Matt Geer

Seven songs of the soul

for soprano 2020

Text

1.

My soul walks through the castle gate and gives itself to prayer So distant from a humble state as castles in the air

2.

The poisonous creatures at my feet Great grace I should escape Recall the snakes, so calm and sweet All longer I remain

3.

I handpick words right from a tree Each one said as it means Absorbed all hours of the day Embracing penanced dreams

4.

I naturally fall asleep
I yearn for solitude
Accompanied by the greatest peace
Oh sweet and still cacoon

5.

The waterfalls rush in my brain
They drench my body whole
My great calm soul stands in the rain
Consoled as to console

6.

A natural fountain springs to life with ectacy and joy My future, like my past that died The tears drown out my voice

7.

Eternal stillness I do sit forevermore in prayer His tender love as I sit in a castle in the air

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Seven songs of the soul is a work inspired by the S. Teresa d'Avila's writings, taking the reader on a journey into a castle with several mansions. As the reader progresses into each mansion, they fall deeper into a meditative state; not by what is around them but by what is inside them. Here, the music remains static, but the listener's perception of usual and unusual may shift back and forth.

Performance instructions:

This piece may be staged and the soprano may act, or the piece may be performed alongside a visual artistic medium, such as video projection.

The harmonic reduction outlines the harmony present in an electronics track, which may be played with the soprano. If this is not possible, a pianist (or any polyphonic instrument, or a number of monophonic instruments) may play the harmonic reduction. If the instrument is sustaining, notes should be held throughout and should decay naturally.

The dynamics and tempo remain static throughout; it is important that the music does not change, but any theatrical element may encompass movement or narrative.

Each movement should run attacca.

If a performance is using electronics, it may be necessary to have a visual metronome linked to the Logic file in the line of the performer.

Both the Logic Pro X file and a PureData generative patch is available upon request.

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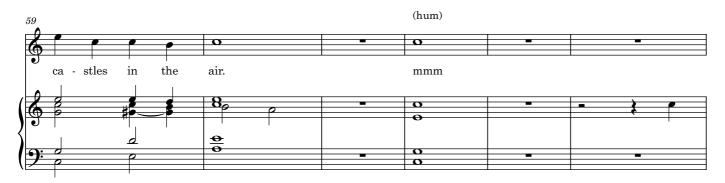
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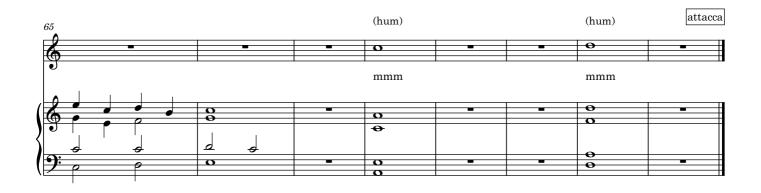












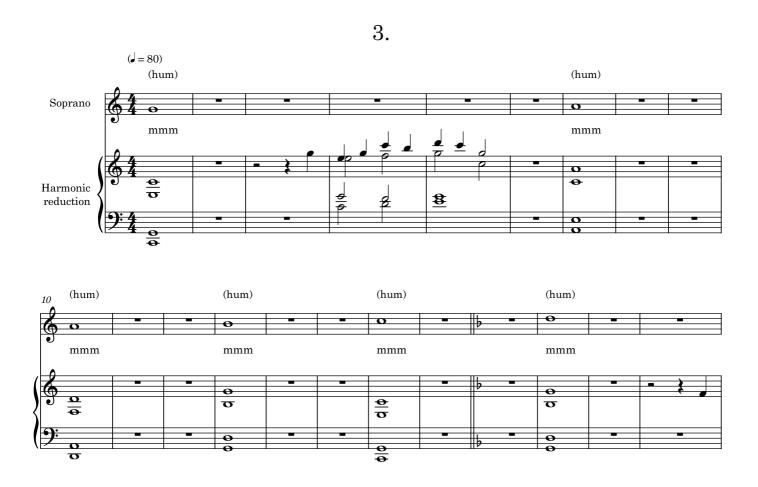
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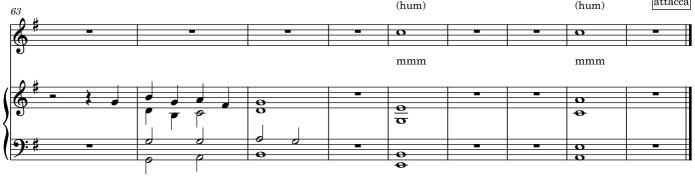












4.



