

DREAMS AND ECHOES

FEATURING THE POETRY OF TOM TAM

(2013)

KATHRYN SALFELDER

Program Listing:

Dreams and Echoes (2013)

Kathryn Salfelder (b. 1987)

I. A Smiling Dreamer

II. Free Element

III. Soundless Synchronicity

Program Note:

Dreams and Echoes is a cycle of three songs featuring the poetry of Tom Tam. It confronts ephemerality, finds joy in loss, and ponders how dreams are realized in unexpected ways. I had the pleasure of watching Tom's creative process; each poem was completed in two or three days. He challenged me to "simply write the music" and trust my intuition, just as he had done when crafting his text. In March 2013, I finally gathered the courage to follow his advice; each of these settings was composed in just a few days, and I hope that I have done justice to the genuine sentiments of his text.

I dedicate *Dreams and Echoes* to Tom Tam, with endless gratitude for his tireless work as healer and dreamer.

Performance Notes:

Duration: ca. 11' [2'30", 4'30", 4']

Accidentals remain in effect throughout the measure, at the octave in which they occur. Sometimes they are rewritten within a measure for clarity.

I. A Smiling Dreamer

A Gate to the Golden Mountain
 Stands in the end of the Pacific.
 A Bridge, extending to the infinite mist,
 As a dream into the mystery.
 Going into this gate,
 Walking on this bridge,
 Searching the dream.

No need to ask God
 About the dream,
 Just feel proud to have it.
 Nothing comes true easily,
 Only for the hard-worker
 Who tirelessly fights for...

Smile,
 Emotion shows on the face,
 And pride from the heart.
 Standing on the bridge,
 Soothing into this dream.
 "Don't I waste my life trip?!"
 Alas, life only can be passed on,
 Never ever, be wasted!
 Smile again, it is not doomsday.
 A crazy dream
 Only for the fearless Dreamer.

II. Free Element

Winter,
 Seems the light-speed runs too slow,
 As the season stillness lasts forever.
 Ice, capturing frozen waves
 The track of activity remaining.
 Peaceful but not quiet on the earth,
 Nature is creating the rejuvenation,
 Preparing the coming of Spring.

A falling leaf stonily
 Laying on the ice soundlessly,
 Appearing with no colorful attraction.
 Alas, who is going to remember
 Its radiant blooming
 When the Spring came,
 Its green brilliance in the Summer,
 Also the bright red in the Fall?
 Peaceful, combat from no one.
 Life doesn't call for glory and honor,
 Greatness is to be simple and free.

Waiting, for the wind's blowing.
 Be a free-element,
 Gliding in the sky
 Like an eagle;
 Wandering in the Heavens
 As an angel.
 Whoever, aimless;
 What liberty spirit is!

Following, naturally with the wind,
 To the mountain and ocean,
 The forest and plain,
 Wherever, carefree.
 Oh, my Lord,
 Nothing is to be repented,
 Life still is so gorgeous,
 Amen.

III. Soundless Synchronicity

She has left,
 Harmony with Nature,
 Starting a new voyage
 After the life excursion.
 Soundlessly, remains nothing
 Only the love and mercy,
 Peacefully, going to the silent world.
 Needless to say a word,
 Feeling comes out the heart:
 "We miss you."

A given red rose
 Scattered its gorgeousness,
 Carrying the memory of life.
 Its image has gone with the light,
 Wandering freely in space.
 Its beauty is lasting,
 As a spirit stays inside the soul
 Tranquilly...

A Void space, strangely quiet,
 Not even hearing God's voice.
 The inner praying is,
 Passing to the multi-dimension.
 Can't you hear the silent sound
 From a broken heart?
 Nothing echoes back in the Cosmos,
 Yet the empathy could be felt--
 "Forever, I love you."

to Tom Tam, with gratitude

DREAMS AND ECHOES

I. A Smiling Dreamer

Tom Tam

Kathryn Salfelder

$\text{♩} = \text{c.a. } 92$

Baritone

Piano

p murmuring

mf

ped. *sim.*

3 *mf*

A Gate to the Gold - en

5

Moun-tain Stands in the end of the Pa -

7

ci - - fic. A bridge, ex -

9

- ten - ding to the in - fin - ite mist,

11

mp As a dream in - to

pp sotto voce

13

the mys-tery. Go - ing in-to this gate, Walk-ing on this bridge, search -

cresc.

