

CASSIA BLOSSOMS

for

soprano

flute

clarinet

violin

viola

'cello

piano

by Diane Thome

Program Note

Cassia Blossoms was inspired by the poetry of China's most celebrated woman poet, Li Ch'ing-Chao. It exists in two versions: a chamber ensemble setting and a chamber orchestral setting. The chamber ensemble score being performed this evening received its premiere on August 10, 1988 at the Bennington Chamber Music Conference and Composer Forum of the East.

Cassia BlossomsLI CH'ING-CHAO

forbidden by the curtain
you stretch out below
cleverly helped
by the red railing
by you alone
I divine the dying Spring
whose flowers stand
pale and waiting
meek modest childlike
how you've waited
for those flocks to pass
for that turn of wind and dew
when first you would adorn
the morning
seductive captivating
the wind jealous
the moon laughing
and when long held back
over the Eastern quarter
over the Southern streets
From first light Lord Sun
bakes ponds and inns
until at last
his chariot goes by
who can succeed him?
only you
who are more lucent
than the Brilliant Palace
almost equal the sun
when you first appear
on branches
for you I'll pour
a golden cup
disregard the dying candle
ignore the yellow dusk

translation by James Cryer



CASSIA BLOSSOMS

forbidden by the curtains
you stretch out below
cleverly helped
by the red railing
by you alone
I divine the dying Spring
whose flowers stand
pale and waiting
meek modest childlike
how you've waited
for those flocks to pass
for that turn of wind and dew
when first you would adorn
the morning
seductive captivating
the wind jealous
the moon laughing
and when long held back
over the Eastern quarter
over the Southern streets
from first light Lord Sun
bakes ponds and inns
until at last
his chariot goes by
who can succeed him?
only you
who are more lucent
than the Brilliant Palace
almost equal the sun
when you first appear
on branches
for you I'll pour
a golden cup
disregard the dying candle
ignore the yellow dusk

PLEASE DO NOT MARK
IN LIBRARY MATERIALS.
MARKING MAY RESULT IN
CHARGES FOR DAMAGES
OR REPLACEMENT.

poet: Li Ch'ing-Chao

translator: James Cryer

♩ = 66

Fl. *con sord.*

Vi. *p*

Piano *p* Play inside piano with paper clip on string.

Fl.

Vi.

Pno. *Continue, ad lib.*

Fl. *f* *fl. tongue* *Quietly* *mp legato* *senza sord.*

Vi. *Mute oss.* *pp*

Pno. *L.V.*

Cl. (A) *pp*

Vi. *legatis.* *poco* *dolce, leggiero*

Vla. *con sord. pp*

10

6 6 6 6 6 6 6

Pno. *p*

poco mf *poco mf*

3
4

♩ = 58

12

Fl. *pp*

Cl. (A) *pp*

Vi. *pp*

Vla. *pp* senza sord.

Pno. *poco mf*

dim. *dim.* *dim.* *dim.*

6
4
6
4

Sop.

mf

for - bid - den

Pno. *pp molto tranquillo* *mp*

15

legato

Sop.

by the cur-tains you stretch out be low

1.

pp leggiero

2.
A)

pp leggiero

Fl.

pp leggiero

Fl.a.

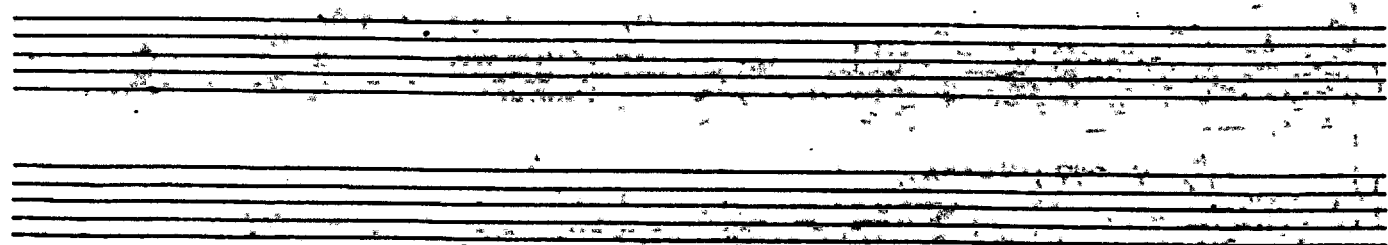
pp leggiero

C.

pp leggiero

no.

sfz L.V.



