

Gabriel Jackson

Ruined Land

for tenor and piano

RUINED LAND was commissioned by Hansell Stevenson Solicitors with additional funds provided by the Britten-Pears Foundation and the Norfolk Association for the Advancement of Music, and was first performed by Mark Wilde and Edward Bhesania at St. Peter and St. Paul's Church, Salle, on June 11th 1994

Duration: 9 minutes

Preview File Only

Where the land rises and dips, a country to itself;
Where nature holds its breath or gently dances;
Where flowers grow, disturbed by rain alone;
Where creatures play on empty pathways;
Where life performs mysteries unobserved;

Where wings beat and batter the swaying elm tops;
Where branches give and kick beneath invisible leaping;
Where deer start into the thickness of leaves;
Where acorns drop, like heavier things, to the floor;
Where lagoons sullenly lap.

Where you were.
Where you walked on paths of dried, pestled softness;
Where we lay in clearings until weakened by the heat,
Or polished smooth trunks with our swinging legs;
Where we whispered, or listened to the forest stillness.

Where light, grey and white, lingers beyond the complex geometry of birch limbs;
Where fallen mists bisect the skyward fingering;
Where there is no shelter from the wind.
But the last copper leaf clings to its stem tip.
Where I am.

Where humming lines outsing the forest's breathing,
Where listless water erupts in toxic froth,
Where the stink and throb of highways reach,
Where poisons seep through the earth, gust on the air.
This place is wasted like our love.

Richard George Elliott

Ruined Land

Text: Richard George Elliott

Music: Gabriel Jackson

Verdant, fresh e = 108

Tenor

Piano

mp

tr

più f marcato

p

6

mp

ten.

mp

marc.

11

mp

Where the land ris - es and dips, a

(tr)

p

mp

pp

8va

15

coun - try to it - self; _____

mp marcato *8va*

p poco *mp*

19

Where na - ture holds its breath _____ or gent - ly dan

mp

p *mp*

24

ces; _____

lilting *poco*

29

Where flo - wers grow, _____ dis - turbed _____ by rain a - lone;

mp *mp sub.* *covered* *8va*

34 *mp*
Where crea - tures play on emp - ty path - ways;-

(8)

pp *mp* *poco più f*

36 *mp*
Where life per - forms

mp

39 *meno mosso* e = 96
p sub.
my - steries un - ob - served.

p hushed, still

43
ten.
ten.

48 **a tempo** (e = 108)

48 *mp* 5 *ten.* 3 *mp* 5 *più f* *mp* 3

53 *mp*

Where wings beat and bat-ter the sway - ing elm tops;

53 *mf* 5 *8va* 3 3 *mp* *p* *mp*

57 *pp* *mp*

Where bran-ches give and kick be -

57 *pp* *tr* *mp* *p* *8va* *mf* 3 3 *mp*

62

neath in - vi - si - ble leap - ing;

62 *pp* 3 *più f* *cantabile* 3 3 *p*

67 *mp* *molto legato*
 Where deer start in - to the thick - ness of leaves;
mf *poco pesante*

72 *mp*
 Where a - corns drop, like hea - vier things to the floor;
p *mp* *poco* *mp*
8va

76 *mp*
 Where la - goons
più f *mp*

79 *meno mosso* $e = 96$
 sul - len - ly lap.
p *ten.*

84

Musical score for measures 84-88. The system includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part features a 'poco' dynamic marking and a 'Ped.' (pedal) instruction at the end of the system.

89

Musical score for measures 89-92. The system includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part features a 'poco' dynamic marking and a 'Ped.' (pedal) instruction at the end of the system. There is an asterisk (*) below the piano part in measure 89.

93

Musical score for measures 93-96. The system includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part features a 'meno f' dynamic marking and a 'Ped.' (pedal) instruction at the end of the system. There are asterisks (*) below the piano part in measures 93 and 96.

97

Musical score for measures 97-100. The system includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line has lyrics: "Where you were." The piano part features dynamic markings "lovingly mp" and "mf".

