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JULIANA HALL

THEME IN YELLOW

7 Songs for Mezzo-Soprano and Piano

on Poems by
Amy Lowell
Edna St. Vincent Millay,
Robert Frost,
and Carl Sandburg

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Cover design by David Sims.

SONG

Gone, gone again is Summer the lovely.
 She that knew not where to hide,
 Is gone again like a jeweled fish from the hand,
 Is lost on every side.

Mute, mute, I make my way to the garden,
 Thither where she last was seen;
 The heavy foot of the frost is on the flags there,
 Where her light step has been.

Gone, gone again is Summer the lovely,
 Gone again on every side,
 Lost again like a shining fish from the hand
 Into the shadowy tide.

—Edna St. Vincent Millay

RIPE CORN

The wind blows. The corn leans. The corn leaves go rustling. The march
 time and the windbeat is on October drums. The stalks of fodder bend
 all one way, the way the last windstorm passed.

“Put on my winter clothes; get me an ulster; a yellow ulster to lay down
 in January and shut my eyes and cover my ears in snow drifts.”

The wind blows. The corn leans. The fodder is russet. October says to the
 leaves, “Rustle now to the last lap, to the last leg of the year.”

—Carl Sandburg

NOVEMBER

The vine leaves against the brick walls of my house
 Are rusty and broken.
 Dead leaves gather under the pine-trees,
 The brittle boughs of lilac-bushes
 Sweep against the stars.
 And I sit under a lamp
 Trying to write down the emptiness of my heart.
 Even the cat will not stay with me,
 But prefers the rain
 Under the meagre shelter of a cellar window.

—Amy Lowell

THEME IN YELLOW

I spot the hills
 With yellow balls in autumn.
 I light the prairie cornfields
 Orange and tawny gold clusters
 And I am called pumpkins.
 On the last of October
 When dusk is fallen
 Children join hands
 And circle round me
 Singing ghost songs
 And love to the harvest moon;
 I am a jack-o'-lantern
 With terrible teeth
 And the children know
 I am fooling.

—Carl Sandburg

GATHERING LEAVES

Spades take up leaves
 No better than spoons,
 And bags full of leaves
 Are light as balloons.

I make a great noise
 Of rustling all day
 Like rabbit and deer
 Running away.

But the mountains I raise
 Elude my embrace,
 Flowing over my arms
 And into my face.

I may load and unload
 Again and again
 Till I fill the whole shed,
 And what have I then?

Next to nothing for weight,
 And since they grew duller
 From contact with earth,
 Next to nothing for color.

Next to nothing for use,
 But a crop is a crop,
 And who's to say where
 The harvest shall stop?

—Robert Frost

SPLINTER

The voice of the last cricket
 across the first frost
 is one kind of good-by.
 It is so thin a splinter of singing.

—Carl Sandburg

HAZE GOLD

Sun, you may send your haze gold
 Filling the fall afternoon
 With a flimmer of many gold feathers.
 Leaves, you may linger in the fall sunset
 Like late lingering butterflies before frost.
 Treetops, you may sift the sunset cross-lights
 Spreading a loose checkerwork of gold and shadow.
 Winter comes soon—shall we save this, lay it by,
 Keep all we can of these haze gold yellows?

—Carl Sandburg

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For Mary Shep Mann

Theme in Yellow

for Mezzo-Soprano and Piano

Song

Edna St. Vincent Millay

Juliana Hall
(b. 1958)

Warmly (♩ = 112)

Warmly (♩ = 112)

mp

Ped. * Ped. * Ped. *

Ped. * Ped. *

7

mp

Gone, gone a - gain is

p

Ped. * Ped. *

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10

Sum - mer the love - ly. She that knew not where to

Ped. * Ped. * Ped.

13

hide, Is gone a - gain like a

16

jeweled fish from the hand, Is lost on eve - ry

19

side.

pp

Ped. * Ped. * Ped. *

22

p

Mute, mute, I make my

Ped. * Ped. * Ped. *

25

way to the gar - den,

Ped. * Ped. *

Ripe Corn

Carl Sandburg

Juliana Hall
(b. 1958)

♩. = 72

p

The wind blows. The corn

p

Ped. * *Ped.*

3

gliss.

leans. The corn leaves go rus - tling.

