

Eleanor Row

# Migratory Birds

Song Cycle

*for Flute, Coloratura Soprano and Piano*

## Performance Notes

*Migratory Birds* was written whilst listening to birdsong and interplays real rhythms and melodies of birdsong with harmony and poem. As the song cycle develops, this interplay becomes more complex, and the singer almost becomes a bird. There is a lot of room for musical freedom – for the voice and flute to explore a soundscape that might seem quite alien to them.

### Song 1 - How far does the swallow go?

**b. 77 - 79** Voice and Flute sing in directed free time, sounding like echoes of each other. Much like how birds mimic each other's calls.

### Song 2 - Metamorphosis

The singer slowly begins to transform into a bird, and starts to copy the rhythms and sounds of the bird.

## Notations of extended technique for Flute:

Diamond noteheads - e.g. b.28

Aeolian air sound. Creates a breathy coloured air sound, in the lower register which can be pitched.

To produce Aeolian Sounds use a "duck-face" embouchure, allowing the air to flow over the top of the embouchure hole.

In order to avoid normal flute tone, you can bite your teeth together.



Crossed noteheads - e.g. b.71

Slap tongue, or tongue pizzicato. Often notated as a normal notehead, with a < through the stem.

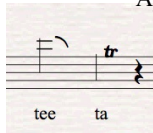
Needs to be tight, precise and loud.



## Notations of Extended Technique for Voice:

Stem with no notehead - e.g. b.30

Approximate pitch for the voice. Curved line after a note indicates slides to and from notes.



Diamond noteheads - e.g. b.41

Whistle at notated pitch.



Crossed noteheads - e.g. b.70

Written to mimic a woodpecker pecking around. Use a baton or a pencil, and tap harshly against the piano.



### Song 3 - Nostos

Nostos meaning 'to return home'. After the singer has transformed, they come to a realisation - that the singer can't be a bird and fly away from their life, no matter how much they may try to imitate one.

# How far does the swallow go?

Song No. 1 of *Migratory Birds*  
for Flute, Coloratura Soprano Voice and Piano

Lyrics by E.R

Eleanor Row

Flute

$\text{♩} = 88$

*f* bright 3

*tr*

*mf*

Soprano

$\text{♩} = 88$

Piano

$\text{♩} = 88$

*mp* bright

*mf*

Ped.

3

5

*f*

*mp*

*mf*

11

*mp*

*f*

*mf*

*f*

3

The musical score is written for three parts: Flute, Soprano, and Piano. The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked as 88 bpm. The score is divided into three systems. The first system (measures 1-4) shows the Flute and Piano parts. The Flute part begins with a triplet of eighth notes, followed by a trill, and then a half note. The Piano part provides harmonic support with chords and a triplet in the bass. The second system (measures 5-8) continues the Flute and Piano parts. The Flute part has a triplet of eighth notes, and the Piano part has a triplet in the bass. The third system (measures 9-12) shows the Flute and Piano parts. The Flute part has a triplet of eighth notes, and the Piano part has a triplet in the bass. The score includes various dynamic markings and performance instructions.

14

*mp* *mf*<sup>3</sup> *f*

*mp* *mf* *f*

18

*mf* *wistful* *mp*<sup>3</sup>

How far does the swa-llow go?— A-cross the sea

*p* *mp*

25

*tr* *mf* *p*

29

*mp*

*mf*

*mf*

O - ver the hills. To this small for got - ten mea

*tr* *p* *mf*

33

*mp* *mf* *f* *f*

*mp* *f* *f*

- dow fly - ing a - lone or with o - thers

*mp* *mf* *f*

40

*f* *f*

fo - llow - ing a long

*mf* *f*

43

flown danger-ous path

48

to end up here in front of me a pass-er -

54

by bound to a place you can free - ly fly

60

*f* *p sub.* *mp*

65

*mf* *mf* *p* *mp*

How far it was I once would go

70

*mf* *f* *mp* *mf*

To get to those hills, that sea a di-fferent mea

## Andante (free time directed)

75

*mf* *f* *f* *p*

*f* *p*

dow ah ah

*f*

## Andante (free time directed)

## Andante (free time directed)

79

*mf* *f* *ff* *ff*

*mf* *f* *ff*

ah ah

*ff*

## 84 A tempo ♩ = 88

*f* *mp*

A tempo ♩ = 88

A tempo ♩ = 88

*mf* *p*



87

Musical score for measures 87-90. The vocal line (treble clef) features a melody with triplets and slurs, accompanied by piano accompaniment (grand staff). Dynamics include *mf*, *f*, *mp*, *mf*, and *f*. The lyrics are: "with differ - ent birds than you sweet swa - llow".

91

Musical score for measures 91-94. The vocal line (treble clef) features a melody with slurs and dynamics including *f*, *mf*, and *f*. The piano accompaniment (grand staff) includes triplets and dynamics including *mf*, *mp*, *mf*, *f*, and *mf*. Performance markings include *rit.* and *accel.*

# Metamorphosis

## Song No.2 of Migratory Birds

Lyrics by E.R

Eleanor Row

Flute

$\text{♩} = 100$

*mf* *fluttering and erratic*

*mp* *p*

Soprano Solo

*f* *birdlike and erratic*

ah

Piano

$\text{♩} = 100$

*mp*

11

*mf* *mp* *mf*

*f* *birdlike and erratic*

ah

ta ta ta ta

19

*mp* *p*

*mp* *mf* *p*

ta ta ta ah tæ too ta too ta too tæ tæ tæ

Musical score for measures 28-31. The score is in 5/4 time with a tempo of ♩ = 60. It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment.

