

Stef Conner

I syng of a mayden



2015, revised 2024

Music

Stef Conner (b. 1983)

Words

British Library Sloane MS 2593,
ff.10v–11, England c. 1400

For choir, SSAATB

Full Score with piano reduction

Duration, c. 4'40''

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**PERUSAL SCORE
NOT FOR PERFORMANCE**

I syng of a mayden

Words: Middle English lyric, in British Library Sloane MS 2593, ff.10v–11, dated c. 1400

Full score (with piano reduction)

Duration: c. 4'40''

For choir: Soprano 1
Soprano 2
Alto 1
Alto 2
Tenor
Bass

Premiere: premiered by Reading Choral Society (dir. Graham Bier), WA, USA, 2015

Date: composed in 2015; revised in 2024

Duration: 4'40''

Text*:

Middle English

*I syng of a mayden
That is makeles,
Kyng of alle kynges
To her sune sche ches.*

*He cam also stile,
Ther his moder was,
As dew in Aprylle
That fallyth on the gras.*

*He cam also stile,
To his moderes bowr,
As dew in Aprylle
That fallyth on the flour.*

*He cam also stile,
Ther his moder lay,
As dew in Aprylle
That fallyth on the spray.*

*Moder and mayden
Was neuer non but sche,
Wel may swych a lady
Godes moder be.*

Modern English

*I sing of a maiden
That is matchless,
King of all kings
For her son she chose.*

*He came all so still,
There his mother was,
As dew in April
That falls upon the grass.*

*He came all so still,
To his mother's bower,
As dew in April
That falls upon the flower.*

*He came all so still,
There his mother lay,
As dew in April
That falls upon the spray.*

*Mother and maiden
There was none but she,
Well may such a lady
God's mother be.*

IPA

*i sɪŋ ɒv ə maɪdən
ðat ɪz makləs
kɪŋ ɒv ələ kɪŋes
to her sunə ʃe tʃes*

*he cam əlsə stɪlə
ðer hɪz mɒdəɹ wəs
əz deɪ ɪn əprɪlə
ðat fəlɪθ ɒn ðə grəs*

*he cam əlsə stɪlə
to hɪz mɒdəɹes buɹ
əz deɪ ɪn əprɪlə
ðat fəlɪθ ɒn ðə flʊɹ*

*he cam əlsə stɪlə
ðer hɪz mɒdəɹ laɪ
əz deɪ ɪn əprɪlə
ðat fəlɪθ ɒn ðə sprəɪ*

*mɒdəɹ ənd maɪdən
wəs nəvəɹ nʌn bʊt ʃe
wel maɪ swɪtʃ ə ladi
ɡoðes mɒdəɹ be*

*Transcribed and translated by Stef Conner

For Graham, Robin, Roland, and Juniper

I syng of a mayden

ANON., 15th Century

STEF CONNER

Reverent, ♩ = c. 66

SOPRANO

pp *mf* *p* *mf*

I syng of a may-den that is make-les, Kyng of al-le

ALTO

pp *mf* *p* *mf*

I syng of a may-den that is make-les, Kyng of al-le

TENOR

pp *mf* *p* *mf*

I syng of a may-den that is make-les, Kyng of al - le

BASS

pp *mf* *p* *mf*

I syng of a may-den that is make-les, Kyng of al - le

Reverent, ♩ = c. 66

For rehearsal only

Piano or organ

pp *mf* *mp* *mf*

5

S. *p* *f*
kyng-es To her sun - e sche ches. Kyng of al-le

A. *p* *f*
kyng-es To her sun - e sche ches. Kyng of al - le

T. *p* *f*
kyng of kyng-es To her sun - e sche ches. Kyng of al-le

B. *p* *f*
kyng-es To her sun - e sche ches. Kyng of of al-le,

Pno. *p* *f*

9

S. *p*
kyng-es To her sun - e sche ches. He cam al - so

A. *p*
kyng-es To her sun - e sche ches. He cam al - so

T. *p*
To her sun - e sche ches. He cam

B. *p*
kyng of kyng-es To her sun - e sche ches. He cam al - so

Pno. *p*

13

S. *p* *mf* *p* *mf*
 styl-le, Ther his mod - er was, As dew in Ap-

A. *pp* *mp* *p* *mf*
 styl-le, so styl-le, Ther his mod-er was, As dew in Ap-

T. *pp* *mp* *p* *mf*
 al-so styl-le, Ther his mod-er was, As dew

B. *p* *mp* *p* *mf*
 styl-le, Ther his mod - er was, As dew in Ap-

Pno. *pp* *mp* *p* *mf*

17

S. *p* *mp* *non dim.*
 ryl-le That fal-lyth on the gras. I syng of a may-den that is

A. *p* *mp* *non dim.*
 ryl-le That fal-lyth on the gras. I syng of a may-den that is

T. *p* *mp* *non dim.*
 in Ap-ryl-le fal-lyth on the gras. I syng of a may-den that is

B. *p* *mp* *non dim.*
 ryl-le That fal-lyth on the gras. I syng of a may-den that is

Pno. *p* *mp* *p*

22 *f* *ff*

S. make-les, Kyng of al - le kyng-es kyng of al-le kyng-es To her

A. *f* *ff*
make-les, Kyng of al-le kyng-es kyng of al - le

T. *f* *ff*
make-les, Kyng of al-le kyng-es al-le kyng-es kyng of al - le

B. *f* *ff*
make-les, Kyng of kyng - es kyng of al - le kyng-es To her

Pno. *f*

25 *pp* *p* *pp*

S. son - ne sche ches. He cam al - so styl-le,

A. *pp* *p* *pp*
kyng-es To her son-ne sche ches. He cam al - so styl-le,

T. *pp* *p* *pp*
kyng-es To her son-ne sche ches. He cam al - so styl-le,

B. *pp* *p* *pp*
son - ne sche ches. He cam al - so styl-le,

Pno. *pp* *p* *pp*

29

(no breath; stagger if necessary)

mp *p* *mf* *mp*

S. To his mod-er-es bowr, As dew in Ap-ryl-le That

A. To his mod-er-es bowr, As dew in Ap-ryl-le

T. To his mod-er-es bowr, As dew

B. To his mo-der es bowr, As dew in Ap-ryl-le

Pno.

