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Singing At Dawn

1 Singing at dawn because the lightness of green has come back to the valley -- and so have we, O little yellow bird! *(2)	4	A stone for birth a stone for death We hand them to the Maidens we, the women of the People, who know the weight of birth of death (24)
Under new leaves I join the Circle of Maidens -- my braids swing long, my voice follows the flute, my feet step with the drum (7)	5	Butterfly here . . . there . . . My small daughter -- never sure when she lifts a foot just where she will again touch earth The lightness of her ways (28)
2 Waking from nightmare -- the shaman's chant, his drum go on go on Firepit smoke lazes out to the blackness My heartbeat slows (11)	6	No Moon The hunters depart in the dark, return in the dark Warm I lie, and alone -- my husband's body in the cold earth (38)
3 This honeysuckle evening I watch the Strawberry Moon seek its river face -- wait for my new-made husband to seek his new-named wife (16)		. . . And yet through these fingers the colors of Rainbow, the bulk of Bear paint themselves onto the new sachem's ceremonial robe . . . (39)
He says, "We will stay by these falls where salmon throng" As I drop corn kernels into the warm earth little yellow birds sing with me (17)	7	Under new leaves my daughter's daughter -- newborn, crying in my arms That she may walk the Woman's Trail unafraid I name her Rising Moon (41)*

*(The numbers in parentheses are those of the sequence in the original work.)

Commissioned by the Mohawk Trail Concerts, Charlemont, Massachusetts
for first performances on July 20 and 21, 2012

Singing At Dawn

for Soprano Solo, Flute and Percussion

Carol Purington (b. 1949)

Alice Parker (b. 1925)

1. Singing At Dawn

Slow, rather free ♩ = 66

The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of three systems. The first system includes staves for Soprano Solo, Flute, Finger Cymbals, Maracas, Rattle, and Indian Drum. The second system includes staves for Flute (Fl.), Finger Cymbals, Maracas, and Rattle (F. Cym. Maracas Rattle). The third system includes staves for Soprano Solo (Sop. Solo), Flute (Fl.), and Finger Cymbals, Maracas, and Rattle (F. Cym. Maracas Rattle). The Soprano Solo part includes lyrics: "Sing - ing, sing -". Dynamics include *p*, *mp*, and *mf*. Performance markings include accents, slurs, and a triplet. A large watermark "Copying is illegal" is overlaid on the score.

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13

Sop. Solo

ing, sing - ing at dawn

Fl.

F. Cym. Maracas Rattle

I. Dr.

p

18

Sop. Solo

be - cause the

Fl.

I. Dr.

mp

22

Sop. Solo

light - ness of green has come back to the val - ley _

Fl.

F. Cym. Maracas Rattle

mp

Rattle

26

Sop. Solo

and so have we, we,

Fl.

F. Cym. Maracas Rattle

F. Cym.

mf

mp

p

75

Sop. Solo

mp *cresc.* *f*

flute, _____ my feet, _____ my feet _____ step _

F. Cym. Maracas Rattle

I. Dr. *p* *cresc.*

82

Sop. Solo

f *dim.* *mf* *dim.*

_____ with _____ the drum, _____ step _____ with the

I. Dr. *f* *dim.* *mf*

87

Sop. Solo

mp

drum. _____

Fl. *mp* *p* *pp*

F. Cym. Maracas Rattle *pp*

I. Dr. *p*

4:30

2. Waking From Nightmare

7

Fast, intense ♩ = 140

Fl.

W. B./
Sus. Cym.

I. Dr.

97

Sop. Solo

Fl.

I. Dr.

101

Sop. Solo

Fl.

W. B./
Sus. Cym.

I. Dr.

106

Sop. Solo

Fl.

W. B./
Sus. Cym.

mf

f

mf

mf

cresc.

Wak - ing, wak - ing from night - mare, from

f

mp

(shriek!)

night - mare the sha - man's chant, —

tr tr tr tr

mp

W. B.

p

ff

cresc.

f

the sha - man's chant, his chant, — his drum —

cresc.

129

Sop. Solo

My heart - beat, my

Fl.

W. B./ Sus. Cym.

I. Dr.

Sus. Cym.

135

Sop. Solo

heart - beat slows, _____ slows. _____

Fl.

W. B./ Sus. Cym.

I. Dr.

Sus. Cym.

p

142

Sop. Solo

Fl.

W. B./ Sus. Cym.

I. Dr.

Sus. Cym.

pp

1:50

3. This Honeysuckle Evening

Lilting ♩ = 72

Fl. *mp*

Fl. 152

Sop. Solo 157 *mp*

This hon - ey - suck - le eve - ning,

Fl. *tr*

Sop. Solo 162 *mf*

this hon - ey - suck - le eve - ning _ I watch the

Fl. *mf*

Sop. Solo 167

Straw - ber - ry Moon, _ the Straw - ber - ry Moon seek _ its

Fl.

Sop. Solo 172

riv - er _ face, seek _ its riv - er face, _

Fl.

230 *mf* *tr*

Sop. Solo

Ah, ah, ah, ah,

Fl.

F. Cym. *mf*

W. B.



235 *tr* *tr* *tr*

Sop. Solo

ah, ah, ah,

Fl.