**Vocal Line:**

- Measure 28: *mp* (half note), *f* (half note).
- Measure 29: *p* (half note), *mf* (half note).
- Measure 30: *mp* (quarter note), *mf* (quarter note), *f* (quarter note).
- Measure 31: *mp* (quarter note), *mf* (quarter note), *f* (quarter note).

**Piano Accompaniment:**

- Measure 28: *mp* (half note), *f* (half note).
- Measure 29: *pp* (half note), *mf* (half note).
- Measure 30: *tr* (half note), *tr* (half note).
- Measure 31: *tr* (half note), *tr* (half note).

**Lyrics:**

twit twit twit twit tæ      twit twit twit twit twit tæ      tee ta ta ta ta

Musical score for measures 32-35. The score is in 5/4 time with a tempo of ♩ = 60. It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment.

**Vocal Line:**

- Measure 32: *mp* (half note), *f* (half note).
- Measure 33: *mp* (half note), *f* (half note).
- Measure 34: *mp* (half note), *f* (half note).
- Measure 35: *mp* (half note), *f* (half note).

**Piano Accompaniment:**

- Measure 32: *f* (half note), *f* (half note).
- Measure 33: *f* (half note), *f* (half note).
- Measure 34: *f* (half note), *f* (half note).
- Measure 35: *p* (half note), *p* (half note).

**Lyrics:**

ta ta ta ta ta      ta ta ta tæ

una corda

Musical score for measures 36-39. The score is in 5/4 time with a tempo of ♩ = 60. It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment.

**Vocal Line:**

- Measure 36: *pp* (half note), *f* (half note).
- Measure 37: *pp* (half note), *f* (half note).
- Measure 38: *pp* (half note), *f* (half note).
- Measure 39: *pp* (half note), *f* (half note).

**Piano Accompaniment:**

- Measure 36: *pp* (half note), *f* (half note).
- Measure 37: *pp* (half note), *f* (half note).
- Measure 38: *pp* (half note), *f* (half note).
- Measure 39: *pp* (half note), *f* (half note).

**Lyrics:**

ah ah

40 **A tempo**

mf *f* *mp*

ta ta ta tæ

**A tempo**

*mp*

tre corde

rit.  $\text{♩} = 120$

3 *p*

ta ta tæ

rit.  $\text{♩} = 120$

*mf*

*f*

Ah! Can you hear that?

*mp*

53

In the dist - ance o - ver there? a

57

sky - lark was it? or a coal tit Yes!

61

rit. . . . .

More like - ly than a sky - lark

rit. . . . .

*mf* rinforzando

66 *A tempo*

*f* *mf* *fff*

*A tempo*

*mf* *f*

71

*fff* *f*

ah,

76

listen\_\_\_\_\_

ov - er there\_\_\_\_\_

81

a wood - peck-er peck-ing with - out

*ff* *mf* *f* *mf* *p*

87

a care

*f* *mf* *f*

# Nostos

Song No. 3 of Migratory Birds

Lyrics by E.R

Eleanor Row

♩ = 208

Flute

♩ = 208

Soprano Solo

Piano

*ff agitated  
and with haste*

*f*

8<sup>vb</sup>]

11

*ff*

8<sup>vb</sup>----

8<sup>vb</sup>]

8<sup>vb</sup>]

22

*f*

*ff*

*ff cresc.*

*p sub.*

*sfz*

8<sup>vb</sup>]



30  $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$

*f* forceful, agitated *ff*

*fff* *dim.* *f* *sfz*

Red.

34  $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$

*fff* *f* *ff*

*tr* *sfz* *sfz* *similie.*

8<sup>va</sup>

38  $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$

*fff* *mf*

*tr* *mf*

(8)

42

*f* *ff*

*sfz* *fp* *f* *fp* *fp* *fp*

(8)

(8).

45

mf

ff

fp

sfz

mf

f

(8)

(8).

49

57

*mf* *f* *ff* *rfz* *f*

*mp* *ff* *mf*

68

*ff* *rfz*

*ff* *rfz* *rfz* *ff*

81

*sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *dim.* *mf*

*dim.* *mf*

96 (tr)  $\text{♩} = 88$

*pp*

$\text{♩} = 88$

*mf* wistful, poignant

How quick-ly the ho-urs go

*pp*

*mf* wistful, weighted

107

*f* like a cuckoo

*mf*

*f*

sit-ting in this mea-dow blithe-ly listen-ing to a coo

*f*

*mf*

115

*ff*

*mp*

*mf*

*mf*

*f*

and a haw-king squark

*mp*

*mf*

121

*mf*

*mf*

*mp*

*p*

The ca-co-pho - ny a - round

128

*mf cresc.*

*f*

*ff*

*f*

*accel.*

*mp cresc.*

*f*

*ff*

me

A tempo

133

*mf*

*3*

*A tempo*

*pp*

*p*

140

the ca-co-pho-ny a - round me as I get up and start to

*mp* *mf*

144

walk from this mea - dow

*mf* *rit.* *f* *p sub.* *f* *p al niente* *8vb*