

land cycle

for SATB choir & piano accompaniment

ED SCOLDING

land cycle

arrangement for SATB choir & piano

by

ED SCOLDING

total duration approx 8'

•
each of the three movements may be performed on its own, or with other movements, in any order.

•
the piano accompaniment in Winter Ending is optional - the movement may be performed a cappella.

•
commissioned by Making Music as part of Adopt a Composer, in partnership with Sound and Music and PRS Foundation. The piece is dedicated to La Nova Singers.

WINTER ENDING Over the land freckled with snow half-thawed
The speculating rooks at their nests cawed
And saw from elm-tops, delicate as flowers of grass,
What we below could not see, Winter pass.

Edward Thomas - Thaw

SPRING BURSTING The garden has been sown with dragon's teeth;
Summer brazens through the mulch of spring,
Itself the chewed stuff of autumn. Beneath,
The flowers draw their blades. Trees cast leaves, fling
Upon the lower world their cuckoospell
Of shadow, shuddering the pollen; warm snow.
Thousand-coated, million-mated world, swell -
For the year's yolk is in its overflow
And over-golden, too big for any shell.

Shaun Gardiner - Invocation [copyright © 2015]

SUMMER HEAT Gently I stir a white feather fan,
With open heart sitting in a green wood.
I take off my cap and hang it on a jutting stone;
A wind from the pine-trees trickles on my bare head.

Adapted from Li Po - In the Mountains on a Summer Day, translated by Arthur Waley.

land cycle

WINTER ENDING

♩ = 56, dark, wintry, crisp

Soprano
ah ah

Alto
ah ah

Tenor
ah ah

Bass

Piano part optional for Winter Ending
p f mf p mp p pp

Soprano
ah ah

Alto
ah ah

Tenor
ah ah

Bass
ah ah

Piano
p f p f

7 *accel.* *f* *a tempo* *f*

♩ = 69 with more movement

14 *ff* *p* = 56 reflective *p* *mf*

ah O - ver the land freck-led.

ah O - ver the land freck-led.

ah O - ver the land

ah O - ver the land freck-led.

ff *p* *mf*

21 *p*

with snow half - thawed the spec-u - lat-ing rooks at their nests cawed And

with snow half - thawed the spec-u - lat-ing rooks at their nests cawed And

snow thawed the spec-u - lat-ing rooks at their nests cawed

with snow half - thawed the spec-u - lat-ing rooks at their nests cawed

p

26 *accel.* *mf* *rit.* *p*

saw from elm

saw from elm

from elm

elm

32 *A tempo* *pp* *mf* *f*

- tops del-i-cate as flow'rs of grass, What we be-low what, what

- tops del-i-cate as flow'rs of grass, What we be-low what, what

- tops as of grass, What we be-low what, what

- tops as flow'rs of grass, What we be-low what, what

38

mf *f* *p*

we, what we be-low could not see,

mf *f* *p*

we, what we be-low could not see,

mf *f* *p*

we, what we be-low could not see,

mf *f* *p*

we, what we be-low could not see,

mf *f* *p*

we, what we be-low could not see,

44

mf *p*

Win - ter pass, Win - ter pass.

mf *p*

Win - ter pass, Win - ter pass.

mf *p*

Win - ter pass, Win - ter pass.

mf *p*

Win - ter pass, Win - ter pass.

mf *p*

Win - ter pass, Win - ter pass.

PART 2: SPRING BURSTING

♩ = 48 **bristling, tough**

♩ = ♪ (♩ = 72)

51

f

The gar - den has been sown with

f

The gar - den has been sown with

f

The gar - den has been sown with

f

The gar - den has been sown with

54

dra-gon's teeth; Sum - mer bra - zens through the

dra-gon's teeth; Sum - mer bra - zens through the

dra-gon's teeth; Sum - mer bra - zens through the

dra-gon's teeth; Sum - mer bra - zens through the

57

mulch of spring, chewed stuff of au-tumn... The

mulch of spring, It-self the chewed stuff of au-tumn... neath, The

mulch of spring, It-self the chewed stuff of au-tumn... Be-neath, The

mulch of spring, chewed stuff of au-tumn... Be-neath, The

8^{va}

61

flow-ers draw their blades. Trees cast leaves, fling Up-on the low-er world their

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flow-ers draw their blades. Trees cast leaves, fling Up-on the low-er world their

66

sfz:p

cuck-oo spell Of shad-ow, shudd-er - ing the pol - len; warm snow.

sfz:p

cuck-oo spell Of shad-ow, shudd-er - ing the pol - len; warm snow.

sfz:p

cuck-oo spell Of shad-ow, shudd-er - ing the pol - len; warm

sfz:p

cuck-oo spell Of shad-ow, shudd-er - ing the pol - len; warm

70

f *accel.* $\text{♩} = 80$ *rit.*

Thou-sand-coat-ed, mil-lion-mat-ed world, swell- For the year's yolk is in its o-ver-flow

Thou-sand-coat-ed, mil-lion-mat-ed world, swell- For the year's yolk is in its o-ver-flow

Thou-sand-coat-ed, mil-lion-mat-ed world, swell- For the year's yolk is in its o-ver-flow

Thou-sand-coat-ed, mil-lion-mat-ed world, swell- For the year's yolk is in its o-ver-flow

ff

74 **A tempo** (♩ = 72)

p And o - ver - gol - den, too big for a - ny shell.

p And o - ver - gol - den, too big for a - ny shell.

p And o - ver - gol - den, too big for a - ny shell.

p And o - ver - gol - den, too big for a - ny shell.

p

8^{vb}

PART 3: SUMMER HEAT

♩ = 40, hazy, still, breezeless

79

p *staggered breathing*

nn

p *staggered breathing*

nn

p *staggered breathing*

nn

p

mf *p*

accel. ♩ = 48
solo (optional)

88

mf

Gent - - - ly I

95

stir a white feath-er fan, nn

ah nn

ah nn With o - pen_

ah nn With o - pen_

tutti p

mf

mf

101

heart sit - ting in a green wood. nn I take off my cap and hang it

heart sit - ting in a green wood. nn I take off my cap and hang it

heart sit - ting in a green wood. nn

mf

p

mf

p

108

ah oh A wind from the pine - trees trick-les
on a jut-ting stone; oh ah
on a jut-ting stone; oh ah
ah oh ah

mf
p
p

113

on my bare head. air
air
air
air

p