20

Fl. *pp*

Cl. A) *pp*

Vi. *pp*

Vla. *pp* *pizz.*

C. *p*

Pi. *pp* *poco cresc.*

tra--->

6 6 6

Handwritten numbers 6, 4, 6, 4 are present on the right margin.

Sop. by you a-lone by you a-lone I di-

Fl. *pp leggiero*

Cl. (A) *pp leggiero*

Vi. *pp leggiero*

Vla. *pp leggiero*

C. *pp leggiero*

Sop. vine the dy-ing spring the dy-ing

Fl. *dim. a niente*

Cl. (A) *dim. a niente* *Charge* *Bb.*

Vi. *dim. a niente*

Vla. *dim. a niente*

C. *dim. a niente*

più pr. 3 legatis 3

♩ = 72

Sop.

spring

VI.

Vla.

VIOLA *pp*
pizz. 3

(pizz) 3

Prno

p cantabile

28

Fl.

p legato

3

3

3

Cl. Bb)

arco

To Bb

p

3

Vla.

p

Prno

pp

6

6

6

6

6

6

Fl.

C. (B \flat)

Vi.

Vla.

C.

Poco più mosso $\text{♩} = 76$ 31 **legato**

Sop.

Vla.

C.

whose flowers stand pale and

mp leggiero *arco* *pizz.*

Sop.

Vla.

C.

wait ing meek mo-dest child - like

arco *pizz.* **poco cresc.**

37 Cantabile

VI. *arco* 3 3 3 5 *v* *v* 3 3

Vla. *mf* *Alz* 3 3 3 5

C. *mf* 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7

5
4

Fl. *mp* 3 3 3

VI. *pp* 3 3 3 3

Vla. 3 3 3 3

C. 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7

6
4

11 *poco ritard a* ----->

mf *espr. e dim.*

---> $\text{♩} = 72$

sub. ppp delicately *sub. ppp delicately* *sub. ppp delicately* *p*

41

p

42

ms 3 *legatis.*

12

Sop. *for that turn*

Fl. *sub. p dolce*

Cl. (A) *sub. pp*

Vi. *sub. p dolce*

C. *p*

Sop. *wind and dew when first you would a-*

Fl.

Cl. (A)

Vi.

C.

4/4

13

Sop. -dom, a-dom the morn-

Fl. *p dolce*

Cl. (A) *pp*

Vi. *p dolce*

C. *pp*

Sop. -ing

Fl.

Cl. (A)

Vi.

C.

Pno. *mf*

F1.

Cl. (A)

C.

Pno.

mp

pp.
pizz.

sva.

p

mf

molto dim.

47

F1.

Cl. (A)

C.

Cl. (A)

Vla.

C.

pp.

p
(pizz.)

p

mf legatis.

Sop. *se - duc - tive cap - ti -*

Cl. (A) *sub. pp legatis.*

Vla. *sub. pp legatis.*

C.

Sop. *- vat - ing the wind*

Cl. (A)

Vla.

C.

poco p

Sop. *jea - lous the moon laugh - ing*

Cl. (A)

Vla.

C.

to Bb.

Sop.

VI.

Vla. *mf pizz.*

C. *(pizz.)*

VI.

Vla.

C.

Sop.

VI.

Vla.

C.

and when long held back o-ver the

Pno.

mp

loco

loco

Sop. East - ern quar - ter - over the South - ern streets

Fl.

Vla.

C.

Pno.

pp

pp

legato

Fl.

Cl. (Bb)

Vla.

C.

Pno.

mf

legato

pp

poco

sim.

p

poco

sim.

61 ♩ = 76

delicately

Sop. *mp* from first light Lord Sun bakes ponds and inns

Fl. *sub. pp* *legato*

Cl. (Bb) *sub. pp* *legato*

Pno. *sub. pp*

65

Sop. un-til at last his char-i-ot goes *cresc.*

Fl.

Cl. (Bb)

Pno. *L.V.*

Sop. *by* *who can suc*

Fl. *mp* *poco* *cresc.*

Cl. (Bb) *mp* *poco* *cresc.*

Vl. *f* *cantabile*

Vla. *pizz.*

C. *ms* *3*

Sop. *- czed him* *who can succeed him*

Vl.

Vla.

C.

