

As night and morning meet
GP - V001.2
low voice, piano

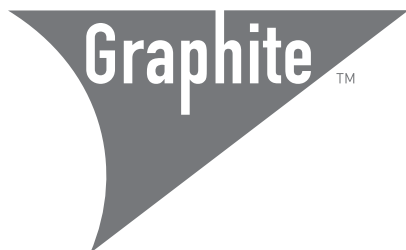
Ellen Gilson Voth

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As night and morning meet

for low voice and piano



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Text:

“Meeting at Night”

The gray sea and the long black land;
And the yellow half-moon large and low;
And the startled little waves that leap
In fiery ringlets from their sleep,
As I gain the cove with pushing prow,
And quench its speed in the slushy sand.
Then a mile of warm sea-scented beach;
Three fields to cross till a farm appears;
A tap at the pane, the quick sharp scratch
And blue spurt of a lighted match,
And a voice less loud, thro’ its joys and fears,
Than the two hearts beating each to each!

“Parting at morning”

Round the cape of a sudden came the sea,
And the sun looked over the mountain’s rim;
And straight was a path of gold for him,
And the need of a world of men for me.

- *Robert Browning*

From the Composer:

The title of this song, “As night and morning meet”, is intended to capture the layers of meeting and parting that Browning paints through his choices of words. It was a joy to live with this text and let the music in it emerge for soprano Michelle Fiertek, pianist Michael Korman and their American art song album project. I encourage you to hear their interpretation on the album, *Every tiny thing* (Albany Records).

- *Ellen Gilson Voth, 2020*

For the Performers:

Let the emotional arc of the poetry present itself – the wonder of the natural world, the thrill of the path that leads us to reunion, the hopefulness of a new day, and the heaviness of the weight of need that day brings to us. The piano is foundational to the soundscape; pay close attention to the pedaling so that it contributes to the mystery and timelessness of the text, without blurring the sonorities.

To Ruth, Karin, Helen, J.J. and David, whose artistry at the piano will always inspire

As night and morning meet

for low voice and piano

Robert Browning (1812-1889)

Ellen Gilson Voth

♩ = 58

Piano

mp

p slight rit.

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a tempo

7

mf with warmth and mystery

The grey sea and the long black

a tempo

mp

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10

land; and the yel - low half - moon large and low;

mp

14

p *mf*

And the star - tled lit - tle waves that

poco *mf*

18

leap in fier - y ring - lets from their sleep, as I gain the cove with

mf

22

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push - ing prow, And quench its speed in the

mp

25

rit. accel.

slush - y sand.

rit. accel.

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29

a tempo

mp

Then a mile of warm sea - scent - ed beach;

a tempo

mp

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33 *mf*

Three fields ___ to cross till a farm ___ ap-pears; ___ A

37 *with expectancy*

tap at the pane, ___ the quick sharp scratch and

mf *mp*

40 *p*

blue spurt ___ of a light - ed match, And a voice ___ less

poco *subito p*

43 *rit.* *a tempo*

loud, thro' its joys and fears, Than the two hearts, — the

rit. *a tempo*

p notable. elevated.

48 *mf*

two hearts — beat - ing each — to each!

mf *f*

52 ♩ = 66-70 *mp*

Round the cape of a

mf *mp* notable. elevated.

with optimism

56

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sud-den — came the sea, ————— And the sun

mp notable. elevated.

59

wistfully

— looked o - ver the moun - tain's rim ————— And straight ³ was a path of gold for

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62

him, ————— And the need — of a world, ————— the need — of

TM

65 *with heaviness* 58

— a world of men — for me.

