

Seven Songs

Alexander Porfiryevitsj

Borodin

(1833-1887)

Setting for alto and piano by Arie van Hoek

| | range | duration | page |
|---|--------|----------------|-------|
| 1. The sea princess (1867) <i>To Alexandra Yegorovna Makrovskaya, text: A. Borodin</i> | A-d' | 2 min. 45 sec. | 1-3 |
| 2. Song of the dark forest (1868) <i>To Lyudmila Ivanovna Shestakova, text: A. Borodin</i> | A-es' | 3 min. 15 sec. | 4-5 |
| 3. For the shores of your far homeland (1881) <i>To Ekatarina Sergejevna Borodina, text: A. Pushkin</i> | A-e' | 3 min. 50 sec. | 6-8 |
| 4. Pride (1884-1885) <i>To Anna Alexandrovna Bachurina, text: A.K. Tolstoy</i> | G-d' | 3 min. 35 sec. | 9-11 |
| 5. The sleeping princess (1867) <i>To Nikolay Andreyevich Rimsky-Korsavov, text: A. Borodin</i> | BES-d' | 4 min. 55 sec. | 12-15 |
| 6. My songs are poisoned (1868) <i>To César Cui, text: H. Heine</i> | G-dis' | 1 min. 20 sec. | 16 |
| 7. The haves at home (1881) <i>To Darya Mikhaylovna Leonova, text: N. Nekrasov</i> | FIS-d' | 3 min. 30 sec. | 17-19 |
| | Total | 25 min. | |

Voice b-e"

The sea princess

Alexander Borodin

Moderato

Alto

Piano

p *sempre legato*

p Come

4

here to - me in dar - kest - night, o tra - ve-ler young - and

pp *cresc.*

7

mf fair. Here *dim.* un - der sea - - - , it is *p* chil - ly and se -

mf *dim.* *p*

10

rene. *p* Here

13

you shall find rest, here you shall find peace, the rip - ples shall rock you to

p

16

sleep - . . . *pp* Where bliss - ful - ly waves just - man - age to beach, *ppp* on

pp

19

shores and, bar - ren sands.

ppp

22

Più animato

p On

cresc. *cresc. poco a poco*

24 *cresc. poco a poco*
 rol - lic - king swells, the sea nymph her - self, swims

26 *rall.* **Tempo I**
 clo - ser to sweep you a - way - - - ! *p* She sings to - you, she

29
 calls to - you she car - ries you - a - way - - - .

32
dim. e rall. *ppp*

Voice a-es"

Song of the dark forrest

Alexander Borodin

Molto moderato e pesante

Alto

Piano

p

p

5

for- rest purred the dark for- rest whirred, sang a song, sang an age- less song, dark and an- cient song,

5

10

told a tale; how there in the_ woods lived a will- ful_ sole, free and bold, how there

10

14

ga- thered and grew this sole hear- ty and hale, loose and strong, how that

14

rall.

Piu animato

rall.

Piu animato

cresc.

18 *cresc.*
will-ful soul swept the firs a-side, how that mighty force knocked the birches down, and the

18 *Più animato*
f ff
mf

22 soul went wild, pil-lag-ing and the po-
wer burst forth, sack-ing town-taunt-ing chal-
len-gers, mock-ing

22 *mf cresc.*
mf

27 e - ne - mies, drink-ing wine and blood of its mor-tal foes to the dregs. Free and

27 *f ff*
mf cresc.
ff
rall.

33 *Tempo I*
will-ful soul, hale and mighty force.

