

# Pastorale and Fioritura

for piccolo and piano

Op. 14a

from *Songs to the Fair Youth: 6 Songs on Flowers*, Op. 14

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Lance Mok

London: January 2022

ca. 9½ mins

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Pastorale and Fioritura are two instrumental movements, the second and the fifth respectively, taken from *Songs to the Fair Youth: 6 Songs on Flowers*. It is part of the composer's project to set the complete Shakespeare's sonnets into song cycles.

Pastorale is almost improvisatory and its different segments are held together by the Shakespeare motif, presented by the piccolo in the opening. Its repetitive emphasis on the bass note D evokes the drones customary of the form. The piece paints a picture of a warm summer day perhaps in an open but mountainous landscape. Fioritura is a set of reversed theme and variations on the Fair Youth motif. One note of the six in the motif is altered in each of the six variations and its original form only emerges at the end of the piece. The title is taken in both its literal meaning (florid melodic decorations) and derivative connotation (flower) to depict a journey of reinterpreting beauty and love. It opens with almost overwhelming flourishes set against the flower motif in the accompaniment playing simplistic harmonies. Variation by variation, the piece sheds its extravagance while the harmonies gain sophistication. When finally, the Fair Youth theme presents itself in its true form, its plain melody and nuanced harmonies almost radiate in innocence.

The work was premiered by flautist Karen Wong and the composer in St Mary's Aylesbury, United Kingdom on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

Instrumentation: piccolo and piano

# Pastorale and Fioritura

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## I. Pastorale

Largo e molto rubato  $\text{♩} = 48$

Off-stage position 1

Piccolo *f ma lontano*

Piano *pp*

Ped. \_\_\_\_\_ Ped. \_\_\_\_\_ col Ped.

4

*mp*

18

6

1

*mf*

*pp*

13

2

*mf*

*p*

16

*mp*

*pp*

*p*

18

*mf*

*ppp*

Ped.

9

rit. Poco meno mosso  $\text{♩} = 40$

*mp*



60

*pp*



10

Tempo primo  $\text{♩} = 48$

On stage

*f*

*mp*

$\text{♩} = 48$

*p*

Ped. \_\_\_\_\_

## II. Fioritura

Allegro ma non troppo, molto grazioso ♩ = 120

Piccolo

Musical notation for the Piccolo part, measures 1-3. The staff is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat. The melody features a series of eighth-note runs, some marked with a '5' and a slur. Dynamics include *p*, *pp*, and *sim.* (sforzando). There are triplet markings (3) at the end of the first and second measures.

Piano

Musical notation for the Piano part, measures 1-3. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and single notes. Dynamics include *pp* and *p*. Pedal markings are present: "Ped. \_\_\_\_\_" under measures 1 and 2, and "Ped. sim." under measure 3.

Musical notation for measures 4-6. The Piccolo part continues with eighth-note runs and slurs, marked with a '5'. Dynamics include *pp*, *p*, and *pp*. Triplet markings (3) are used. The Piano part continues with chords and single notes, with dynamics *pp*, *p*, and *pp*.

Musical notation for measures 7-9. The Piccolo part features eighth-note runs with slurs and a '5' marking. Dynamics include *poco* (poco ritardando) and *p*. Triplet markings (3) are present. The Piano part continues with chords and single notes, with dynamics *p* and *pp*.



34

9-measure triplet  
*cresc.*  
3  
3  
3  
*poco*  
*p*

37

*mf*  
17-measure triplet  
*mf*  
3  
3  
3  
3

39

7-measure triplet  
*p*  
*pp*  
*mp*  
3  
3  
3  
3

86

Musical score for measures 86-88. The system includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part features a prominent eighth-note scale in the right hand, starting on G4 and ascending to G5, marked with a forte (*f*) dynamic. A dynamic marking of *mp* appears later in the system. The bass line provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines. A double bar line is present at the end of the system.

89

Musical score for measures 89-92. The system includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part features a melodic line in the right hand with slurs and ties, and a bass line with chords and moving lines. The system concludes with a double bar line.

93

Musical score for measures 93-96. The system includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part features a melodic line in the right hand with triplets and slurs, and a bass line with chords and moving lines. The system concludes with a double bar line. A *rit.* (ritardando) marking with a right-pointing arrow is present above the vocal line and the piano part.

17

Poco meno mosso ♩ = 88

*p molto semplice*

Poco meno mosso ♩ = 88

*p molto semplice*

slow

Ped.  Ped.  Ped.



102

*mp* *p*

Ped.  Ped.  Ped.  Ped.



107

rit. → **Meno mosso ♩ = 80**

*pp*

rit. → **Meno mosso ♩ = 80**

*pp*

Ped.  Ped.  Ped.