rit. ♩ = c. 50 a tempo (♩ = 66)

33 *f* *pp*

S. fal - lyth on the flour. I syng of a may-den that is

A. fal - lyth on the flour. I syng of a may-den that is

T. fal - lyth on the flour. I syng of a may-den that is

B. fal - lyth on the flour. I syng of a may-den that is

Pno. *f* *mp* *pp*

37 *f* *p* *f*

S. make - les, Kyng of al - le

f *p* *f* *mp*

make - les, Kyng of al - le kyng - es

f *p* *f*

A. make - les, Kyng of al - le

f

make - les, Kyng of al - le kyng - es kyng of al - le

T. *f*

make - les, Kyng of al - le, kyng of kyng - es

B. *f* *p* *f*

make - les, Kyng of al - le,

Pno. *f*

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39

S.

kyng-es kyng of al-le kyng-es kyng of al-le

f *mp* *f*

kyng of al-le kyng-es kyng of al-le kyng-es

A.

mp *f* *mp* *f*

kyng-es kyng of al-le kyng-es kyng of al-le kyng-es

mp *f* *mp*

kyng-es kyng of al-le kyng-es kyng of al-le kyng-es

T.

f *mp* *f*

kyng of al-le kyng-es kyng of al-le kyng-es kyng of al-le

B.

kyng of al-le, kyng of al-le,

Pno.

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41

ff *non dim.*

S. kyng-es kyng of al - le kyng-es kyng of al - le kyng-es

ff *non dim.*

kyng of al - le kyng-es kyng of al - le kyng-es

ff *non dim.*

A. kyng of al - le kyng-es kyng of al - le kyng-es kyng of al - le kyng-es

ff *non dim.*

kyng of al - le kyng-es kyng of al - le kyng-es

mp *non dim.*

T. 8 kyng - es kyng of al - le kyng-es

ff *non dim.*

B. kyng of al - le kyng-es

Pno. *ff*

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43 *pp sub.*

S. To her sun - e sche ches. He

A. *pp sub.* To her sun - e sche ches.

T. *pp sub.* To her sun - e sche ches.

B. *pp sub.* To her sun - e sche ches. He

Pno. *pp sub.*

45 (no breath; stagger if necessary) *p*

S. cam al - so styl - le, Ther his mod - er lay, As

A. (no breath; stagger if necessary) *p* Ther his mod - er lay, As

T. (no breath; stagger if necessary) *p* Ther his mod - er lay, As

B. (no breath; stagger if necessary) *p* cam al - so styl - le, Ther his mod - er lay, As

Pno. *p*

poco rit. . . . ♩ = c. 58

49 *mf* *p* *mf* *pp*

S. dew in Ap - ryl-le That fal - lyth on the hay.

A. dew in Ap - ryl-le That fal - lyth on the hay.

T. dew in Ap-ryl-le fal - lyth on hay.

B. dew That fal - lyth on the hay.

Pno. *mf* *p* *mf* *pp*

a tempo (♩ = 66)

53 *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

S. Mod - er and may - den Was nev - er non but sche:

A. Mod - er and may - den Was nev - er non but sche:

T. Mod - er and may - den Was nev - er non but sche:

B. Mod - er and may - den Was nev - er non but sche:

Pno. a tempo (♩ = 66) *mf* *p*

57 *mf* *mp*

S. Wel, wel, may swych a la-dy God - es mod - er be

A. *mf* *mp* *mf* Wel may swych a la-dy Wel may swych a

T. *mf* *mp* Wel may swych a la-dy God - es mod - er be

B. *mf* *mp* Wel may swych a la - dy God - es mod - er be

Pno. *mf* *mp*

61 *p* *pp*

S. God - es mod - er be God - es mod - er be

A. *mp* *p* *mp* *p* *pp* *p* la-dy Wel may swych a la-dy Wel may swych a

T. *p* *pp* God - es mod - er be God - es mod - er be.

B. *p* *pp* God - es mod - er be God - es mod - er be

Pno. *p* *pp*

65

S. *ppp*
God - es mod - er be God - es mod - er be

A. *pp* *ppp* *pp* *ppp*
la - dy Wel may swych a la - dy

B. *ppp*
God - es mod - er be. God - es mod - er be

Pno. *ppp*

rit. ♩ = c. 50 a tempo (♩ = 66) rit.

69

S. *(ppp)* *mp* *ppp*
God - es mod - er be. I syng of a may-den that is make-les.

A. *(ppp)* *mp* *ppp*
I syng of a may-den that is make-les.

T. *(ppp)* *mp* *p* *mp* *ppp*
I syng of a may-den that is make-les.

B. *(ppp)* *mp* *ppp*
God - es mod - er be. I syng of a may-den that is make-les.

rit. ♩ = c. 50 a tempo (♩ = 66) rit.

Pno. *(ppp)* *mp* *p* *mp* *ppp*