mf

♩. = 58

69

mp

2

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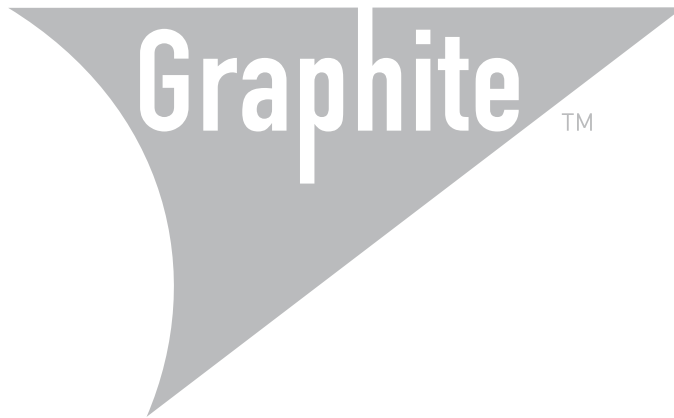
72

mp

p

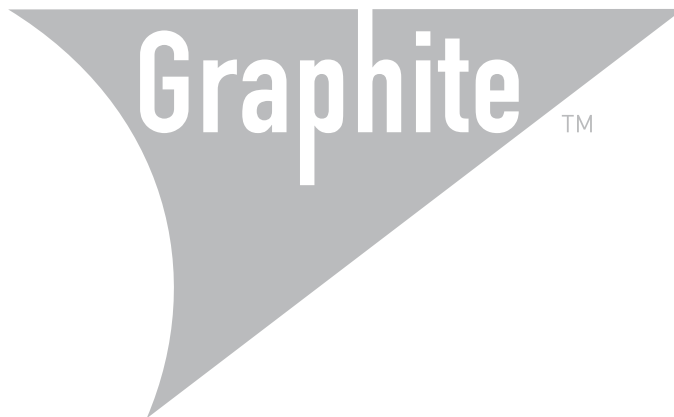
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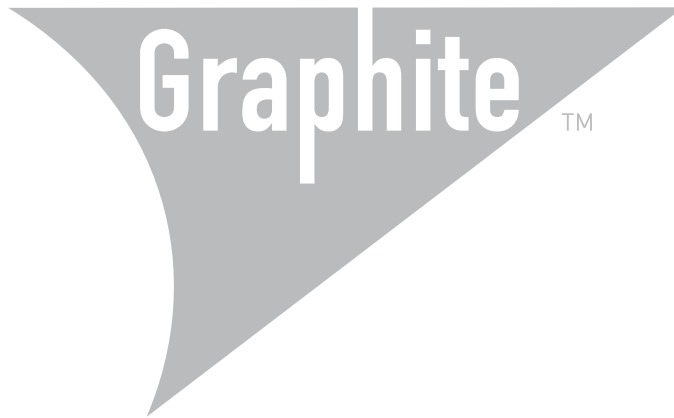
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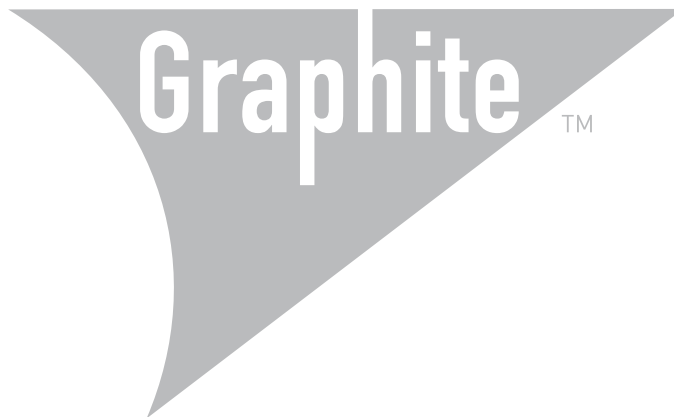
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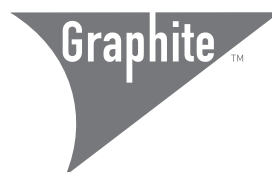
Ellen Gilson Voth



Active as a conductor and composer, Ellen Gilson Voth composes works that reflect her passion for and commitment to high standards of artistry in writing for the human voice. Praised for music that is “superbly crafted for singer and accompanist,” Voth’s works have been commissioned and premiered by a wide range of professional, semi-professional and amateur choirs across the US, and featured at regional and national conferences of the American Choral Directors Association and College Music Society. Her art song and short opera works have garnered national attention as well. An experienced educator and clinician, she regularly presents workshops and coaches emerging composers on the art and craft of composition. Voth received her DMA degree from The Hartt School, University of Hartford, and currently lives with her husband and daughter in West Hartford, CT. To learn more about her work, visit www.ellengilsonvoth.net.

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