

Five Short Poems Set To Music

James Humberstone

Porcelain
Cadence
Departure
Gala
A Flower-piece

Text taken from James Gleeson's "Five Short Poems to be Set to Music".

Piano and Tenor

For James Gleeson

Approximate duration 8 minutes

First performed by Jeremy Unwin and James Humberstone, November 1995, Exeter

Porcelain

C'hi lang dreams in the sing - ing gar - dens Lay - ing a - side her fan

The first system of music for 'Porcelain' consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is written in a single staff with a bass clef and contains three phrases of lyrics. The piano accompaniment is written in two staves (treble and bass clefs) and features chords and single notes that support the vocal melody.

she says said My soul is a white but - ter - fly

The second system of music continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line includes the lyrics 'she says said My soul is a white but - ter - fly'. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and melodic fragments.

Cadence

Ra - fu robed in wo - ven dreams Years _____ for the tears
of the moon That her heart might blo - - - ssom
as the lo - - - - tus

The 'Cadence' section is divided into three systems. The first system contains the lyrics 'Ra - fu robed in wo - ven dreams Years _____ for the tears'. The second system contains 'of the moon That her heart might blo - - - ssom'. The third system contains 'as the lo - - - - tus'. The musical notation includes a vocal line and piano accompaniment, with the piano part featuring chords and melodic lines that conclude the piece.

Departure

p
Con ped.

If she should pass_____ in the am - ber light____

from sigh - ing wa - ter court____ to_ pa - vil - lion

arch_____

a mil lion_ lit - tle

bells____ of the wind_____ will thread_____ the fab - ric of her go - ing with

pe - tals of sil - ver re - gret

molto rit

Gala

separate

f Laugh, little pink hat girl, your bird song thoughts the secret year of colours in

dress of ges - tures and hands and dance and eyes;

laugh, the fleeting, the reed call the fa - cade: the gay group of your eyes' enquiry

brighter than a bowl of nas - tur - tiums

A Flower-Piece

A quick new light lizards over isthmus, bay, and cape to lift on the rhythmic airbeats their

zoned ivory in - to the sun, to lay their pallid china gleam into the full hem - is - phere

of ba - roque angle curve, and tan - gent: flower drift in the wind and sun

This section and/or the first may be repeated