet - er dreams are in the for - est, Round thee

22

storms would ne - ver rave; And when need of rest is

25

sor - row. Glide thou then in - to thy cave.

28

accel.
cresc.

mf

Or, if still thou choo - seth ra - ther Marb - le, be its

cresc.

31 *a tempo, maestoso* *f* *rall.* *dim.*

spell on me; Let thy slumb - er round me ga - ther, Let an -

34 *pp* *rall.*

- o - - ther dream with thee:

37 *morendo*

THE BALLADE OF PRINCE ERIC

Fritz Hart

Gustav Holst H19, 1902
edited by John Wright

Allegretto *mp*

Gai - ly laughs the sum-mer wind, Warm ly shone the

staccato *mp*

6 sun. Hap - pi - ly Prince Eric rode For his bride was won.

mf

11 All his life was in her love, Beau-ty rare had she. Sun-beams, tan-gled

mf

16 *p dolce*
 in her hair, glis-tened me - ri - ly. Eyes *legato* so soft that
p dolce

21
 one would say Stars fr out the

25
 sky, Fla - ced near those

Ad.

29
 gen - tle orbs, Com - pa - - ri - son would

33

mf

fly. Ma - ny bat - tles had he fought, Ma - ny vic - t'ries

cresc. *mf staccato*

38

gained, And for sake of love Power and fame at - tained.

43

cresc.

Gai - ly laughed the sum - mer wind, Home - wards did he ride. Home - wards to his

8va *loco*

cresc.

48

rall.

la - dy love, Home to claim his bride

52

ad lib.

f

Home to claim his bride, Home to

56

a tempo

claim his bride

A LAKE AND A FAIRY BOAT

Thomas Hood

Gustav Holst H25, 1897
edited by Peter Clulow

Allegretto

p

A lake and a fairy boat To

5

sail in the moon - light sea, And merr - i - ly we would float

8

From the drag - ons that watch us here!

12

Thy gown _____ should be snow - white silk And strings of or - ient

16

pearls, _____ Like gos - sa-mers dipped in mi _____ Should twine with thy

20

rav - en curls! _____ Red rub - ies should deck thy hands, And

24

dia - monds should be thy dower _____ But fair -

cresc.

27

ies have broke their wands,

30

But fair - - - ies have broke the wands, And

f *sempre dim.*

34

wish - ing has lost its power!

ad lib.

colla voce

una corda

38

pp

SING HEIGH-HO

Charles Kingsley

Gustav Holst H26, 1897
edited by Paul Sarcich

Allegretto

[p]

1. There sits a bird on ev - 'ry tree; Sing heigh
sea to stream the sal - mon roam; Sing heigh

8

ho! ho! There sits a bird on ev - 'ry tree And
sea to stream the sal - mon roam; Each

15

courts his love as I do thee; Sing heigh ho and heigh
finds a mate and leads her home; }
cresc.

ho! _____ Young maids _____ must mar-ry. _____

p

There grows a flower on ev - 'ry bough) Sing heigh _____
 The sun's a bride - groom earth a bride,

[p]

ho! { There grows a flower on ev - 'ry bough,
 { They court from morn till ev - en tide: }

cresc.

f

Its pe - tals less _____ I'll show you how: _____ } Sing
 The earth sh all pass _____ but love a - bide. _____ }

f

56

dim.

pp

heigh - ho _____ and heigh - - - - ho! Sing

dim.

pp

65

sotto voce

heigh - ho and heigh - ho! _____ Young ricks must mar-ry. Sing

in corda

73

heigh - ho and heigh - ho! _____ Young ricks must mar-ry. _____

81

Sing heigh no! _____

1.

2.

2. From

AIRLY BEACON

Gustav Holst H27, 1897
edited by Peter Clulow

Charles Kingsley

p

Air - ly Bea - con, Air - ly Bea - con;

p

This system contains the first three measures of the piece. The vocal line begins with a rest in the first measure, followed by the lyrics 'Air - ly Bea - con, Air - ly Bea - con;'. The piano accompaniment features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in the right hand and a steady bass line in the left hand.

