

Archilochos Fragments

voice and guitar

duration c. 10'

Preview File Only

Timothy Salter

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Archilochos Fragments

- i *And the heart
Is pleased
By one thing
After another.*
- ii *She held
 a sprig of myrtle she'd picked
And a rose
That pleased her most
Of those on the bush
And her long hair shaded
 Her shoulders and back.*
- iii *Miserable with desire
I lie lifeless,
My bones shot through
With thorny anguish
Sent by the gods.*
- iv *All things are the same to the gods.
They pick a man up,
Stretched on the dark earth,
And set him on his two feet,
Firm, and then again
Shake solid men until
They fall backward
Into the worst of luck,
Wandering hungry,
Wild of mind.*
- v *There's nothing now
We can't expect to happen!
Anything at all, you can bet,
Is ready to jump out at us.
No need to wonder over it.
Father Zeus has turned
Noon to night, blotting out*
- The sunshine utterly,
Putting cold terror
At the back of the throat.
Let's believe all we hear.
Even that dolphins and cows
Change place, porpoises and goats,
Rams booming along in the offing,
Mackerel nibbling in the hill pastures.
I wouldn't be surprised,
I wouldn't be surprised.*
- vi *In this time of shame, spare me.
Woman, woman,
Why this road,
And why do you care at all?*
- vii *I think
()
Know then
 that I am so minded
()
To suffer.*
- viii *Clinging under the heart, the love-force
Shed a dense mist over the eyes,
Stealing the mind's soft wits.*
- ix *Soul, soul,
Torn by complexity,
On your feet now!
Throw forward your chest
To the enemy;
Keep close in the attack;
Move back not an inch.
But never glory in victory,
Nor lie distressed in loss.
No extremes:
Learn what rhythm governs man.*

Archilochos, C7th. B.C.

Selected by the composer

i, ii, iii, v, vii translated by Guy Davenport © University of California Press

iv, vi, viii, ix translated by Michael Silk © Michael Silk

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88 (i)

Voice: *mp* And the heart is pleased

Guitar: *P* *molto legato*

6

By one thing Af-ter an- o-ther. *5 3*
4 4 accel. to... 4

In waltz time $\text{♩} = 12$ (ii)

10 *mp* She held a sprig of

17 myr- tile she'd picked And a rose That pleased her most of

Note: passages without time signatures prefaced: This sign: or: is merely point of location.

22 those on the bush *p* And her long hair

molto legato

28 shad-ed — Her shoul- ders and back.

34

39

45

52 *molto vib. to b. 67*

slower ♩ 84

57

64

(iii)

MP Mis - er - a - ble with de - sire

[audible breath intake - sudden]

70

P I - llu - lifeless,

75

f My bones shot through

étouffée *

78

With thorn - y ang -

molto vib.

(next page)

81 wish

molto vib.

87 MP Sent by the

93 gods.

96 angrily

98 X(11) All things are the same to the gods. They pick a man up, — scratched on the

ff

101

dark earth, And set him on his two feet, Firm, and then again

faster ♩ 108

103

Shake solid men until They fall backward In-to the worst of luck,

105

f Wan- dering hun-

107

gry, wild

of mind.

f *ppp*

♩ 120 casually (v)

108 4/8

There's nothing now we can't expect to hap-pen!

111

Anything at all, — you can bet, is ready to jump

114

out at us. — No

117

need to wonder over it. Fa- ther Zeus has turned Noon to

120

night, blotting out the sunshine utterly, Putting cold

* ♯ : half spoken, at approximate pitches indicated.

122

terror At the back of the throat. —

125

mf Let's be-lieve — all we 3 hear. 4 8

128

4 Even that dolphins and cows Change place, 8

131

— porpoises and goats, — Rams — booming a-

135

long in the off-ing, 2/8 — 4/8 Mackerel nib- bling In the hill pas- tures.