

Gentle

Three Rumi Songs



For Soprano and Marimba

By David Lancaster



Gentle

Three songs, setting fragments of poetry by the 13th century Persian poet, jurist, Islamic scholar, theologian, and Sufi mystic Jalāl ad-Dīn Muhammad Rūmī , (generally known as Rumi).

For Soprano (D – G#) and Marimba

Duration: 8 minutes

Gentle was composed in the autumn of 2013 and first performed by Ana Beard-Fernandez and Zoe Craven in July 2015 at the Unitarian Chapel, York, as part of the Late Music concert series of that year.

These songs also exist in a version for soprano and piano.

Gentle is dedicated to Rachael Parkes.

The Firmness Under You

My friend, our closeness is this:

Anywhere you place your foot

You will feel me in the firmness under you.

How is it with this love I see your world and not you?

Dance

Dance when you're broken open.

Dance when you throw it all away.

Dance in the middle of the fight.

Dance in your blood.

Dance when you're perfectly free.

Gently

Gently, you drive me away,

As a flute does a dove from the eaves.

Then gently, and with the same song

You call me back.

Gentle

The Firmness under You

Rumi

David Lancaster

Slowly ♩=52

Musical score for the first system, measures 1-4. The score is in 3/4 time and B-flat major. The piano part begins with a *p* dynamic. The right hand plays chords, and the left hand plays a bass line with a triplet in measure 4. The vocal line is silent.

5

Musical score for the second system, measures 5-8. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and a bass line. The vocal line remains silent.

10

Musical score for the third system, measures 9-12. The vocal line begins with the lyrics "My friend, our close ness is this:" followed by a line for the singer to write. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and a bass line.

14

Musical score for measures 14-18. The vocal line is mostly rests. The piano accompaniment features a triplet in the bass line at measure 14 and a melodic line in the treble line starting at measure 15.

19

mf

My friend, our close ness is this: _____ A - ny - where _____ you place your

Musical score for measures 19-22. The vocal line contains the lyrics "My friend, our close ness is this: _____ A - ny - where _____ you place your". The piano accompaniment includes a triplet in the bass line at measure 20 and a melodic line in the treble line starting at measure 21.

23

foot you will feel _____ me in the firm - ness un - der you _____

Musical score for measures 23-27. The vocal line contains the lyrics "foot you will feel _____ me in the firm - ness un - der you _____". The piano accompaniment includes a triplet in the bass line at measure 24 and a melodic line in the treble line starting at measure 25.

28

p

A - ny - where — you place your foot you will

32

feel — me in the firm - ness un - der you — How

calmo pp

calmo

pp

37

is it with this love — I

40

see — your — world and not — you? —

Dance

Freely

f *p*

Da(nce) Da Da Da³

Freely

f *pp* *f* *pp* *f* *pp* *f* *pp*

Hard/medium beaters

48

f *p*

Da³ Da Da³

f *pp* *f* *pp* *f* *pp* *f* *pp*

52

pp *f* *pp* *mf*

A tempo (♩=80)

Da

A tempo (♩=80)

56 *mf* >

Dance _____ when you're bro-ken op - en

58

dance _____ when you throw it all aw - ay

60

Dance _____ in the mid - dle of the

62

fight

64

Dance in your

66

blood

68

Dance _____ when you're perfectly

70

poco rall.

free

poco rall.

72

Meno mosso

p

pp 3

p

Ah _____ Ah _____ Ah 3

Meno mosso

pp

77

mp
Ah

p
Ah

pp
Ah

mp

p

83

A tempo (♩=80)

A tempo (♩=80)

pp

85

f

Gently

Fragile, almost faltering ♩=52

pp

Gent - ly, gent - ly you drive me a -

Fragile, almost faltering ♩=52
Soft beaters

pp

7

way, — gent - ly, as a — flute — does a

13

dove — gent - ly from the eaves.

p

19

p

Then gent - ly, gent - ly and then

25

with the same_ song_ you call_ me_ back_

31

mp

Then with the same_ song you call_

cresc. poco

mp

37

Meno mosso *pp*

me _____ back. _____

Meno mosso *pp*

Gent - ly,

41

gent - ly you drive me a - way _____