



THE WEST WIND

Song for Voice and Piano

Poem by

John Masefield

Music Composed

by

Cyril Bradley Rootham

PIANO / VOCAL SCORE

COVER IMAGE

“Misty Highlanders” by William Lakin Turner, 1867 - 1936



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ENGLISH HERITAGE MUSIC SERIES

The “renaissance” in English music is generally agreed to have started in the late Victorian period, beginning roughly in 1880. Public demand for major works in support of the annual choral festivals held throughout England at that time was considerable which led to the creation of many large scale works for orchestra with soloists and chorus.

Although a number of those works were engraved, printed and are regularly performed today, performance scores for a considerable number of compositions, both large-scale and more intimate works, are not available. These works were either never engraved or were engraved and printed but are no longer available in the publishers’ catalogues. While the existence of these works is documented in biographies of the composers, the ability to study and, most importantly, to perform these compositions is not possible.

Changes in the International copyright laws, coupled with changing musical tastes, played a pivotal role in creating this void. As a result, music publishers lost the ability to generate revenue from the sale/rental of such music. In 1964, holograph and copyist scores from both Novello and from publishers it represented were offered to the British Library and the Royal College of Music Library (see The RCM Novello Library – The Musical Times, Feb. 1983 by Jeremy Dibble).

These autograph full score manuscripts along with copies of engraved vocal scores, widely available through various online library sources, are now the only resources available for studying and performing these works.

The English Heritage Music Series has been created to ensure that these compositions are preserved, are accessible for scholarly research and, most importantly, are available for performance by future generations. Its mission is to:

- Source non-engraved/out-of-print English composer compositions that are in the U.S. public domain
- Preserve these compositions through the preparation of performance scores using notation software
- Provide access to the scores to facilitate study, performance and sharing of performance material (program notes, audio, reviews, etc.)

In preparing the English Heritage Music Series editions, every effort has been made to adhere strictly to the notation contained in the manuscripts. Because of the passage of time and its effect on the condition of the manuscript, the absence of clear information often times by the composer in notating divided instruments, and with emendations in the composer and other hands resulting from use of the manuscript in performance, there were numerous circumstances which required interpretation and decisions for notes, accidentals, dynamics, articulations and tempi. Should questions arise in the use of these editions, the composers’ autograph manuscripts and the Novello vocal scores should be consulted for clarification.

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Source Information

Vocal Score

J. Curwen & Sons Ltd., No. 2290 (1923)

Manuscript Transcription & Score Preparation

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Reference Material and Software

Notation Software: Dorico Pro 4.3.30.1132 *Audio Software:* NotePerformer 3.3.2 *Graphic Software:* Adobe Photoshop CS5
Document Software: Affinity Serif Publisher *Music Notation Reference:* Behind Bars by Elaine Gould, Faber Music © 2011

THE WEST WIND

John Masfield

It's a warm wind, the west wind, full of birds' cries;
I never hear the west wind but tears are in my eyes.
For it comes from the west lands, the old brown hills.
And April's in the west wind, and daffodils.

It's a fine land, the west land, for hearts as tired as mine,
Apple orchards blossom there, and the air's like wine.
There is cool green grass there, where men may lie at rest.
And the thrushes are in song there, fluting from the nest.

"Will you not come home, brother? You have been long away.
It's April, and blossom time, and white is the spray:
And bright is the sun, brother, and warm is the rain.
Will you not come home, brother, home to us again?"

The young corn is green, brother, where the rabbits run;
It's blue sky, and white clouds, and warm rain and sun.
It's song to a man's soul, brother, fire to a man's brain.
To hear the wild bees and see the merry spring again.

Larks are singing in the west, brother, above the green wheat.
So will you not come home, brother, and rest your tired feet?
I've a balm for bruised hearts, brother, sleep for aching eyes,"
Says the warm wind, the west wind, full of birds' cries.

It's the white road westwards is the road I must tread
To the green grass, the cool grass, and rest for heart and head.
To the violets and the brown brooks and the thrushes' song
In the fine land, the west land, the land where I belong.

The West Wind

John Masefield

Cyril Bradley Rootham

Allegretto, con spirito. **mf**

Voice: **Allegretto, con spirito.** It's a

Pianoforte

4 *dim.*

V. warm wind, the west wind, full of birds' cries; I nev - er hear the west wind but

Pno

7 **poco rit.** *cresc.* **a tempo**

V. tears are in my eyes. For it comes from the west lands, the old brown hills, And_

Pno **poco rit.** **a tempo**

10 **rit...** **a tempo** **mf**

V. A - pril's in the west wind, and daf - fo - dils. It's a fine land, the west land, for

Pno **rit...** **rit.** **a tempo** **a tempo** **mf** **a tempo**

13

V. hearts as tired as mine, Ap - ple or - chards blos - som there, and the

Pno

pp

15

V. air's like wine. There is cool green grass there, where men may lie at rest, And the

Pno

dim.

dim.

18

V. thrush - es are in song there, flu - ting from the nest. "Will you not come home, bro - ther?"

Pno

rit.

p a tempo

rit.

p a tempo

21

V. You have been long a - way. It's A - pril, and blos - som time, and

Pno

cresc.

cresc.

23 *f*

V. white is the spray: And bright is the sun, bro - ther, and warm is the rain,

Pno *f* *dim.*

26 *p* *dim.* *poco rit.* *mf a tempo*

V. Will you not come home, bro - ther, home to us a - gain? The young corn is green, bro - ther,

Pno *p* *pp dim.* *poco rit.* *mf a tempo*

29 *cresc.*

V. where the rab - bits run; It's blue sky, and white clouds, and

Pno *cresc.*

31 *ff* *allargando*

V. warm_ rain and sun. It's song to a man's_ soul, bro - ther,

Pno *f allargando*

33 *dim.*

V. fire to a man's brain, To hear the wild bees and

Pno

35 *p*

V. see the mer - ry spring a - gain. Larks are sing - ing in the west, bro - ther, a -

Pno *cresc.* *p*

37

V. -bove the green wheat, So will you not come home, bro - ther, and

Pno

39 *meno mosso*

V. rest your tired feet? I've a balm for bruised hearts, bro - ther,

Pno *meno mosso*

41 **a tempo**, *cresc.*

V. sleep for ach - ing eyes," Says the warm wind, the west wind, full of birds' cries.

Pno **a tempo**, *cresc.* **f** *Red.*

44 **f**

V. It's the white road west - wards is the

Pno *8va* *loco*

47

V. road I must tread To the green grass, the cool grass, and rest for heart and head, To the

Pno

50

V. vi - o - lets and the brown brooks and the thrush - - - es' song In the

Pno **f** *Red.* *

52 **rit.**

V. fine land, the west, land, the land _____ where I be - long.

Pno **rit.** **ff**



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