Pno. *f* *cresc.*

Sop. *f* on - ly you on - ly you

Vi. *f* *mf*

Vla. *sp* *mf*

C. *sp* *mf*

Cl. (Bb) *ff* *mf*

Vi. *mf poco marcato*

Vla. *mf poco marcato*

C. *mf poco marcato*

Pno. *mf*

VI. *mf*

Vla. *mf*

C. *mf*

Pno. *p*

S. *poco rit. →* *poco rit.* *Poco meno mosso*
sub. mp. legatis.

who are, who are, more lu - cent

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

f

FLUTE *ppp legatis*

CL. (Bb) *pp legatis, ma artic*

VL. *ppp*

CELLO *ppp*

f

Sop. *mf* Than The brilliant Pa - lace almost e - qual the sun

Fl.

Cl. (Bb)

Vl.

C.

A tempo *mf* when you first ap - pear ap - pear on branches

Fl.

Cl. (Bb)

Vla.

C.

Pno.

Fl.

Cl. (Bb)

Vi.

C.

Pno.

(pizz.) *p*

mp

più p

molto tranquillo

pp

legatiss.

Sop.

Fl.

Cl. (Bb)

Vla.

mf

mp

p

5

for you I'll pour a gold-sheep

Sop. *dis-re-gard,* *dis-re-gard.*

Fl. *p* *f* *mf*

Cl. (Bb)

Vi. *mf* *sim.*

Vla. *mf* *sim.*

C. *arco* *mf* 3 3 3

Sop. *the dy-ing*

Fl.

Cl. (Bb)

Vi.

Vla.

C. 3 3 3

Sop. candle

Fl.

Vl.

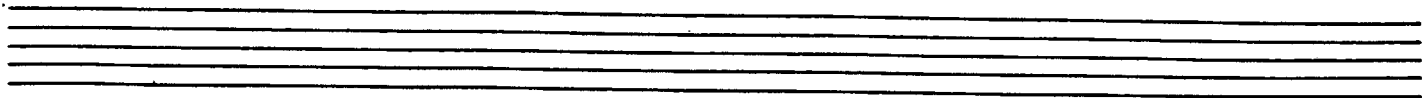
Vla. mp esp.

C.

Pno. sub. p

p

ig - note, ig - note



Sop.

Fl.

Vla.

Pno.

pp

ppp

ppp

ppp

3

4

3

4

Fl.

Vla.

Pno.

115

dim. a niente

dim. a niente

dim. a niente

115

dim. a niente

dim. a niente

dim. a niente

Vla.

Pno.

ritard ----->

dim. a niente

ritard ----->

dim. a niente

Sop.

Fl.

Cl. (B \flat)

Vi.

Vla.

C.

pp 3 *semplice, ma poco esp.*

pp 3 *semplice, ma poco esp.*

pp 3 *semplice, ma poco esp.*

pp 3 *semplice, ma poco esp.*

pp 3 *semplice ma poco esp.*

Sop.

Fl.

Cl. (B \flat)

Vi.

Vla.

C.

mp 3

the ye - low

dusk

pp 3

pp 3

pp 3

pp 3

Musical score for measures 121-124. The score includes parts for Soprano (Sop), Flute (Fl.), Clarinet in B-flat (Cl. (Bb)), Violin (Vi.), Viola (Vla.), and Cello (C.). The Soprano part features the vocalization "ah" across measures 121 and 122. The instrumental parts are marked with *pp* (pianissimo) and include dynamic markings such as *pp* and *pp*. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The time signature is 3/4. The score is divided into two systems, with measure numbers 3, 4, 3, and 4 written on the right side of the staves.

Musical score for measures 125-128. The score includes parts for Soprano (Sop), Flute (Fl.), Clarinet in B-flat (Cl. (Bb)), Violin (Vi.), Viola (Vla.), and Cello (C.). The Soprano part features the vocalization "ah" across measures 125 and 126. The instrumental parts are marked with *pp* (pianissimo) and include dynamic markings such as *pp* and *pp*. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The time signature is 3/4. The score is divided into two systems, with measure numbers 3 and 4 written on the right side of the staves.

Fl. pp

Cl. (Bb) pp *articolata*

Vla.

Pno. pp

Fl.

Cl. (Bb)

Vl. *con sord.* pp

Vla. pp

C. pp

Pno.

3

4

3

4