33 *p*

For the shores of your far homeland

Voice A-e'

Andante con moto

Alexander Borodin

Alto

Piano

ff *mf* *cresc.*

marcato

7

p

For the shores of your far home-land you left for

f *dim.* *p*

marcato

13

cresc. *f* *dim.*

good this fo - reign place, and in that sad, un-en - ding mo - ment, I weeped and weeped o-ver your

cresc. *f* *dim.*

18

poco rit. *a tempo*

p *cresc. poco a poco*

face - - . Your arms, al - rea - dy slow - ly coo - ling,, they tried to hold me, ten - der -

poco rit. *a tempo*

p *cresc. poco a poco*

22 *appassionato*

ly, the ter - ri - ble lan - guor of leav - ing, your wail that beg - ged to pro - long. You

f *dim.*

27 *p cresc. poco a poco*

tore your lips sud - den - ly a - way - , from our long pas - sion - ate em - brace, and from this land of end - less ex -

appassionato

p cresc. poco a poco *f*

32 *poco rit.* *a tempo*

ile - - - , you called me to an - o - ther place. You could still whis - per; "It's our - ap -

dim. *dim.* *p* *cresc.*

poco rit. *a tempo*

dim. *p* *cresc.*

36

point - ment, at blue and e - ver a - zure sky, in shade of o - live trees, and myr - tles, we'll

f *dim.*

f *dim.*

41 *poco rit.* *poco rit.* *a tempo*

kiss, my friend you and I - ." But there, a-las, calm in the hea - vens, shine in their a - zure, glo-ry

p *cresc. poco a poco*

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

dim. *p* *cresc. poco a poco*

marcato

46 *poco rit.*

deep, where un-der cliffs nod gen - tle wa - ters, you're drif-ting in - to your last sleep.

mf *dim.*

poco rit.

mf *dim.*

51 *a tempo*

Your beau - ty - , and suf - fe - rings - , have dis - ap-peared in-to the

p *cresc.*

a tempo

p *cresc. poco a poco*

56 *sempre rall.*

grave - , and va-nished, too, your kiss of gree-ting... I'll wait for you, you owe it me!

mf *dim.* *p*

sempre rall.

mf *dim.* *pp* *sf*

Pride

Alexander Borodin

Allegro moderato, marziale

Alto

Pride pa - rades, puffed up, pran - cing til - ting side to side and dan - cing

Piano

11

Pride pa - rades - . Pride is just two and a half feet tall. but his be - ret is

22

se - ven feet wide - . Pride pa - rades, puffed up, pran - cing til - ting side to side and

32

he is jol - ly dan - cing Pride - pa - rades - . At his gir - dle round pearls are rich - ly glea - mng.

42

on his back the lau-rels gold and sil-ver blin-king. *p* Pride would vi-sit mom and dad - ,

54

but the fence nee-ded to be pain-ted for quite a while. Pride would go to church on

64

Sun - day, but the floor at home nee-ded, be swept ur-gent - ly. *f* Pride pa - rades,

74

he is ent-hu-sias-tic mar-ching side-to-side and pran-cing puffed up ar-ro-gant-ly Pride pa - rades . *f*

85 Lento Tempo I

p Pride pa - rades, then he sen - ses slight *mf* rain threat - 'ning *mf risoluto* Pride stops right there, and turns

96 3

p back ful - ly con vinced: "It's not fit - ting for me, now to bow - me down!". Pride pa - rades, puffed up

110

pran - cing til - ting side to side and dan - cing Pride pa - rades - !

The sleeping princess

Andantino

Alto

Piano

p A lone-some prin-cess sleeps, ma-gic sleep in

pp *sempre legato*

7 haun-ted woods, un-der co-ver of dark night - sleep has shut her eyes so tight - Sleep - ,

7 *dim.*

13 *rall.* *cresc.* sleep Sud - den-ly the si - lence break - ing

13 *mf* *dim.* *pp* *rall.* *cresc.*

19 *f* *dim.* *rall.* laugh-in, shout-ing, mer-ry-mak-ing, through the gloom the wood-nymphs sweep, yet they do not

19 *f* *dim.*

24 *più rall.*

break her sleep. *p*

24 *più rall.*

p *pp* *cresc.* *f*

29 **Tempo I**

Pale and wan, as dead she were, sleeps the prin - cess e - ver there. Sleep - ,

29 *p*

legato

34 **Più animato**

sleep - . Then a ru-mour shocks the for - rest, comes a brave and

34 *p* *cresc. poco a poco*

mf dim. *p* *cresc. poco a poco*

40

dar - ing war - rior he shall break the spell by force, van - quish sleep for e - ver - more,

40 *f*

45 *rall.*
 and re - lease the prin - cess from her dead - - - - - ly sleep.

