

For David Ogden and Exultate Singers

THREE SONGS OF LOVE

1 – First Love

JOHN CLARE
(1793–1864)

DAVID BEDNALL
(b 1979)

Reasonably fast, with great joy

SOPRANO

f I ne'er was struck be-fore that hour With love so sud-den and so *ff*

ALTO

f I ne'er was struck be-fore that hour With love so sud-den and so *ff*

TENOR

f I ne'er was struck be-fore that hour With love so sud-den and so *ff*

BASS

f I ne'er was struck be-fore that hour With love so sud-den and so *ff*

Reasonably fast, with great joy

PIANO
(for rehearsal only)

4

f *mf* *mf*

sweet, Her face it bloomed like a sweet_ flo - wer_

f *mf* *mf*

sweet, Her face_ it bloomed like a sweet_

f *mf* *mf*

sweet, Her face_ it bloomed like a sweet_

f *mf* *mf*

sweet, Her face_ it bloomed like a sweet_

6

mf *ff* *mf*

— And stole my heart a - way com - plete. My

mf *ff* *mf*

flo - wer And stole my heart a - way com - plete. My

mf *ff* *mf*

flo - wer And stole my heart a - way com - plete. My

mf *ff* *mf*

flo - wer And stole my heart a - way com - plete. My

9

mp

face turned pale as dead - ly pale, My legs re - fused to walk a -

mp

face turned pale as dead - ly pale, My legs re - fused to walk a -

mp

face turned pale as dead - ly pale, My legs re - fused to walk a -

mp

face turned pale as dead - ly pale, My legs re - fused to walk a -

11

p *mf dolce* *p*

- way, And when she looked, what could I ail? My

p *mf dolce* *p*

- way, And when she looked, what could I ail? My

p *mf dolce* *p*

- way, And when she looked, what could I ail? My

p *mf dolce* *p*

- way, And when she looked, what could I ail? My

14

life and all seemed turned to clay. And then my

life and all seemed turned to clay. And then my blood rushed to my

life and all seemed turned to clay. And then my blood rushed to my

16

And then my blood rushed to my face. And

And then my blood rushed to my face. And

blood rushed to my face, rushed to my face. And

face, then my blood rushed to my face. And

2 – Though you are in your shining days & The Cloths of Heaven

W B YEATS
(1865–1939)

DAVID BEDNALL

Slow and gently with much expression and rubato

SOPRANO *p* *pp*
Though you are in your shin - ing days,

ALTO *p*
Though you are in your shin - ing days,

TENOR *p*
Though you are in your shin - ing days,

BASS *p*
Though you are in your shin - ing days,

PIANO
(for rehearsal only)

Slow and gently with much expression and rubato

2 *mp* *pp mp*
Voi - ces a-mong the crowd And new friends bu - sy with your

pp mp
Voi - ces a-mong the crowd And new friends

pp mp
Voi - ces a-mong the crowd And new friends

pp mp
Voi - ces a-mong the crowd And new friends

4 *f dolce* *mf*

praise, Be not un - kind or

f dolce *mf*

bu - sy with your praise, Be not un - kind or

f dolce *mf*

bu - sy with your praise, Be not un - kind or

f dolce *mf*

bu - sy with your praise, Be not un - kind or

3

6 **A little slower** *p very warm* **a tempo**

proud, But think a-bout old friends the most:

p very warm

proud, But think a-bout old friends the most:

p very warm

proud, But think a-bout old friends the most:

p very warm *mf*

proud, But think a-bout old friends the most: Time's bit-ter flood will

A little slower **a tempo**

9 *mf*

Time's bit - ter flood will rise,

p Time's, *mf* time's bit - ter flood will

mf

Times, time's bit - ter flood will rise, bit - ter flood will

rise, time's bit - ter flood will

10

— Your beau-ty pe-rish — and be lost For all eyes but these eyes. *p* *pp*

rise, Your beau-ty pe-rish — and be lost For all eyes but these eyes. *p* *pp*

rise, Your beau-ty pe-rish — and be lost For all eyes but these eyes. *p* *pp*

rise, Your beau-ty pe-rish — and be lost For all eyes but these eyes. *p* *pp*

attaca

As slow as is comfortable, and with great rapture

14 ★ *p* but always warm

Had I the heav'ns' em - broid - ered cloths, En - wrought with

Had I the heav'ns' em - broid - ered cloths, En - wrought with

Had I the heav'ns' em - broid - ered cloths, En - wrought with

Had I the heav'ns' em - broid - ered cloths, En - wrought with

As slow as is comfortable, and with great rapture

17 *f dolce* *mf*

gold - en and sil - ver light, The blue and the dim and the

gold - en and sil - ver light, The blue and the dim and the

gold - en and sil - ver light, The blue and the dim and the

gold - en and sil - ver light, The blue and the dim and the

★The Cloths of Heaven (bars 14–34) may be performed separately

3 – Then and Now

JOHN McCRAE
(1872–1918)

DAVID BEDNALL

Slow and expressive

p murmured

SOPRANO
Be-neath her win-dow in the fra-grant night I half for-get how

ALTO
p murmured
Be-neath her win-dow in the fra-grant

TENOR

BASS

PIANO
(for rehearsal only)

Slow and expressive

3 *poco cresc* *mp*

tru-ant years have flown, I

poco cresc *mp*

night I half for-get how tru-ant years have flown, I

p murmured

Be-neath her win - dow in the fra-grant night I half for-get how

p murmured

Be-neath her win - dow in the fra-grant

5

half for - get how tru - ant years have

half for - get how tru - ant years have

tru - ant years_ have flown, how tru - ant years have

night I half for - get how tru - ant years have

mp

6

flown

flown

flown

flown, be - neath her win - dow in the fra - grant

8

7

p Since I looked up to see her cham - ber -

mp Since I looked up to see her cham - ber

mp Since I looked up to see her cham - ber

mp night. Since I looked up to see her cham - ber

8

- light, Or catch, per-chance, her

mf light, Be-neath her win - dow in the fra-grant night, Or catch, per-chance, her

p light, Or catch, per-chance, her

p light, Or catch, per-chance, her slen - der

10 *mp* *pp*

slen - - - der sha - dow thrown Up - on the case - ment; but the

mp to the fore *mp* *pp*

slen - - - der sha - dow thrown Up - on the case - ment; but the

mp *pp*

slen - - - der sha - dow thrown Up - on the case - ment; but the

mp *pp*

sha - dow _____ thrown Up - on the case - ment; but the

12 *mp* *rit*

nod - ding leaves Sweep la - zi - ly a - cross the un - lit

mp

nod - ding leaves Sweep la - - - zi - ly a - cross the un - lit

mp

nod - ding leaves Sweep la - - - zi - ly a - cross the un - lit

mp

nod - ding leaves Sweep la - zi - ly a - cross the un - lit

rit