4

O the pleas - ant sight to see Shires and towns from Air - ly

This system contains measures 4 through 6. The vocal line continues with the lyrics 'O the pleas - ant sight to see Shires and towns from Air - ly'. The piano accompaniment maintains its rhythmic accompaniment.

7

Bea - con, While my love _____ climb'd up to

This system contains measures 7 through 9. The vocal line has a long note in measure 8, indicated by a horizontal line, with the lyrics 'Bea - con, While my love _____ climb'd up to'. The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic pattern.

10 *mf*

me! Air - ly Bea - con,

13 *mf*

Air - ly Bea - con; O the hap - py hours we lay

16

Deep in fern Air - ly Bea - con,

18

Court - - - ing through the sum - - - mer's

20

day! *p* Air - ly Bea - con,

23 *cresc.*

Air - ly Bea - con; O the wear-y hau for me, All a-

cresc.

27

-lone on A - a - con, With his ba - - -

30

- by on my knee!

A HOPE

Charles Kingsley

Gustav Holst H28
edited by Peter Clulow

Andante maestoso

The first system of the musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line with a whole rest. The middle and bottom staves are piano accompaniment. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 4/4. The piano part begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a more complex bass line in the left hand.

The second system of the musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line starting at measure 3 with the lyrics "Twin stars a - soft in e - ther clear,". The middle and bottom staves are piano accompaniment. The key signature and time signature remain the same. The piano part continues with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a more complex bass line in the left hand.

The third system of the musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line starting at measure 5 with the lyrics "A-round each oth - er roll al - way, With - in one". The middle and bottom staves are piano accompaniment. The key signature and time signature remain the same. The piano part continues with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a more complex bass line in the left hand.

8

com - mon at - mos-phere Of their own mu-tual light and day.

11

And myr-iad hap - py— eyes are bent Up-on their chan - less love al -

14

- way; As, strength - ened by their one in-tent, They

17

pour the flood of life and day. So we through

20

cresc.

this world's wan-ing night May, hand in hand, pur-sue our way;

23

f *rall.*

Shed round us ord - er, and light, And shine u - to the per - fect

26

[*tempo*]

day.

ff

THE DAY OF THE LORD

Charles Kingsley

Gustav Holst H29
edited by Peter Clulow

Un poco vivace

p

The

f *dim.* *pp*

3 *cresc. poco a poco*

day of the Lord is at hand at hand;

cresc. poco a poco

5 *f*

Its s... roll up the sky;

f *ff*

7 *p* *cresc. poco a poco*

The na - tions sleep starv - ing on heaps of

pp *cresc. poco a poco*

9

gold; All dream - ers toss and sigh; The

f *p*

11

night is dark - est be - fore the morn;

pp

13

When the morn - ing is - est the

p *cresc.*

15

child is born, And the

cresc. *sempre cresc.*

accel.

17 **f**

day of the Lord

19 **a tempo**

at hand

21 **p cresc. poco a poco**

gather you, gather you,

23

an - gels of God - Free - dom, and Mer - cy, and

25 *f* *p* *cresc. poco a poco*

Truth; Come! for the Earth is grown coward and old,

f *ff* *pp* *cresc. poco a poco*

28 *f*

Come down, and re-new us her youth.

f *ff*

30 *pp*

Wis - dom, Self - s - cri - fice, Pa - in - cing, and Love,

pp

32 *p* *cresc.*

Haste to the bat - tle field, stoop from a-bove,

p *cresc.*

accel.

35

sempre cresc.

f

To the day of the Lord

sempre cresc.

f

38

a tempo

at hand.

ff

pp

40

p

cresc. poco a poco

Ga-ther you, ga-ther you, hounds of hell—

cresc. poco a poco

43

f

Fam - ine, and Plague, and War;

f

ff

45 *p* *cresc. poco a poco*

Id - le - ness, Bi - go - try, Cant, and Mis - rule, Ga - ther, and fall in the

pp *cresc. poco a poco*

48 *f* *pp*

snare! Hire - l. Mam - mon - ite,

f *ff* *pp*

50

Bi - got, and Cal - l, crawl to the

52 *cresc.*

bat - tle - field, sneak to your grave, In the

p *cresc.*

accel.