101 Urgent q = 84

Musical score for measures 101-102. The system includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part features a continuous eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a similar pattern in the left hand, with fingering '5' indicated. The tempo is marked 'Urgent q = 84'. The key signature has four sharps (F#, C#, G#, D#) and the time signature is 3/4. The vocal line has a whole rest in measure 101 and a whole note in measure 102.

103 *mf slightly breathless*

Musical score for measures 103-104. The system includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part continues with the eighth-note pattern and fingering '5'. The vocal line has lyrics: "Where you walked on paths of dried, pest - led". There are triplet markings over the notes "of dried," and "pest - led".

105

Musical score for measures 105-106. The system includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part continues with the eighth-note pattern and fingering '5'. The vocal line has lyrics: "soft - ness; Where we lay in clear - ings un - til". There are triplet markings over the notes "ings un - til".

108

Musical score for measures 108-109. The system includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part continues with the eighth-note pattern and fingering '5'. The vocal line has lyrics: "weak - - - - ened by the".

110

heat, Or po - lished

113

smooth trunks with our

115

swing - ing legs;

8va

117

meno mosso q = 72

Where we whis - pered, or list - ened

mf

meno mosso q = 60

120 *pp*

to the for - - - est still - ness.

125 *pp*

pp

129 e = 132 **Bleak**

f martellato

Ped. * Ped. *

136 *f*

Where light, - - -

più f *mf*

Ped. * Ped. *

143

grey — and white, — lin — — — — — gets

6 trill

f *mf* *f*

147

— be-yond the com-plex geo-me-try — of birch limbs; —

3 3 3

f *martellato*

153

Where fal - len

f *Ped.* *

160

masts bi - sect the sky- ward — fin - ger - ing; —

3 3

mf *f* *più f*

165

Musical score for measures 165-170. The system includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part features a complex rhythmic pattern with many sixteenth notes and trills. Dynamics include *f* and *più f*. Trills are marked with *tr*.

170

Musical score for measures 170-173. The piano part continues with intricate sixteenth-note passages and trills. A *8va* marking is present. Dynamics include *f* and *più f*. Trills are marked with *tr*.

173

Musical score for measures 173-177. The vocal line begins with the lyrics: "Where there is no shelter from the". The piano accompaniment includes a triplet of eighth notes marked *f* and *feroce*. Other markings include *8va*, *più f*, *p*, and *f*. Trills are marked with *tr*.

177

Musical score for measures 177-180. The vocal line continues with the lyrics: "wind, But the last copper leaf clings to its". The piano part features a triplet of eighth notes marked *f* and *marcato*. Dynamics include *più f* and *ten.*

Ped.

* Ped.

*

182

Musical score for measures 182-187. The system includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line starts with the lyrics "stem tip." and features a melodic line with slurs. The piano accompaniment is marked *f* and *martellato*, consisting of a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in the right hand and chords in the left hand. Pedal markings include "Ped." at the beginning and "* Ped." at the end of the system.

188

Musical score for measures 188-193. The system includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano accompaniment continues with the *martellato* pattern. Pedal markings include "* Ped." at the end of the system.

194

Musical score for measures 194-196. The system includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano accompaniment features a triplet in the right hand. Pedal markings include "Ped." at the beginning and "* Ped." at the end of the system.

197

Musical score for measures 197-202. The system includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line has the lyrics "Where I am." and a dynamic marking of *f*. The piano accompaniment is marked *ff*. Pedal markings include "Ped." at the beginning and "*" at the end of the system.

202 $q = 48$ Desolate

p

Where hum - ming lines out - sing the for - est's

pp sempre

8^{vb}

209

p

breath - ing, — Where list - less wa - ter er -

f *p*

(8)

214

mp *p*

upts in to 5 - xic froth, —

f *p* *pp sempre*

8^{vb}

216

p

Where the stink and throbb of high - ways

mp *pp*

(8)

220

reach, _____ Where poi - sons seep through the earth,

p *mp*

pp *mp luminescent*

223

poco più f

gust _____ 3 on the wind, _____

poco *mp sub.*

228

p empty, drained

This place is _____ was - ted like 3 _____ our love. _____

232 q = 72 Frozen