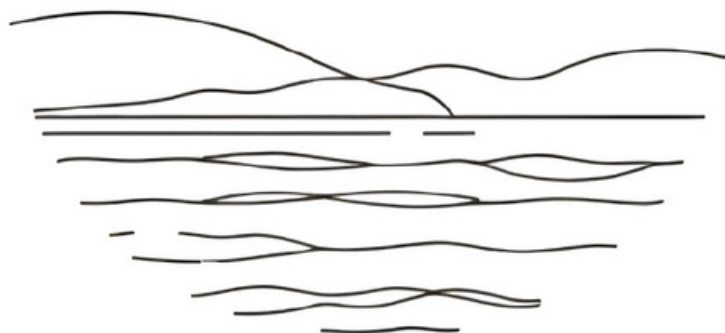


Moonrise

for soprano solo, SATB voices (divisi) and piano

Christopher Churcher

(2025)



Composed April 2025 as the title track of my first album *Moonrise*

First performance: tbc

Moonrise

for soprano solo, SATB voices (divisi) and piano

Tonight

The moon is a curving flower of gold,
The sky is still and blue;
The moon was made for the sky to hold,
And I for you;
The moon is a flower without a stem,
The sky is luminous;
Eternity was made for them,
To-night for us.

Peace (excerpt)

I am the pool of blue
That worships the vivid sky;
My hopes were heaven-high,
They are all fulfilled in you.
I am the pool of gold
When sunset burns and dies--
You are my deepening skies,
Give me your stars to hold.

~ Sara Teasdale ~

Total duration: *ca.* 7'

Moonrise links two poems by Sara Teasdale about the turning of day into night. 'Peace' paints the golden image of a sunset, while 'Tonight' describes the night sky, setting its eternal vastness against the fleeting, intoxicating nature of romantic love. The piano writing takes soft arpeggiated figures, I would encourage a degree of freedom in the pacing of each spread, some shaped as slow, shimmering ripples whilst others might be faster gestures. In the final section (b. 109), the sopranos are given a brief aleatoric passage: each singer should perform the line independently twice—first with the text, then again as a hum.

Christopher Churcher

for Ella Machtynger

Moonrise

Sara Teasdale (1884 - 1993)

Christopher Churcher

(b.2004)

Slow ♩ = 58

Soprano Solo

Piano

Slow ♩ = 58

pp *ad lib.*

pp

6

Pno.

p

pp

11

Solo

p freely; calm and light

The_ moon_ is a

Pno.

p

pp

16

Solo

cur - ving flo - wer of gold the

Pno.

3

2

21

Solo

sky is still and blue; the moon was

Pno.

25

Solo

made for the sky to hold and

Pno.

29

Solo

I for you

A.

pp

T.

and I for you

B.

pp

Pno.

p ad lib.

pp

mf

p

p

pp

mm

p molto leggiero

mm

grw

33

Soprano 1
p

Solo The moon is a flower with out a

Soprano 2
pp

S. *p* is a ah

A. *pp* you *p* ah

T. *pp* the moon ah

B. *p* ah

Pno. *sempre pp*

38

Solo stem the sky is lu mi nous;

S. *pp* *p*

A. *mm pp* *p*

T. *pp* *p*

B. *mm pp* *p*

Pno. *ad lib.*

43

Solo

pp

e - ter - ni - ty was made for

S.

pp

A.

pp

T.

pp

B.

Pno.

48

p

Solo

them to - night for us.

pp

S.

pp

A.

pp

T.

pp

p leggiero

mm

to - night for

B.

pp

mm

Pno.

pp

mp

52

S.

A.

T.

B.

Pno.

us

mm

8va

p

57

S.

A.

T.

B.

Pno.

pp

8va

7

Brighter, moving forward ♩ = 72

61 *mp warm, molto leg.* *mf* *p sub.*

S. I am the pool of blue the pool

A. *mp warm, molto leg.* *mf* *p sub.*

I am the pool of blue the pool

T. *mp warm, molto leg.* *mf* *p*

I am the pool of blue pool

B. *mp warm, molto leg.* *mf* *p*

I am the pool of blue pool

Pno. *p* *mp* *p*

8th. | 2nd. | 2nd. | 2nd. | 2nd.

66 *poco riten.* *più f* *a tempo* *molto cresc.*

S. of blue that wor - ships the vi - vid

A. *poco riten.* *più f* *a tempo* *molto cresc.*

of blue that wor - ships the vi - vid

T. *poco riten.* *più f* *a tempo* *molto cresc.*

of blue that wor - ships the vi - vid

B. *poco riten.* *più f* *a tempo* *molto cresc.*

of blue that wor - ships the vi - vid

Pno. *mf* *pp* *molto cresc.*

2nd. | 2nd. | 2nd. | 2nd.

rit. With Majesty ♩ = 64

f cresc. *sempre cresc.*

70

S. sky my hopes were hea - ven high my hopes were hea - ven

A. sky my hopes were hea - ven high my hopes were hea - ven

T. sky my hopes were hea - ven high my hopes were hea - ven

B. sky hopes were hea - ven high hopes were hea - ven

Pno. *rit.* With Majesty ♩ = 64 *f* *con* *Red* *sim.*

74

S. high they are all ful - filled in

A. high they are all ful - filled in

T. high they are all ful - filled in

B. high they are

Pno. *ff* *rit. dim.* *dim.* *rit.*

Tempo 1 ♩ = 58

79

pp

S. you

A. you

T. you

B.

Tempo 1 ♩ = 58

p ad lib.

Pno.

84

S.

A.

T.

B.

Pno.

89

solo
***p* freely; calm and light**

Solo

pp sotto voce

S. I am the pool of gold when sun - set

pp sotto voce

A. I am the pool of gold when sun set

pp sotto voce

T. I am the pool of gold when sun - set

pp sotto voce

B. I am the pool of gold when sun - set

ppp

pp sempre

Pno.

94

Solo

pool of gold when

S. burns and dies, when sun - set burns and

A. burns and dies, sun - set burns and

T. burns and dies, sun - set burns and

B. burns and dies, sun - set burns and

grv

grv

Pno.

99

Solo *p* sun - set burns_ and dies,

S. *p* dies_ you

A. dies_ you are my deep - en-ing

T. dies_ you are my deep - en-ing

B. dies_ are my deep - en-ing

Pno.

104

Solo *mf* are_ my deep - en - ing_ skies, *p* give_ *mp*

S. *pp* *sim.*

A. *p dim.* *pp* skie(s) *mm*

T. *p dim.* *pp* skie(s) *mm*

B. *p dim.* skie(s)

Pno.

109

Solo *pp*

me your stars__ to hold__

A few singers repeat independently with staggered entries, gradually fading al niente. See performance notes.

S. *p dolce*

Give me your stars__ to hold__

A. *pp* cell repeated until sopranos conclude their repetitions

T. *mm*

B. *pp* *mm*

114

S.

A.

T.

B.

Pno. *pp*

8va

117

Pno.

8va