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MILLAY DEATH LYRICS

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Jonathan Santore

soprano voice

piano

Performance notes--"Dirge Without Music"

- 1) This poem is recited in order to express more closely the intent expressed in Ms. Millay's title. The reciter should begin each new stanza just after its corresponding musical gesture begins.
- 2) Those parts of the poem printed close to the piano part (beginning of stanza 1, ends of stanzas 1-3, stanza 4) should be spoken approximately within the time indicated by their relationship to the written music. The other parts of the poem should be spoken freely within their allotted musical time.

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"The Buck in the Snow," "Dirge Without Music." Copyright ©1928, 1955 by Edna St. Vincent Millay and Norma Millay Ellis.

"Mortal Flesh, Is Not Your Place in the Ground?" Copyright ©1939, 1967 by Edna St. Vincent Millay and Norma Millay Ellis.

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To Marcia--Don't do!

MILLAY DEATH LYRICS

I. Mortal Flesh, Is Not Your Place in the Ground?

Jonathan Santore

Sternly ($\text{♩} = 76$)

mf Mor-tal flesh, is not your place in the ground?-- Why do you stare so

poco rall. e dim. --- (mp) mf *atempo*

mf *poco rall. e dim. --- mp* *mf* *atempo*

At the bright plan-et se- rene in the clear green eve-ning sky a-

legato (non ped.)

cresc. --- f *poco rall. --- e dim.*

bove the man-y-coloured streak- clouds?

poco rall. *dim. ---*

(con ped.)

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cresc. - - - - -

ces- sion were a- bout to pass? *molto rall.*

cresc.

Maniacally! (♩ = 84)

f sempre!

Learn to love roots in- stead, roots in- stead,

f

(♩ = d. marc.)

cresc. - - - - - *f*

roots that soon, that soon a- bove your head shall be as branch- es.

f cresc.

⑥ II. The Buck in the Snow

(♩. = 63)

mp
White sky, o-ver the
poco rall. --- a tempo
mp
(non ped.)
sost. ped.
(can ped.)

2
hen-locks bowed with snow, Saw you not at the be-gin-ning of eve-ning the
cresc.
cresc.
p.

f
cat-lared buck and his doe stand-ing in the ap-ple or-ard? I saw them.
poco rall. --- e dim. --- mf
a tempo mp
poco rall.
dim. mf
a tempo

(♩.=63)

p
do.
mp
rall. ——— *a tempo*
(Ped.)

poco sost.
p
p

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III. Ebb

Steadily; in quiet desperation (♩=54)(Tempo II)

mp

(Freely)

3 4 mp

3 6

I know what my heart is

(non ped.)

like since your love died:

It is like a hol-low ledge

(con ped.)

Hold-ing a lit-tle pool* Left there by the tide, (Cone prima)

3 4 (mp)

3 6

MANUSCRIPT PAPER *) In unmetred sections, all notes & accidentals are naturals.



Numbly (♩=56)

(freely) (in strict time)

mp 4/4

p sempre

vcllo

(Ped.)

(Pedal with bass)

mp sempre

3 3 3

Lis-ten, chil-dren: Your fa-ther is dead: From his old coats I'll make you

3 3

lit-tle jack-ets; I'll make you lit-tle trou-ers

med-i-cine;

Life must go on; I for-get just

non dim. > poco rall. --- mp

Freely mp

Come prima (d=58)

why.

mp

II. Dirge Without Music

Menacingly (♩=52)

poco rall. ----- I am not resigned to the shutting away
of loving hearts in the hard ground.

mp

(con ped) mp L. H. 8vo basso sempre!

(Ped.)

So it is, and so it will be, for so it has been, time out of mind:
Into the darkness they go, the wise and the 'levely. Crowned
With lilies and with laurel they go;

Inexorably (♩=52) (Tempo II)

mp sempre

REPEAT UNTIL...

but I am not resigned.

Lovers and thinkers, into the earth with you.
Be one with the dull, the indiscriminate dust.
A fragment of what you knew,

A formula, a phrase re-

sim.

maing, --

but the best is lost. (V.S.)

(L.H. at pitch)

know. But I do not approve, *poco accel.* And I am not resigned, *With all tenderness (♩=60)*

(L.H. at pitch)

rit.

Independence Day 1987
Austin, TX