

White Glass

for mezzo-soprano and piano

words by Marvin Bell

music by David Gompper

Program Notes

How shall you think of me when I am gone?
How shall you?
In summer, a robin's egg may be less blue.
In spring, I may be green.

How will you remember me?
A ruined violet, a corsage, a bouquet?
A plant whose tattered leaves turned gray?

No medicinal flowers! Drain the dark water!
They clash with life. They murmur like a pestilent chorus.
No dirge, no elegy! A descending harmony
does not have far to go. How far does death go?
I do not know, I do not know.

When you remember me, think of me as I am.
Paint me in the late light of a late season.
When the crops have turned to stubble, picture me.
The Earth that keeps you, keeps me.
There is no sunken sea.

You lazy gods, look down.
See the radiance.
See the ice.
Our crystalline dream burns bright.

How shall you think of me when I am gone?
It will not be far. It will not be long.
I have seen myself in winter's white glass.
I have seen myself in summer.
I have seen myself in the grass.

How far does death go?
I do not know, I do not know.

à Evelyn West
White Glass
for mezzo-soprano and piano

Marvin Bell

David Gompper (1992)

Freely, but directed

[♩ = 72]

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Mezzo-soprano

How shall you think of me when I'm gone?

f *sfz* l.v. *l.v.*

Ped. Ped.

8va

Detailed description: This system contains the first four measures of the piece. The Mezzo-soprano part begins with a rest in the first measure, followed by the lyrics 'How shall you think of me when I'm gone?'. The piano accompaniment starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic, followed by sforzando (*sfz*) and first ending (*l.v.*) markings. The piano part features a complex rhythmic pattern with many sixteenth notes and rests. Pedal points are indicated with 'Ped.' markings. An 8va marking is present above the piano part in the fourth measure.

5
m-s.

How shall you? In sum-mer

pp *p*

Ped. Ped.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 5 through 9. The Mezzo-soprano part continues with the lyrics 'How shall you? In sum-mer'. The piano accompaniment features a dynamic shift to pianissimo (*pp*) and then piano (*p*). Pedal markings are present throughout the system.

10
m-s.

a ro-bin's egg maybeless blue. In spring, I maybe

2

Ped. Ped.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 10 through 14. The Mezzo-soprano part has the lyrics 'a ro-bin's egg maybeless blue. In spring, I maybe'. A second ending (*2*) is marked above the piano part in measure 11. Pedal markings are present.

15
m-s.

green How will you re-mem-ber

f

Ped.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 15 through 18. The Mezzo-soprano part has the lyrics 'green How will you re-mem-ber'. The piano accompaniment features a dynamic shift to forte (*f*). Pedal markings are present.

19 *mf*

m-s. me? A ruin ed vio - let, a cour - sage, a bou - quet?

Pno. *p* *p* *mf*

24 *lunga*

m-s. A plant whose tat tered leaves turned gray?

Pno. *sub p* *Ped.*

29 = 92

m-s.

Pno. *8va*

33

m-s. No me - di - cin - al

Pno. *8va*

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*