## Connor Simpson

Soprano and Reed Quintet

Exile

5

2022

Exile
Soprano and Reed Quintet
2020
5 minutes
Connor Simpson
Mere Fly Press (ASCAP)

## Program Notes

Exile seeks to recreate a musical moment of sadness and depression from the loss of a loved one. Exile does not represent anger, denial or the stages of grief, only depression. The text resonated with me deeply with my own processing of grief.

## Text

By Ernest Christopher Dowson

By the sad waters of separation
Where we have wandered by divers ways,
I have but the shadow and imitation
Of the old memorial days.

In music I have no consolation,
No roses are pale enough for me;
The sound of the waters of separation
Surpasseth roses and melody.

By the sad waters of separation Dimly I hear from an hidden place The sigh of mine ancient adoration: Hardly can I remember your face.

If you be dead, no proclamation Sprang to me over the waste, gray sea: Living, the waters of separation Sever for ever your soul from me.

No man knoweth our desolation; Memory pales of the old delight; While the sad waters of separation Bear us on to the ultimate night.











