Erik Q Ransom

A Prayer In Spring

“The Pasture”
“October”
“Now Close the Windows”

For Tenor and Chamber Orchestra

Full Score

2013
The Pasture

I'm going out to clean the pasture spring;
I'll only stop to rake the leaves away
(And wait to watch the water clear, I may):
I shan't be gone long. -- You come too.

I'm going out to fetch the little calf
That's standing by the mother. It's so young,
It totters when she licks it with her tongue.
I shan't be gone long. -- You come too.

October

O hushed October morning mild,
Thy leaves have ripened to the fall;
Tomorrow's wind, if it be wild,
Should waste them all.
The crows above the forest call;
To-morrow they may form and go.
O hushed October morning mild,
Begin the hours of this day slow,
Make the day seem to us less brief.
Hearts not averse to being beguiled,
Beguile us in the way you know;
Release one leaf at break of day;
At noon release another leaf;
One from our trees, one far away;
Retard the sun with gentle mist;
Enchant the land with amethyst.
Slow, slow!
For the grapes' sake, if they were all,
Whose leaves already are burnt with frost,
Whose clustered fruit must else be lost-
For the grapes' sake along the wall.

Now Close the Windows

Now close the windows and hush the fields:
If the trees must, let them silently toss;
No bird is singing now, and if there is,
Be it my loss.

It will be long ere the marshes resume,
I will be long ere the earliest bird:
So close the windows and hear not the wind,
But see all wind stirred.
Instrumentation

Score is in C with standard octave transpositions (i.e., contrabassoon and contrabass sounding one octave lower, piccolo and harp harmonics sounding one octave higher, glockenspiel and crotales sounding two octaves higher, etc.)

Flute (doubling Piccolo and Alto Flute)
Oboe (doubling English Horn)
Clarinet in Bb (doubling Bass Clarinet)
Bassoon (doubling Contrabassoon)

Horn in F
Trumpet in C
Trombone
Tuba

Percussion (2 players):
  Vibraphone (no motor), Crotales, Glockenspiel, Chimes, Two Suspended Triangles (high and low),
  Three Suspended Cymbals (small, medium, large), Tam-Tam (medium)

Piano (doubling Celesta)
Harp

Baritone solo

Violin 1
Violin 2
Viola
Violoncello
Contrabass

Percussion:

The Pasture
1: Vibes, small susp cymbal, med susp cymbal
2: Crotales, Chimes, Glock, Triangles, large susp cymbal

October
1: Vibes, small susp cymbal, med susp cymbal, large susp cymbal, Triangle (low)
2: Crotales, Chimes, Glock, Tam-Tam, Triangles (low triangle shared with player 1 or use separate triangle)

Now Close the Windows:
1: Vibes, small susp cym, med susp cymbal, large susp cymbal
2: Crotales, Glock, Tam-Tam, Triangles

*duration: ca. 10 ½ - 11 minutes*
Commissioned by the Georgina Joshi Foundation

A Prayer in Spring

"The Pasture"

Text: Robert Frost

Bright and majestic

Flute (Picc/Alt Fl)
Oboe (Eng Hrn)
Clarinet in Bb (Bss Cl)
Bassoon (Contra)
Horn in F
Trumpet in C
Trombone
Tuba
Percussion 1
Percussion 2
Piano (Celesta)
Harp

Tenor
Violin 1
Violin 2
Viola
Violoncello
Contrabass

q = ca 76
q = ca 72
pp p
p
mp
ff
f
mf
mp
ff
f
p
mp
ff
f
mf
mp
q = ca 76
q = ca 72

ff
f
mf
mp
ff
f
p
mp
ff
f
mf
mp

违者和majestic

Violin 1

Violin 2

Viola

Violoncello

Contrabass

vib. norm.
A Prayer in Spring
A Prayer in Spring
A Prayer in Spring
A Prayer in Spring

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tba.

(Vibes)

(Glock)

Pno.

Hn.

T.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

\textit{Clean the pasture, spring.}
A Prayer in Spring

I'll only stop to rake the leaves away.
A Prayer in Spring
A Prayer in Spring

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tba.

(Perc. 1)

(Perc. 2)

Pno.

Hp.

T.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

pm p

p

mp

pp

rit. . . . . . .

60 61 62 63 64

rit. . . . . . .

61

w/med cord

w/plastic

(Vibes)

(Tres)

GLOCK

§

A

b

E

§

F

# A

D

# B

§

T. I shan't be gone long

pizz.
A Prayer in Spring
fetch the little calf that's standing by the mother.
It's so young; when she licks it with her tongue.
"October"

A Prayer in Spring
A Prayer in Spring

Thy leaves have rip-ended to the fall.
A Prayer in Spring
A Prayer in Spring
above the forest call:
To morrow they may come and go.
A Prayer in Spring
A Prayer in Spring

Make the day seem to us less brief.
A Prayer in Spring

Hearts not averse to being beguiled,
A Prayer in Spring
A Prayer in Spring
leaf at break of day; At noon release another leaf

A Prayer in Spring
One from our trees, one far away.
A Prayer in Spring

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tba.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Pno.

Hp.

T.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.
A Prayer in Spring

To Alt Fl

To Eng Hn

Bss Cl

Bsn.

Hn.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tba.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Pno.

Hp.

T.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

S.P.

ord.

ord.

arco

sal pont.
A Prayer in Spring

A. Fl.  
B. Cl.  
Bsn.  
Hn.  
Tpt. (mfd)  
Tbn. (mfd)  
Tba.  
Perc. 1  
Perc. 2  
Pno.  
Hp.  
T.  
Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vc.  
Cb.  

For the grapes' sake, if they were all, at the tip.
Whose leaves are burnt with frost
Whose clustered fruit

245 246 247 248 249 250
A Prayer in Spring

rall. ........................................... \( \text{j=80} \)
"Now Close the Windows"

Now close the windows and hush the fields.

If the trees must, let them silently toss.
No bird is singing now, and if there is, be it my loss.
A Prayer in Spring

It will be long ere the marshes resume,

To B. Cl.

Celesta

Celesta
It will be long ere the ear-liest bird

So close the wind-dows and hear not the wind
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