

the elysian fields

for unaccompanied chorus

(score)

the elysian fields

for unaccompanied chorus

ssaattbb ll ca. 6'

text

fair in a morn (o fairest morn!),
was never morn so fair,
there shone a sun, though not the sun
that shineth in the air.
for the earth, and from the earth,
(was never such a creature!)
did come this face (was never face
that carried such a feature).
upon a hill (o blessed hill!
was never hill so blessed),
there stood a man (was never man
for woman so distressed):
this man beheld a heavenly view,
which did such virtue give

as clears the blind, and helps the lame,
and makes the dead man live
this man had hap (o happy man!
more happy none than he);
for he had hap to see the hap
that none had hap to see.
this silly swain (and silly swains
are men of meanest grace):
had yet the grace (o gracious gift!)
to hap on such a face.
he pity cried, and pity came
and pitied so his pain,
as dying would not let him die
but gave him life again.

program notes

in greek mythology, "elysium" refers to the place in the afterlife that serves as the final resting grounds for the gods, the righteous, and the heroic. the text for the elysian fields is taken from the nicholas breton poem, "astrophel's song of phyllidia and corydon", which tells the story of two greek lovers, phyllidia and corydon. this piece serves as an expression and exploration of the vast spectacle that is elysium, as well as corydon's own internal struggle with mortality.

for unaccompanied chorus

1

celestial (♩ = 68)
*p*_____

* for rehearsal only

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2

13 14 15 16 17 18

mf

ne-ver such a crea - ture! Did come this face, was ne-ver face, That car-ried such a fea - ture.

ne-ver such a crea - ture! Did come this face, was ne-ver face, That car-ried such a fea - ture.

mf

ne-ver such a crea - ture! This face was ne-ver face, U-

mf

U-

B

19 20 21 22 23 24 25

Was ne - ver hill so bles - sed? Was ne-ver hill so bles -

Was ne - ver hill so bles - sed? Was ne-ver hill so bles -

pon a hill, Oh bles -sed hill! Was ne - ver hill so bles - sed?

pon a hill, Oh bles -sed hill! Was ne - ver hill so bles - sed?

C

3

26 27 28 29 30 31 32

sed? ooh There stood a man, was ne-ver man for wo -

sed? ooh There stood a man, was ne-ver man for

There stood a man, was ne-ver man

There stood a man, was ne-ver man

33 34 35 36 37 38 39

man so di-stressed This man-be-held such a hea-ven-ly view.

wo-man so di-stressed This man be-held Hea-ven-ly view.

for wo-man so di-stressed This man be-held Hea-ven-ly view.

so di-stressed This man be-held

4

40 41 42 43 44

D

solo mp

Which did such vir - tue give, As clears the blind

Which did such vir - tue give,

Which did such vir - tue give, As clears the blind

8

45 46 47 48

tutti p

and helps the lame, and makes and makes and makes and makes

and makes and makes and makes and makes and

the lame, and makes and makes and makes and

E

expansive

ff

5

49

50

51

52

53

54

the dead man live.

This man had hap

O hap-py man!

More

makes the dead man live.

This man had hap

O hap-py man!

More

makes the dead man live.

This man had hap

O hap - py man!

More

and makes the dead man live.

This man had hap

O hap - py man!

More

hap - py none than he,

More

hap - py none than he.

ooh

hap - py none than he,

More

hap - py none than he.

ooh

hap - py none than he,

More

hap - py none than he.

ooh

hap - py none than he,

More

hap - py none than he.

ooh

61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69

p For to see the hap

p For to see the hap

p For he had hap to the hap *mp* to see. to see.

p For he had hap the hap *Solo mp* That none had hap to see. *Tutti* to see.

F *ethereal solo mf*

70 71 72 73 74

mp This sil - ly swain and sil - ly swains are men of mean - est grace.

solo mp and sil - ly swains are men of mean - est grace.

p mm mm ah ah mm

p mm mm ah ah mm

PERUSAL SCORE

PERUSAL SCORE

PERUSAL SCORE

75 76 77 78 79 tutti 80

G

Had yet the grace, to hap on such a face. He pi - ty

Had yet the grace, to hap on such a face. He pi - ty

mm O gra - cious gift! Face. He pi-ty cried,

mm O gra - cious gift! Face. He pi - ty

PERUSAL SCORE

PERUSAL SCORE

PERUSAL SCORE

81 82 83 84 85 86 87

mp *p* *mp*

cried, and pi - ty came so his pain let him die,

mp *p* *mp*

cried, and pi - ty came and pi - tied so his pain would not let him die,

mp *mp*

and pi - tied so his pain As dy-ing would not let him die,

mp *mp*

cried, and pi - tied so his pain As dy-ing would not let him die,

PERUSAL SCORE

PERUSAL SCORE

PERUSAL SCORE

dying away

8

88 89 90 91 *p* 92 93 94

but gave him life a - - gain a - gain

but gave him life a - - gain a - gain

but gave him life but gave him life a - gain

but gave him life but gave him life a - gain