16 *f* rubato

ing the dream. No need to ask God a - bout the dream,

19 *mp* *p sub*

Just feel proud to have it. No - thing comes true ea-si-ly, On - ly for the hard work-er Who

25

tire-less - ly fights for...

28 *poco a poco cresc.*

34 *f*

Smile, _____ E - mo - tion shows on the

42

face, _____ And pride, pride from the heart.

49

Stand - ing _____ on the bridge, Sooth - ing in - to this dream. "Don't _____ I waste _____

56

_____ my life _____ trip?!" _____ A - las, Life can _____ on -

DREAMS AND ECHOES

60

poco a poco cresc.

ly be pass'd on, Life can on - ly be pass'd on,

67

f

Nev - er ev'r be was - ted! Smi - le a - gain, it is not dooms - day.

76

A cra - zy dream A cra - zy dream

82

On - ly for the fear - less Dream - er.

II. Free Element

1 ♩ = 56

p sotto voce

semplice Win - ter, _____ Seems. the

pp sempre

p sempre

8

light-speed runs too slow, _____ As _____ the sea-sons still-ness lasts for - ev - er.

15

Ice, cap-tur-ing fro - zen waves _____ the track of ac - ti - vi - ty _____ re - main - ing peace-ful but

18

not qui-et on the earth, Na-ture is cre-a-ting the re - ju - ven - a - tion pre - par - ing _____ the com - ing of

♩. = 76

22 *mf* quasi-recit

Spring. A fall-ing leaf ston - i - ly Lay-ing on the

26

ice, sound-less - ly, Ap-pear - ing with no co - lor - ful attr-act - ion.

30

A-las, who is go-ing to re-mem - ber Its ra - di - ant bloom - ing When the Spring came,

35

Its green brill - iance in the Sum - mer, Al - so the bright red in the Fall?

40

Peace - ful, com-bat from no one Life does-n't call for glo-ry and hon-or, Great-ness is to be

46

sim-ple and free. Wait - ing,

51

for the wind's blow - ing. Be a free el - e - ment,

55

Gli - ding in the sky Like an eag - le;

59

Wan - d'ring in the Heav'ns - As an an - gel. Who - ev - er,

Ped.

64

aim - less; What li - ber - ty spir - it

dim.

68

is! Fol - low ing, nat - ur - al - ly

mp

mp *semplice*

♩ = 56

72

— with the wind, To the moun-tain and oc-ean the for-est and plain, Wher-

76

ev - er care - free. Oh, my Lord, No - thing is to be re - pent - ed,

pp sempre

p sempre

81

Life is still so gor - geous, A -

p semplice

pp

87

me - n.

(quasi-gliss)

III. Soundless Synchronicity

♩ = 120

1 *p* sotto voce

She has left, warm yet delicate

p

Ped.

6 *p* voce piena

Har - mon - y with Nat - ure, Star - ting

Ped.

11

a new voy - age Af - ter the life ex - cur -

Ped.

16

sion. Sound - less - ly, re - mains no - thing

Ped.

21

On - ly the love_____ and mer - cy, - Peace - ful - ly, -

Ped.

26

$\text{♩} = 48$

— go - ing to the si - lent world._____ Need-less to say a word,_____

ppp *pp*

Ped.

31

Più mosso

Feel-ing comes out of the heart: "We miss you." A gi-ven red rose_ scat - tered its gor-geous ness

36

accel. $\text{♩} = 60$

car-ry - ing_ the me-mo-ry_ of life._____ Its im-age has gone. Its im-age has gone with the

40 $\text{♩} = 120$

light, Wan - - - d'ring

44

Wan - d'ring free - ly in space.

8va

Ped.

48

Its beau-ty is last - ing, As a spir - it stays

52

in - side the soul Tran - quil ly...

p sotto voce

58 ♩ = 48

p

A Void space, strange-ly qui-et, Not ev-en hear-ing

bell-tones

pp

molto Ped. ad lib.

63 *mf*

p

God's voice. The in-ner pray-ing is, Pass-ing to the multi-di-men - sion. Can't you hear the

pp

68

rit.

ppp freely

♩ = ca. 42

pp

si-lent sound from a bro-ken heart? No-thing ech-oes back in the Cos - mos Yet the

pp

Ped.

73

em - pa - thy could be felt- "For - ev - er, I love you."

pp