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Gonalo Gato

To the Muses

for soprano and piano

Programme Notes:

The word 'music' has its origins in Greek mythology denoting the (art) of the Muses. *To the Muses* is based on William Blake's (1757–1827) poem, which appealed to me because of its musical allusions. Expressions such as "From ancient melody have ceas'd", "melodious winds", "The languid strings do scarcely move! / The sound is forc'd, the notes are few!" allude directly to music, but also metaphorically to inspirational issues. This is further emphasized by expressions such as "Fair Nine [muses], forsaking Poetry!" and "How have you left the ancient love".

London, March 2012

Execution notes:

- Accidentals last one bar and hold for the octave on which they appear;
- Last section Largo is intended to be performed as a poetry recitation with a piano accompaniment. Some drama is welcome.

To the Muses

Words from the poem by William Blake (1757-1827)

Gonçalo Gato
(March 2012, rev. Jun. 2015)

$\text{♩} = 80$

Soprano

Piano

mp *pp*

non legato

Pno.

p *tr*

Pno.

mp *p*

11 **Poco meno mosso**

S. *mp* *3*
 Whe-ther_ on I - da's_ sha - dy brow_

Pno. *pp* *5* *p* *5* *3* *pp*

Red.

S. *mf* *3* *mp* *f*
 Or in the cham-bers of the East, The cham-bers_ of the Sun,___

Pno. *mp* *pp* *mp* *ff* *p* *f* *3* *3* *p*

Red.

S. *mp* *decresc.* *ord.* *almost whispering* *pp*
 that now From an-cient me-lo - dy_ have ceased;

Pno. *p* *3* *3* *p* *mp* *p* *pp* *3*

S. 25

Pno. *mf* *pp* *3*

Poco meno mosso

29 *mp* *f* 3

S. Whe-ther in hea - ven ye wan -

Pno. *p* *p* *f*

32 *mf*

S. - der - fair, Or the green

Pno. *p* *mf* 3 3 3 5

34

S. cor - ners of the earth, Or the blue

Pno. *f* *mp* 3 5 *f* *mf*

36

S. re - gions of the air

Pno. *f* *mf* 3 3 *f* *ff*

38

S.

Pno.

ff *mf* *ff* *pp*

8^{va}

40

S.

Pno.

mp *p* *mf* *f* *ppp* *pp* *f* *f*

Where the me - lo - di - ous

42

S.

Pno.

f *p* *pp* *mp* *pp*

winds have birth;

44

S.

Pno.

accel.

mind the clef changes until the end

ff *p*

6 5

Detailed description: The image shows a page of a musical score for Soprano (S.) and Piano (Pno.). The page is numbered 4 in the top left corner. The score is divided into four systems, each corresponding to a measure number (38, 40, 42, 44). The Soprano part is written in a single staff, and the Piano part is written in a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The key signature is one sharp (F#). The time signature is not explicitly shown but appears to be 4/4. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, slurs, and articulations. Dynamics are indicated by letters like *ff*, *mf*, *pp*, *mp*, *f*, and *p*. There are also performance instructions like *accel.* and *mind the clef changes until the end*. The lyrics are: "Where the me - lo - di - ous", "winds have birth;", and "mind the clef changes until the end". The score ends with a double bar line and a final note in the piano part.

48

S.

Pno.

p 5 *ff* *pp* *f* 3

8^{vb}

51

S.

Pno.

f 5 3

Red.

$\text{♩} = 112$

54

S.

Pno.

mf 3 *(f)* 3 *mf* 3 3 3 3

Red.

We - ther on crys-tal

57

S.

Pno.

ff *mf* 3 *mf*

rocks ye rove, Be - neath

59 *mp* *p*

S. *the bo - som of the sea*

Pno. *p* *pp*

Red.

62 *mf*

S. *Wan-de - ring in ma - ny a co - ral*

Pno. *mf*

Red.

66 *f* *ff* *p* *f*

S. *grove; Fair nine for - sa - king*

Pno. *f* *ff* *p* *f*

69 *f* *fff* *fff*

S. *Po - e - try;*

Pno. *fff* *fff*

Red. *al fine*

8^{vb}

71 *rit.*

S.

Pno.

73

S.

Pno.

Largo
(speak, don't sing)
with despair
Fair Nine, forsaking Poetry;

with indignation
How have you left the ancient love
That bards of old enjoy'd in you!

S. Solo

Pno.

mp *f*

p *ff*

Immediately after
soprano text box

lost, demented
The languid strings do scarcely move,

The sound is forced,

whispering
the notes are few.

S. Solo

Pno.

p *rit.* *ppp* *mp* *ppp*