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Two Songs from "War is Kind" for Mezzo-Soprano and Orchestra

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Two Songs from “War is Kind”
for Mezzo-Soprano and Orchestra

A Thesis

Submitted to the Graduate Faculty of the
University of New Orleans
in partial fulfillment of the
requirements for the degree of

Master of Music

by
Kara Drane
B.M. Florida State University, 2001
May, 2008
Table of Contents

Instrumentation........................................................................................................ iii
Abstract....................................................................................................................... iv
To the Maiden........................................................................................................... 1
The Chatter of a Death Demon........................................................................... 19
Vita.............................................................................................................................. 41
Instrumentation

Flute I, II
Oboe I, II
Clarinet in B-flat I, II
Bassoon I
Horn in F I, II, III, IV

Mezzo-Soprano

Violin I, II
Viola
Cello
Double Bass
Abstract

“Two Songs from ‘War is Kind’ for Mezzo-Soprano and Orchestra” were composed to text by poet and author Stephen Crane from his set of poems entitled “War is Kind”. Full instrumentation includes flute 1 and 2; oboe 1 and 2; B-flat clarinet 1 and 2; bassoon; horn in F 1,2,3, and 4’ mezzo-soprano; violin 1 and 2; viola; cello; and double bass. The first song, “To the Maiden”, is in form A-B in keeping with the poem. The second song, “The Chatter of a Death Demon”, is in form A-B-A, also in keeping with the poem. Both poems deal with individual horrors of war and are set for mezzo-soprano and orchestra in such a way as to enliven the text.
To the Maiden

K. Drane

\[ \text{\textbf{Flute}} \]

\[ \text{\textbf{Oboe}} \]

\[ \text{\textbf{Clarinet in B}} \]

\[ \text{\textbf{Bassoon}} \]

\[ \text{\textbf{Horn in F 1,2}} \]

\[ \text{\textbf{Horn in F 3,4}} \]

\[ \text{\textbf{Mezzo-Soprano}} \]

\[ \text{\textbf{Violin I}} \]

\[ \text{\textbf{Violin II}} \]

\[ \text{\textbf{Viola}} \]

\[ \text{\textbf{Cello}} \]

\[ \text{\textbf{Double Bass}} \]
To the Maiden
To the Maiden

Fl.  

Ob.  

B. Cl.  

Bsn.  

Hn. 1  

Hn. 2  

Mezzo  

Vln. I  

Vln. II  

Vla.  

Vc.  

D.B.  

live with little froth people Singing, Singing____ con sord. arco

Litte froth
To the Maiden
To the Maiden
To the Maiden

Fl.

Ob.

B. Cl.

Bsn.

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Mezzo

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

f

mf

wrecked,

sailor,

The
To the Maiden

To the Maiden
To the Maiden
To the Maiden
To the Maiden

\[ \text{Fl.} \quad \text{Ob.} \quad \text{B-Cl.} \quad \text{Bsn.} \quad \text{Hn. 1} \quad \text{Hn. 2} \quad \text{Mezzo} \quad \text{Vln. I} \quad \text{Vln. II} \quad \text{Vla.} \quad \text{Vc.} \quad \text{D.B.} \]
To the Maiden

Mezzo

U - pon - - - - - - - - which

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Fl.

Ob.

B-Cl.

Bsn.

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

vacan-

vy

\begin{verbatim}
To the Maiden

Mezzo

U - pon - - - - - - - - which

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Fl.

Ob.

B-Cl.

Bsn.

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

vacan-

vy

\end{verbatim}
To the Maiden

nevertheless

Was written,

Was
To the Maiden

Fl.

Ob.

B-Cl.

Bsn.

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Mezzo

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.
To the Maiden
To the Maiden
To the Maiden
The Chatter of a Death Demon

\( \text{\textit{The Chatter of a Death Demon}} \)

\[ d = 144 \]

K. Drane

- Flute
- Oboe
- Clarinet in B- 
- Bassoon
- Horn in F 1,2
- Horn in F 3,4
- Mezzo-Soprano
- Violin I
- Violin II
- Viola
- Cello
- Double Bass

** Score Details:**

- Allegro moderato
- Dynamics:
  - F fortissimo
  - P piano
  - Pizzicato
  - Arco

**Text:**

- "The Chatter of a Death Demon" by K. Drane
- 19th century composition

**Instruments:**

- Flute
- Oboe
- Clarinet in B
- Bassoon
- Horn in F
- Mezzo-Soprano
- Violin I
- Violin II
- Viola
- Cello
- Double Bass

**Notations:**

- Dynamics
- Articulations
- Phrasing

**Composition Style:**

- Classical
- 19th century
- Allegro moderato
- Complex harmony

**Key Details:**

- Major
- Key signature

**Additional Notes:**

- Allegro moderato
- Dynamics
- Articulations
- Phrasing

**Orchestration:**

- Full orchestra
- Mixed instrumental ensemble

**Historical Context:**

- Classical composition
- 19th century
- Important for understanding the style and techniques of the time
The Chatter of a Death Demon
The Chatter of a Death Demon
The Chatter of a Death Demon

Fl.

