

Wisdom & love

For voice and guitar

Howarth

Ho Wai-On

Wisdom and Love

for tenor or soprano with guitar

The music is a combination of five melodic ideas – each centres on a certain pitch: E, G, A, D and B respectively, i.e., the guitar strings but not following their order (EBGDAE). The words indicate the moods, and each mode centred on a pitch has its own flavour. To me, E is philosophical; G, glow; A, warmth; D, liveliness and B is mysterious.

I studied Western Classical music at the Royal Academy of Music. At the time, the ultimate was to learn Bach chorales (for harmony) and the sonata form (for compositional structure). Yet unbeknown to me, I was influenced by my childhood memory of Cantonese opera in Hong Kong, which is a collection of different tunes to express the sound and the drama of words, as demonstrated in this short piece.

The late American soprano Judith Nelson had performed this work with the guitarist William Waters but I am not aware of any recording. However, I have an old recording performed by Peter Crowe and William Waters and I have used this to make a music video which is available on my website: www.howaion.co.uk

1. about 5 minutes

WISDOM & LOVE

HO WAI-ON

Lento (♩ = 60)

Philosophical

5

voice

(x Play with the flesh)

mp EE

guitar

p

f

golpe

mf marcato

10

15

20

MAN BLAMES

NA-TURE AND FATE,

YET HE

25

FATE IS MOST-LY BOT THE ECH-O OF HIS CHAR-AC-T-ER AND PASS-IONS, HIS

mf

p Pont- -

mf *f* *nat.*

30

MIS-TAKES AND HIS WEAK - NESS-ES.

p

pp

PIU MOSSO ($\text{♩} = 80$)

mp

THERE ARE ON-LY

40

TWO

REM - I - DIES FOR THE SUFF-ERING OF THE SOUL :

mf *mp* *mf*

ADAGIO $\text{♩} = 50$

45

HOPE - AND PAT - IENCE.

rit molto *p dolce*

warm *P ad. lib* *sweet* I WILL RE-VEAL TO YOU A

LOVE — POT — ION — WITH — OUT MED — I — CINE — WITH — OUT

mp *p*

HERBS — WITH — OUT AN — Y WITCH — 'S MAG — IC : IF YOU WANT TO BE

mf *subito (p)* *mf*

LOVE — THEN LOVE . WHEN ONE HAS

p *mp* *f* *ANDANTE (♩ = 72) RITMICO* *RASQUEADO sf*

ONCE FULL — LY EN — TERED THE REALM OF LOVE — THE

f *mp*

65

WORLD - , NO MAT-TER HOW IM- PER - FECT, BE-COMES RICH AND - BEAU-TI-FUL,

mp cresc poco a poco - - - - - mp

70

FOR IT CON-SISTS, SOLE - LY OF OP- POR-TUN-I-TIES FOR

75

LOVE - EE

SEMPRE f

80

(EE) EE

dim

Allargando

GRABE
ad lib

cresc e accel poco - a - poco

Guitar

mp

6

SEMPRE RASQUEADO

Largo (♩ = 60) (THE 6 ♩S TO BE PLAYED ON THE SIX STRINGS RESPECTIVELY)

85

sf RASQ

p

mf

poco auel -

mf

p

mf

sf RASQ

p

mf

sf RASQ

p

mf

poco auel

poco accel

90

sf RASQ

p

mf

sf RASQ

p

mf

poco auel

auel -

simile

auel - - -

auel - - - -

auel - poco - a - poco -

Handwritten musical notation on a single staff. The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together. The lyrics "aue" are written below the staff, with a dash indicating a continuation. The tempo marking "poco rit" is written at the end of the staff.

Meno Mosso

RASO

Handwritten musical notation on a single staff. The tempo marking "Meno Mosso" and "RASO" are written above the staff. The lyrics "poco aue e" are written below the staff, followed by "cresc".

simile 100

Handwritten musical notation on a single staff. The tempo marking "simile 100" is written above the staff. The lyrics "poco aue cresc poco aue" are written below the staff, followed by "aue" and a dash.

SEMPRE RASO

Handwritten musical notation on a single staff. The tempo marking "SEMPRE RASO" is written above the staff. The lyrics "poco aue cresc poco aue" are written below the staff, followed by "aue" and a dash.

$\text{♩} = 50$

105

Handwritten musical notation for voice and guitar. The voice part is on a single staff with the lyrics "mp LOVE - AND THE SOUL". The guitar part is on a single staff with the lyrics "mf glissando (on E string)".

Handwritten musical score for the first system. The top staff is in treble clef, 2/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It begins with a piano (P) dynamic. The melody includes notes for "FOUND", "EACH", "THER", and "AH". The bottom staff is in bass clef, 2/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp. It features a complex bass line with many beamed notes and a "glissando" marking. Fingerings (3, 5, 3, 3, 3) and breath marks (AH) are indicated.

Handwritten musical score for the second system. The top staff is in treble clef, 2/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp. It begins with a piano (P) dynamic. The melody includes notes for "(AH)", "AH", and "AH". The bottom staff is in bass clef, 2/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp. It features a complex bass line with many beamed notes and a "gulpe" marking. Fingerings (3, 5, 3, 3, 3) and breath marks (AH) are indicated.

Handwritten musical score for the third system. The top staff is in treble clef, 2/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp. It begins with a piano (P) dynamic. The melody includes notes for "(AH)". The bottom staff is in bass clef, 2/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp. It features a complex bass line with many beamed notes and a "nat" marking. Fingerings (3, 5, 3, 3, 3) and breath marks (AH) are indicated.