50 *Più lento*
p But the days and weeks keep pas - sing, and the

50 *Più lento*
dim. *p*

55 *rall.*
 months and years keep pas - sing. Not a liv - ing soul ap - pears - , gent - le peace is all a -

55 *rall.*

60 *Tempo I*
p round - - Fast a - sleep the prin - cess lies, wrapped in mys - te - ry her eyes,

60 *Tempo I*
p
sempre legato

66

by a fair-y charm en-chan-ted, doomed to dream in for - est haun - ted. Sleep - , sleep - .

66

dim.

72

pp

No one knows, and none can au - gur, when the

72

mf *mp* *p* *pp*

77

hour will toll for wak - ing.....

77

mf *p* *pp*

My songs are poisoned

Alexander Borodin

Voice G-dis'

Appassionato

Alto

Piano

f *capriccioso* *p* *cresc.* *f* *rall.*

My songs are full of poi-son and how can it o-ther-wise

6 *a tempo* *p* *rall.*

be? You, dear - est, by fa - tal ver - nom, have poi-sened the whole of my life.

6 *p* *cresc.* *f* *rall.*

11 *a tempo* *p* *cresc.* *f* *rall.* *a tempo* *f*

My songs are full of _ poi - son and how can it o - ther-wise be? So ma - ny - snakes in my

11 *a tempo* *p* *cresc.* *f* *rall.* *a tempo* *f*

16 *dim.*

heart where in-stead you should for - e-ver be.

16 *dim.* *mf* *f* *p*

The haves at home

Voice gis-e"

Alexander Borodin

Alto

Allegretto ($\text{♩} = 100$)

$\text{♩} = 80$

p

At the homes of the haves it is

Piano

p

p

5

Tempo I ($\text{♩} = 100$)

clean and so nice, but at our hou-ses close and cramped, lice are craw-ling all a-round - .

Tempo I ($\text{♩} = 100$)

pp

p

9

$\text{♩} = 80$

p

In the stew pots of haves there's plen - ty mut - ton and beef, but in

9

$\text{♩} = 80$

p

pp

13

rall.

Tempo I

our dai - ly pots, you'll find just some fleas and roa - ches!

Tempo I

rall.

p

17 $\text{♩} = 80$ *rall.*

pp

The old grand - dads of havens they beat the chil - dren so of - ten, but our grand - dads eat all bread and they

17 $\text{♩} = 80$ *rall.*

pp *pp*

21 *Tempo I* $\text{♩} = 80$

p

gob - ble up our por - ridge - ! *Tempo I* For the

21 $\text{♩} = 80$

p *p*

25 *pp*

havens on - ly sor - row is just che - wing the fat but we just think a - bout our grief, is there some - thing to eat? Ekh -

25 *pp*

29 *Vivo* ($\text{♩} = 144$) *sempre cresc. e più animato*

f mp *p*

! If we lived just like them, we would light up the world: with some cash in the purse, and some corn in the

29 *Vivo* ($\text{♩} = 144$) *sempre cresc. e più animato*

f mp *pp*

33 *rall. e dim.*
f
 barn, buy a har - ness with bells, and a fan - cy ox - bow, and some shirts made of silk, not of ir - king rough

33 *mf rall. e dim.*

37 *riten. Allegretto, come prima*
maestoso mf
 flax sack-cloth, and then we would earn some res - pect, from the haves, and the priest would stop by, and the

37 *riten. Allegretto, come prima*
mf maestoso
mf p
più lento (maestoso) dim. poco a poco

41 *più lento*
p dolce
 kids learn to read, they would have a lot of joy, with a plea-sant span of toys, and the wife of the

41 *più lento*
p dolce
f
maestoso e lento
maestoso e lento

45 *Vivo (♩ = 120)*
dolce
 house, would be hap py as can be!

45 *mf*
f
ff