Ob.

B♭ Cl.

Bsn.

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Mezzo

Vln. 1

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.
The Chatter of a Death Demon
The Chatter of a Death Demon

Fl.  
Ob.  
Bs Cl.  
Bsn.  
Hn. 1  
Hn. 2  
Mezzo  
Vln. 1  
Vln. II  
Vla.  
Vc.  
D.B.  

24
The Chatter of a Death Demon

Blood, blood and torn grass had...
The Chatter of a Death Demon

Fl.  

Ob.  

Br. Cl.  

Bsn.  

Hn. 1  

Hn. 2  

Mezzo  

Vln. 1  

Vln. II  

Vla.  

Vc.  

D.B.  

marked the rise of his agony
The Chatter of a Death Demon

Fl.
Ob.
Bn. Cl.
Bsn.
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
Mezzo
Vln. 1
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
D.B.

f

fl.
Ob.
Bn. Cl.
Bsn.
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
Mezzo
Vln. 1
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
D.B.

f

+this
lone
hun-ter.
The Chatter of a Death Demon

```
The gray-green woods immobile had watched the
```
The Chatter of a Death Demon

threshing of his limbs.

fl.

ob.

b♭ cl.

bsn.

hn. 1

hn. 2

mezzo

vln. i

vln. ii

vla.

vc.

d.b.
The Chatter of a Death Demon

Fl.

Ob.

Bv.Cl.

Bsn.

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Mezzo

Vln. 1

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.
The Chatter of a Death Demon
The Chatter of a Death Demon
The Chatter of a Death Demon

\[ \text{\( \frac{1}{\text{d}} \) = 120} \]

\( \begin{array}{l}
\text{Fl.} \\
\text{Ob.} \\
\text{Br. Cl.} \\
\text{Bsn.} \\
\text{Hn. 1} \\
\text{Hn. 2} \\
\text{Mezzo} \\
\text{Vln. I} \\
\text{Vln. II} \\
\text{Vla.} \\
\text{Vc.} \\
\text{D.B.}
\end{array} \)
The Chatter of a Death Demon
The Chatter of a Death Demon

The image contains a musical score for an orchestra, with the following instruments and sections:

- Flute (Fl.
- Oboe (Ob.
- Bassoon (Bsn.
- Horns 1 and 2 (Hn. 1, Hn. 2)
- Mezzo
- Violins 1 and 2 (Vln. I, Vln. II)
- Viola (Vla.
- Violoncello (Vc.
- Double Bass (D.B.)

Each section includes musical notation with dynamics (e.g., p, mf) and expressive markings (e.g., pizzicato, pizz. ).

The Mezzo section includes text: "A canoe with flashing paddle, a girl with..."
The Chatter of a Death Demon

Fl.

Ob.

B♭ Cl.

Bsn.

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Mezzo

Vln. 1

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.
The Chatter of a Death Demon

accel.

accel.

accel.

accel.

accel.

accel.

accel.

accel.

accel.

 accel.

accel.

accel.

2nd only

4th only

mp

f  John?

accel.

accel.

accel.

accel.

accel.

mf

accel.

accel.

accel.
The Chatter of a Death Demon

\( \text{\textbf{Come, a-rise, hunter!}} \)  
\( \text{Can you not hear?} \)
The Chatter of a Death Demon

The chatter of a death demon from a tree top
Vita

Kara Drane was born in Honolulu, HA and received her B.M. from Florida State University in 2001. As an undergraduate, Kara studied ethnomusicology with a focus on Balinese music, was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa, and graduated Magna Cum Laude. While studying at University of New Orleans, she worked as music coordinator and sound editor in film production and post-production, and she composed the score for the short film “A Bunny’s Tale,” which was premiered at the New Orleans Film Festival 2004. At the University of New Orleans, Kara received the UNO Spring Musical Scholarship of 2006, music department scholarships in 2006 and 2007, and maintained a 4.0 GPA. Kara studied composition under Dr. Jerry Sieg at UNO and has composed works including a brass quintet; a trio for horn, cello, and piano; “Three Love Songs” for soprano and piano; “Locks and Bolts Theme and Variations” for solo piano; “String Quartet No.1: 1.Adagio-Allegro, 2.Adagio, 3.Allegro”; “Trio for French horn, Bassoon, and Cello”; and “Two Songs from ‘War is Kind’ for Mezzo-Soprano and Orchestra.”