

SECULAR

SATB (with divisions), piano and cello

Michael Higgins

The Cloths of Heaven

2. He wishes for the Cloths of Heaven

William Butler Yeats (1865–1939)

MICHAEL HIGGINS

Molto espressivo $\text{♩} = 40$

CELLO

SOPRANO

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

PIANO

con Ped.

6

p

pp

p

p

p

p

Had I the heav'ns' em - broid - ered

Had I the heav'ns' em - broid - ered

Had I the heav'ns' em - broid - ered

Had I the heav'ns' em - broid - ered

Had I the heav'ns' em - broid - ered

12

cloths, En - wrought with gold - en and sil - ver light, The

cloths, En - wrought with gold - en and sil - ver light, The

cloths, En - wrought with gold - en and sil - ver light,

cloths, En - wrought with gold - en and sil - ver light,

The piano accompaniment features a melody in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand, with a watermark 'ACDA Showcase 2025 Only' overlaid.

17

blue and the dim and the dark cloths Of night and

blue and the dim and the dark cloths Of night and

The piano accompaniment includes a pizzicato section in the left hand and an arco section in the right hand, with a watermark 'ACDA Showcase 2025 Only' overlaid.

22

light and the half-light, I would spread the cloths un-der your

light and the half-light, I would spread the cloths un-der your

mp

I would spread the cloths un-der your

mp

I would spread the cloths un-der your

mp

27

espress.

pp

feet:

feet:

feet:

feet:

But I, be-ing

But I, be-ing

p

32

mp
mf
mf
mf
mf
 I have spread my dreams un-der your
 I have spread my dreams un-der your
 poor, have on - ly my dreams; I have spread my dreams un-der your
 poor, have on - ly my dreams; I have spread my dreams un-der your

37

pp
p
p
p
 feet; tread soft - ly
 feet; Tread soft - ly, tread soft - ly
 feet; tread soft - ly
 feet; tread soft - ly
pp
p

poco rit.**a tempo, più tranquillo**

— be-cause you tread on my dreams. *pp*

— be-cause you tread. *pp*

— be-cause you tread. *pp*

— be-cause you tread. *pp*

— be-cause you tread. *pp*

poco rit. **a tempo, più tranquillo**

pp *p dolce*

This block contains the musical notation for measures 42 through 46. It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line has lyrics: "be-cause you tread on my dreams." and "be-cause you tread." The piano accompaniment includes a watermark "ACDA Showcase 2025 Only". The tempo markings are "poco rit." and "a tempo, più tranquillo". The dynamics are "pp" and "p dolce".

p dolce

This block contains the musical notation for measures 47 through 52. It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line has a watermark "ACDA Showcase 2025 Only". The piano accompaniment includes a watermark "ACDA Showcase 2025 Only". The dynamic is "p dolce".

rall.

pp *al niente*

rall. *pp* *al niente*

This block contains the musical notation for measures 53 through 57. It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line has lyrics: "al niente". The piano accompaniment includes a watermark "ACDA Showcase 2025 Only". The tempo marking is "rall.". The dynamics are "pp" and "al niente".

Where my books go (1892)

All the words that I utter
And all the words that I write
Must spread out their wings untiring
And never rest in their flight,
Till they come where your sad, sad heart is,
And sing to you in the night,
Beyond where the waters are moving,
Storm-darkened or starry bright.

He wishes for the Cloths of Heaven (1899)

Had I the heavens' embroidered cloths,
Enwrought with golden and silver light,
The blue and the dim and the dark cloths
Of night and light and the half light,
I would spread the cloths under your feet:
But I, being poor, have only my dreams;
I have spread my dreams under your feet;
Tread softly because you tread on my dreams.

When you are old (1891)

When you are old and grey and full of sleep,
And nodding by the fire, take down this book,
And slowly read, and dream of the soft look
Your eyes had once, and of their shadows deep;

How many loved your moments of glad grace,
And loved your beauty with love false or true,
But one man loved the pilgrim soul in you,
And loved the sorrows of your changing face;

And bending down beside the glowing bars,
Murmur, a little sadly, how Love fled
And paced upon the mountains overhead
And hid his face amid a crowd of stars.

William Butler Yeats (1865–1939)

If you would like to talk about existing or forthcoming repertoire, commissions, or any other queries relating to Michael Higgins, please contact:

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