* *Ped.* *

5

mp

The march time and the wind - beat is on Oc -

mp

Ped. * *Ped.* * *Ped.* * *Ped.* *

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7 *p*

to - ber drums. The

Ped. * Ped. * Ped. * Ped. *

9

stalks of fod - der bend all one way, the

p

Ped. *

11

way the last wind - storm passed.

Ped. * Ped. * Ped. * Ped. *

November

Amy Lowell

Juliana Hall

(b. 1958)

With sadness (♩ = 52)

mp

p

The vine leaves a - gainst the brick walls of my house Are

With sadness (♩ = 52)

mp

4

rust - y and bro - ken. Dead leaves gath - er un - der the

7

pine - trees, The brit - tle boughs of li - lac - bush - es...

"November" by Amy Lowell is in the Public Domain.

18 *mp*

Un-der the mea-gre shel - ter of a cel-lar win - dow.

Theme In Yellow

Carl Sandburg

Juliana Hall
(b. 1958)

Mysteriously (♩ = 76) *p*

I spot the hills With

4 *mp*

yel - low balls in au - tumn. I light the prai - rie

*Ped. * Ped. * Ped. * Ped. **

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7 *p*

corn-fields Orange and taw - ny gold clus - ters

Ped. * *Ped.* * *Ped.* * *Ped.* * *Ped.* * *Ped.* * *Ped.* *

10 *p* *pp*

And I am called pump - kins.

p *pp*

12 *p*

On the last of Oc - to - ber When

Ped. * *Ped.* * *Ped.* * *Ped.* *

Gathering Leaves

Robert Frost

Juliana Hall
(b. 1958)

Happily (♩ = 144)

The first system of the musical score is in 3/4 time. It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part consists of a treble and bass clef. The melody begins with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The piano accompaniment starts with a half note chord of G4 and B4 in the bass, and a half note chord of D5 and F5 in the treble. The tempo is marked as 'Happily' with a quarter note equal to 144 beats per minute.

The second system of the musical score contains the lyrics: "Spades take up leaves No". The vocal line has a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, and a quarter note C5. The piano accompaniment continues with chords: G4-B4 in the bass and D5-F5 in the treble. The tempo is marked as 'mp'.

The third system of the musical score contains the lyrics: "bet - ter than spoons, And bags full of". The vocal line has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note D5, a quarter note E5, a quarter note F5, and a quarter note G5. The piano accompaniment continues with chords: G4-B4 in the bass and D5-F5 in the treble. The tempo is marked as 'mp'.

10

leaves Are light as bal - loons.

13

p

I make a great noise Of

p

Ped. * Ped. *

16

rus - tling all day Like rab - bit and

19

deer Run - ning a - way.

22

But the moun - tains I raise E -

25

lude my em brace, Flow - - ing o - ver my

p

Splinter

Carl Sandburg

27
Juliana Hall
(b. 1958)

Quietly (♩ = 56)

The first system of the musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in 4/4 time, starting with a whole rest. The middle staff is the right-hand piano part, and the bottom staff is the left-hand piano part. Both piano parts begin with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The piano accompaniment features sustained chords with a dotted line above the right-hand part indicating an octave (*8va*). The system concludes with a double bar line and a 4/4 time signature.

Ped.

4

The second system of the musical score begins at measure 4. The vocal line starts with a whole rest, followed by a half note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The lyrics "The voice of the" are written below the notes. The piano accompaniment continues with sustained chords. The system concludes with a double bar line and a 4/4 time signature.

7

The third system of the musical score begins at measure 7. The vocal line starts with a half note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The lyrics "last crick - et a -" are written below the notes. The piano accompaniment continues with sustained chords. The system concludes with a double bar line and a 5/4 time signature.

*

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Haze Gold

29

Carl Sandburg

Juliana Hall
(b. 1958)

Tenderly (♩ = 72) *mp*

Sun, you may

Tenderly (♩ = 72) *p*

4
send your haze gold Fill - ing the fall af - ter -

6
noon With a flim - mer of ma - ny gold

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8

feath - ers. _____

11

Leaves, you may lin - ger in the fall

13

sun - set Like late lin - ger - ing but - ter - flies _____ be - fore