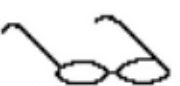




CAROL BARNETT

NEAR ODESSA




BEADY EYES PUBLISHING
www.carolbarnett.net

Near Odessa was written for Bella Voce, a women's choir based in Reno, Nevada, and conducted by Jennifer Tibben. The poem is from a recent volume by Minneapolis writer Patricia Kirkpatrick, written during a time when she was making frequent car trips through the western Minnesota landscape to the tiny town of Odessa. The images of golden fields, clattering harvest machinery, the far-off cry of geese, the hum of tires on the highway and the waves on the river, all are fodder for sound pictures.

duration: c. 3:30


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NEAR ODESSA

Near the end of summer.
Wheatfield with lark. With swift,
longspur, and sparrow. I see the birds
opening tails and wings
above grasses
and hidden nests.
Soybeans with bells, yellowing, green
tassels of corn, geese
again and again.
I see the birds
but wind takes all the sound.
Small towns are reduced to chains or storefronts,
boarded-up.
Almost to the river called a lake, grey stones of water,
dammed, white-capped, hinge
between states.
Some fields are so gold they seem to be singing.
The gold fields lie down, flat but not empty,
and will be harvested later with blades.
Near Odessa
I come to a place where the end is beginning.
Where the light is absolute, it rises.

-Patricia Kirkpatrick (*Odessa*)

Near Odessa

Patricia Kirkpatrick

Carol Barnett

♩ = c. 100; flowing

Soprano 1
Soprano 2
Alto
Piano

mf Near the end of
mf Near the end of
mf Near the end of

♩ = c. 100; flowing
LH **sim.**

4
S 1 sum - mer. Wheat-field with lark. With swift, long - spur, and spar-row.
S 2 sum - mer. Wheat-field with lark. With swift, long - spur, and spar-row.
A sum - mer. Wheat-field with lark. With swift, long - spur, and spar-row.

4
Pno.

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"Near Odessa" from Odessa by Patricia Kirkpatrick (Minneapolis: Milkweed Editions, 2012).

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8

S 1

I see the birds o - p'ning tails and

S 2

I see the birds o - p'ning tails and

A

I see the birds o - p'ning tails and

Pno.

11

S 1

wings, wings a - bove grass - es and hid - den,

S 2

wings, wings a - bove grass - es and hid - den,

A

wings, wings a - bove grass - es and hid - den,

Pno.

[illegible]

The image shows a musical score for a piece titled "Soy -". The score is arranged for four parts: Soprano 1 (S1), Soprano 2 (S2), Alto (A), and Piano (Pno.). The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The score begins at measure 17. The vocal parts (S1, S2, A) are written in treble clef and feature a melodic line with a long note in measure 17, followed by a rest, and then a series of eighth notes. The piano accompaniment (Pno.) is written in grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and features a complex rhythmic pattern with triplets and sixteenth notes. A large, diagonal watermark reading "For Pre-beady eyes Publishing" is overlaid across the entire score.

21 *cresc.* *mf*

S 1 - beans with bells, yel-low-ing, green tas-sels of corn, geese a - gain, a -

S 2 - beans with bells, yel-low-ing, green tas-sels of corn, geese a - gain, a -

A - beans with bells, yel-low-ing, green tas-sels of corn, geese a - gain, a -

21 *cresc.* *mf*

Pno. *cresc.* *mf* *Ped. ad lib.*

26 *f* *dim.*

S 1 gain, a - gain and a - gain, ah.

S 2 gain, a - gain and a - gain, ah.

A 1 gain, a - gain and a - gain, ah

A 2 gain, a - gain and a - gain, ah.

26 *f* *dim.* *dim.*

Pno. *f* *dim.*

30 *mf*

S 1 I see the birds, see the birds,

S 2 I see the birds, see the birds,

A 1 But

A 2

Pno. *mf*

33 *dim.* *p*

S 1 ah.