F. Cym.

W. B.



240

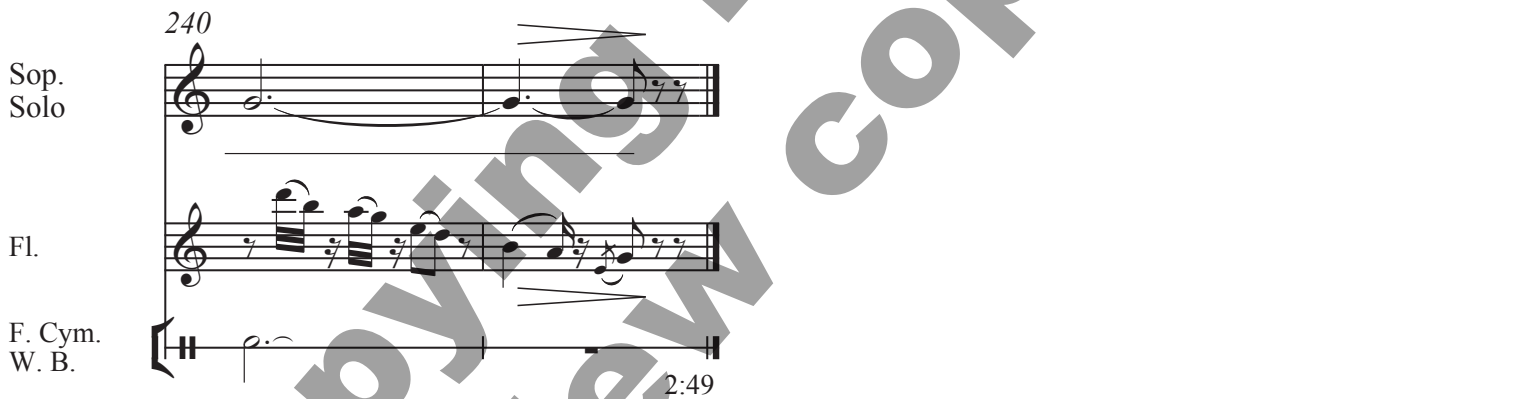
Sop. Solo

Fl.

F. Cym.

W. B.

2:49






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Review only


4. A Stone For Birth

Slow, mysterious $\text{♩} = 50$

I. Dr.

I. Dr. 
p muffled

246 *p dark*
Sop. Solo 
A stone for birth, a stone for death,
Fl. *p* 
I. Dr. 

252
Sop. Solo 
birth death. We
Fl. 
I. Dr. 

258
Sop. Solo 
hand them to the Maid - ens we, the wom - en
Fl. 
I. Dr. 

5. Butterfly here... there...

Lightly ♩ = 80

Fl. *mf* 3 3 3 3 *p*

F. Cym. *mp*

284

Fl. *mf* 3 3 3 3

F. Cym.

289

Sop. Solo *mf*

Fl. *tr*

F. Cym.

But - ter - fly, but - ter - fly,

293

Sop. Solo

Fl. *mp* 3 3

F. Cym.

but - ter - fly here... there... My small

298

Sop. Solo

Fl.

F. Cym.

daugh - ter, — nev - er sure when she lifts a foot just where she will a -

302

Sop. Solo
gain touch earth The light-ness_ of her ways _____

Fl.

F. Cym.

308

Fl. *f* 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

F. Cym. *mp*

314

Fl. 3 3 3 3 *tr*

F. Cym. *p*

319

Sop. Solo *p* But - ter-fly, but - ter-fly, but - ter-fly here... there...

Fl. *p* 3 3

F. Cym.

324

Sop. Solo My small daugh - ter _____ nev - er sure when she lifts a

Fl.

F. Cym.

6. No Moon

Slow, dark ♩ = 72

Fl. *mf*

W. B.
F. Cym.
Rattle *mf*

Sop. Solo *mf*
No - Moon, no -

Fl. *mf*

W. B.
F. Cym.
Rattle

Sop. Solo
Moon The hun - ters de - part in the dark, re -

Fl. *mf*

I. Dr. *p*

Sop. Solo
turn in the dark

Fl. *mf*

W. B.
F. Cym.
Rattle
I. Dr. *p*

Sop. Solo *mp*
Warm I lie, _____ and a - lone

Fl. *p*

W. B.
F. Cym.
Rattle *p*

402

Sop. Solo *mf*

Fl.

W. B. F. Cym. Rattle

paint _____ them - selves on-to the new sa - chem's cer - e -

F. Cym.

406

Sop. Solo *mp*

Fl.

W. B. F. Cym. Rattle

mo - ni - al robe, _____ the

Rattle W. B.

mp

411

Sop. Solo

Fl.

W. B. F. Cym. Rattle

cer - e - mo - ni - al robe... _____

dim. al fine

Rattle *p*

415

Fl.

W. B. F. Cym. Rattle

W. B.

p

pp

Hand F. Cym. to singer

4:07

7. Under New Leaves

Slow, rather free ♩ = 60

Sop. Solo / F. Cym.

Fl.

Rain Stick Rattle

I. Dr.

mp

3

Rain Stick (slow)

I. Dr. *p*

423

Sop. Solo / F. Cym.

Fl.

Rain Stick Rattle

I. Dr.

Un - der new

429

Sop. Solo / F. Cym.

Fl.

I. Dr.

leaves, my daught-er's daught-er new-born, cry-ing in my arms

433

Sop. Solo / F. Cym.

Fl.

Rain Stick Rattle

I. Dr.

mf

That

Rain Stick

Rattle

mp