

Shades of Love

three songs on the poetry of Constantin Cavafy

David Gompper

Program Notes

Written at the end of my 10-month sabbatical in Moscow in the summer of 2003, I chose five poems that were subsequently embedded into three songs. I chose poems that stressed three voices--future, present and past, and unified them by highlighting three recurring themes: light/night, senses (vision, body, lips, etc.), and memory. The basic pitch set is derived from his last name, Kabaphes (B-flat, A, F, E-flat), and the inward motion inherent in the voice leading (perfect fifth, major third) reflects in many ways the thrust of his poetry and his life: itself inward looking, solitary, personal and still.

I have reflected upon Cavafy's poetry for some 25 years--only now to find resonance with such sentiments--, having been introduced to this work by my teacher, mentor and friend, Jeremy Dale Roberts, to whom the cycle is dedicated.

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I. To Call up the Shades

Constantin Cavafy

David Gompper (2003)

Dreamy [$\text{♩} = 72$]

Baritone

Piano

legato

mp

mf

Ped.

meno mosso [$\text{♩} = 60$]

p

poco

3

One can-dle is e-nough

7:6

pp

p

Ped.

6

Its gen-tle light will be more suit-a-ble will be more

mf

mp

Ped.

II. I Went

With force, nerve [$\text{♩} = 72$]

short

I did not te-ther my-

4

self I gave in com-plete-ly and went I

7

went in - to the lu-min-ous night to those plea-sures that were half real

10

and half wheel-ing in my brain

III. Return

$\text{♩} = 69$
p

7

13

Re - turn of - ten and take me be - lo - ved sen - sa -

19

tion re - turn and take me

mf

Available full and parts score publications of works by David K. Gompper

Scores for the listed works below may be ordered from Schatzie Music Publishers, smp@davidgompper.com. Pricing of scores is determined by the current cost of reproduction. Allow 3 weeks for handling and delivery.

CHORAL

- An Elm We Lost**, for hp, pno, 2 perc, T & B solo, SATB chorus and strings [2002] **11:45** – 48 p. *cond.* + parts
Caedmon's Hymn (a cappella chorus) [1986] **8'** – 32 p. *octavo*
Lament for Bosnia (chorus and orchestra) [1998] **16'** – 76 p. *cond score* + parts
Mandatum Magnum, for soprano solo, SATB chorus and organ [1980] – 16 p. *organ* + 20 p. *octavo*
i am a little church (SATB chorus, piano and soli for soprano and violin) – 24 p. *octavo* + parts
Psalm 131 (SATB chorus and piano) – 12 p. *octavo*

LIGHT VOCAL

- Who What When Where Why** (two voices, two pianos), M. Bell [1994] **3:45** – 16 p. *concert*
You're Not Dead Yet! (vocal quartet) words by M. Bell [1998] **5'** – 24 p. *concert*

VOCAL

- Do Not Go Gentle** (soprano, piano and percussion ensemble) [1989] – 36 p. *11x14*
Light Poem (mezzo-soprano and harp) [1997] **4'** – 12 p. *concert*
Love's Philosophy, for baritone and piano (Shelley) [2003] **3:15** – 8 p. *concert*
Poetry for A Midsummer's Night, a setting of two poems for mezzo-soprano, double bass and piano [2000] **8:15** – 16 p. *concert*
Shades of Love, four songs on the poetry of Constantin Cavafy [2003] **8:40** – 20 p. *concert*
Three Poems (tenor and ensemble), poem by Auden [1992] – *not yet published*
White Glass (mezzo-soprano and piano), poem by Marvin Bell [1992] **5:30** – *not yet published*

SOLO/DUO INSTRUMENTAL

- Anon** (oboe and piano) [1984] **7'** – 16 p. *concert* + part
Finnegan's Wake (duo for violin and piano) [1997] **7:45** – 20 p. *concert* + part
Hommage a W. A. (William Albright) for piano solo [2001] **7:45** – 16 p. *concert*
Meditation (piano) [1999] **7:30** – 12 p. *concert*
Shadows (organ and computer) [1996] **9:30** – 20 p. *14x11*
Tempest Suite (piano duet) [1991] **13:10** – 20 p. *duet concert*
Three Preludes (organ) [1996] **11'** – 10 p. *17x11 fold-out*

SMALL-MEDIUM ENSEMBLE

- Butterfly Dance**, for clarinet, violin, viola, cello, piano [2001] **9:15** – 40 p. *concert* + parts
Crossed, for violin, alto saxophone and piano [2003] **8:20** – 24 p. *concert* + parts
Crossings, for violin, piano and saxophone quartet [2002] **7:05** – 28 p. *concert* + parts
Do Not Go Gentle (soprano, piano and percussion ensemble) [1989] – 36 p. *11x14* + parts
Don't Go There (va, db, hn, bsn, pno, harp, perc) [1998] **7'** – 60 p. *concert* + parts
Flip (17 strings) [1993] **10'** – 48 p. *concert* + parts
Kuta Muela III, for bassoon, flute, piano, and percussion [2003] **13:50** – 50 p. *concert* + parts
Quartet (piano and strings) [1996] **11:25** – 36 p. *concert* + parts
Ribbons (woodwind and string quartets, harp, harpsichord) [1993] **10:05** – *not yet published*
Shadows II (piano, percussion and brass quintet) [2000] **12:10** – 60 p. *concert* + parts
The Way, for violin and ensemble [2003] **11:45** – 50 p. *concert* + parts
Trio (flute, violin and cello) [1989] **10:10** – *not yet published*

LARGE ENSEMBLE

- Balloons** (orchestra) [1991] **14:40** – *not yet published*
Chamber Symphony No. 1 (orchestra) [1979] – *not yet published*
Symphony No. 2 (full orchestra) [1988] – *not yet published*
Transitus (wind ensemble) [1992] **10:15** – *not yet published*