S 2 *dim.* *p*

A 1 *dim.* *p*

A 2 *dim.* *p*

Pno. *(non dim.)*

wind takes all the sound.

But wind takes all the sound.

37

S 1 *p* Small towns

S 2 *p* Small towns

A 1 *p* Small towns

A 2 *p* Small towns

Pno. *dim.* *p*

41

S 1 *3* are re-duced to chains or store - fronts, board - ed up,

S 2 *3* are re-duced to chains or store - fronts, board - ed up,

A 1 *3* are re-duced to chains or store - fronts, board - ed up,

A 2 *3* are re-duced to chains or store - fronts, board - ed up,

Pno.

46

S 1 *cresc.* *mf* *dim.*
ah, ah.

S 2 *cresc.* *mf* *dim.*
ah, ah.

A 1 *cresc.* *mf* *dim.*
ah, ah.

A 2 *cresc.* *mf* *dim.*
ah, ah.

Pno. *cresc.* *mf* *dim.*

51

S 1 *p* *mp*
Al - most to the riv - er called a

S 2 *p* *mp*
Al - most to the riv - er called a

A 1 *p* *mp*
Al - most to the riv - er called a

A 2 *p* *mp*
Al - most to the riv - er called a

Pno. *p*

56

S 1 lake, grey stones of

S 2 lake, grey stones of

A 1 lake, grey stones of

A 2 lake, grey stones of

Pno. *(p)*

59

S 1 wa - ter, dammed, white - capped, hinge

S 2 wa - ter, dammed, white - capped, hinge

A 1 wa - ter, dammed, white - capped, hinge

A 2 wa - ter, dammed, white - capped, hinge

Pno.

63

S 1

S 2

A 1

A 2

Pno.

be - tween states.

Sus. Ped.

67

S 1

S 2

A 1

A 2

Pno.

p Some fields are so gold they seem to be

p Some fields are so gold they seem to be

p Some fields are so gold they seem to be

p Some fields are so gold they seem to be

72

cresc. *mf*

S 1 sing-ing, sing-ing, sing-ing, ah.

S 2 sing-ing, sing-ing, sing-ing, ah.

A 1 sing-ing, sing-ing, sing-ing, ah.

A 2 sing-ing, sing-ing, sing-ing, ah.

Pno. *cresc.* *mf*

79

dim. poco a poco

S 1 The gold fields lie down, flat but not emp-ty,

S 2 The gold fields lie down, flat but not emp-ty,

A 1 The gold fields lie down, flat but not emp-ty,

A 2 The gold fields lie down, flat but not emp-ty,

Pno. *dim. poco a poco*

86 *p*

S 1 and will be har-vest-ed lat - er with blades, _____

S 2 *p* and will be har-vest-ed lat - er with blades, _____

A 1 *p* and will be har-vest-ed lat - er with blades, _____

A 2 *p* and will be har-vest-ed lat - er with blades, _____

Pno. *p* (*p*)

91 *dim.*

S 1 oo. _____

S 2 *dim.* oo. _____

A 1 *dim.* oo. _____

A 2 *dim.* *pp* oo. _____

Pno.

94 *pp*

S 1

S 2 *pp*

A 1 *pp*

A 2

Pno.

98 *p*

S 1

S 2 *p*

A 1 *p*

A 2 *p*

Pno.

I come to a place where the end is be-gin-ing.

Near O-des-sa...

Near O-des-sa...

104 *rit.* $\text{♩} = 76; \text{thoughtful}$

S 1 Where the light is ab-so-lute, — it ris - es, ris - es, ah. — *mp*

S 2 Where the light is ab-so-lute, — it ris - es, ris - es, ah. — *mp*

A Where the light is ab-so-lute, — it ris - es, ris - es, ah. — *mp*

Pno. *rit.* $\text{♩} = 76; \text{thoughtful}$ *p* 5

110

S 1

S 2

A

Pno. *mp* 6 *dim.* 6

* unvoiced

*unvoiced