55

Day of the Lord

57

[a tempo]

at hand

ff

pp

59

p

cresc. poco a poco

When you sit down and sing for a lost age of gold, When the

cresc. poco a poco

62

f

p

cresc. poco a poco

Lord of all ages is here? True hearts will leap up at the

f *dim.*

pp

cresc. poco a poco

65

trum - pet of God, And those who can suf - fer can

67 *f* *pp*

dare. Each old age gold was an

69

iron age and the meek - est of

71 *cresc.*

saints may find stern work to do

73 *sempre cresc.* *f*

In the day of the

sempre cresc.

75 *accel.*

Lord

f *ff*

77 **Presto**

hand.

sempre ff

ff

NOT A SOUND

43

George MacDonald

Gustav Holst H32, 1897
edited by Peter Clulow

Andante

p

Not a sound but, e - choing in me, Vi -

sempre legato

pp

6

brates all a - round With blind de - light,

mf

sc.

11

Till it speaks on Thee, Queen of Night!

mf

dim.

16

a tempo

p

Ev - ry tree, O'er - sha - dowing with gloom, Seems

pp

21

to co - ver thee. Se - cret,

26

dark, love - stilled, in a ho - ly room si - lence - filled.

32

p

Let no moon creep up the heavn to - night; I in dark - some

38

night walk - ing hope - ful-ly, Seek, seek my shroud - ed light

43

dim.

Grope for thee! Dark - er grow the bor - ders of the

48

*accel.
cresc.*

dark! Through the branc - es glow,

53

from the roc - kets and dia - mond

58

pp

sparks Light for love.

pp *8va* *rit.*

WHETHER WE DIE OR WE LIVE

George Meredith

Gustav Holst H33
edited by Paul Sarcich

Allegretto

p

Whe - ther we die or we live

6

Mat - - ers it now no more:

11 *mf*

mf

Life has nought fur - ther to give,

15 *p dim.*

Love is its crown and its core.

p dim.

19 *pp cresc.* *f*

Come to us ei - ther, we're life, - Death

pp cresc. *f*

23

or life!

dim. *dim.*

28 **Maestoso**

p

Death, Death can take not a - way, Dark-ness and light are the

34

stringendo

pp cresc.

same:

We lie be - yond the pale rev,

39

Wrapt

in a ro - si - er flame:

Molto maestoso

agitato

49

44

f

p

Wel - come which will to our breath,

Life or

49

pp dolce

Death, Life or Death,

Life

53

or Death.

p

57

rall.

f

p

pp

AUTUMN SONG

Robert Bridges

Gustav Holst H35
edited by Peter Clulow

Allegretto

p

The birds that sing on

mf *p*

7 *cresc.*

aut - umn eves A - mong the gold en tint - ed leaves,

cresc.

10 *p*

but the few that true re - main Of

p

13

bud - ding May's re - joi - cing train.

16

Like au-tumn flowers that brave the frost, And make their show when

19

hope is lost, These among the fruits and

cresc.

22

mel - low scent Mourn not the high - sunned sum - mer spent.

f

25

accel. Their

p

28 **a tempo**

notes through all the jo - cund spring Were mixed in mer - ry

cresc.

p

cresc.

31

mu - sick - ing: They ng f love the

f

f

34

whole day long, Bu now their love is all for song.

p dolce

p

37

How each has per - fect - ed his lay To

p

p

40

praise the year that hastes a - way: They

43

cresc.
sit on boughs a - part, and vie In sin gle songs and

cresc.

46

f
rich re

f

48

accel. *a tempo*
p
And

50 *cresc.*

oft as in the copse I hear These an - thems of the

p *cresc.*

53 *f*

dy - ing year, The pas - sions, once her

f

56 *rall.* *a tempo*

peace that sto With flat-tring love my heart con - sole.

p *pp*

p *pp*

una corda

59