

to my mother's essence

Julian BESSET

REPRESENTATIONS

Songs of the Living and of the Dead

culled from the past, laid aside, and reinvoked

for Contralto, Mezzo-soprano, and Piano

1 - Another Song for a Birth of for a Death

After Elizabeth Jennings

Mezzo-Soprano

Contralto

Undulating

p

I hold a po - si - tion,

She held — a po - si - tion,

> Lingeringly

or it held her, in po - si - tion. She held her - self

13

She held her - self e - rect, ___ so ___ hold back

16

proud of her o - ppo - si f - tion

p subito

f

Resume

19

to re - form. When I went to her place, ___

lightly

p

REPRESENTATIONS

3
24

Do come in come in li-ttle thing Do be care -

she a-llow'd me in

24

f *p subito*

30

ful not to dis - turb

but checked and checked I dis - turb

30

più f

33

Don't dare _____ dis -

33

The musical score is for a piece titled 'Representations'. It is written for voice and piano. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 3/4. The score is divided into systems. The first system (measures 3-24) features a vocal line with lyrics 'Do come in come in li-ttle thing Do be care -' and a piano accompaniment. The second system (measures 24-30) continues the vocal line with 'she a-llow'd me in' and includes dynamic markings *f* and *p subito*. The third system (measures 30-33) has lyrics 'ful not to dis - turb' and 'but checked and checked I dis - turb', with a triplet of eighth notes and a 'shrill' marking. The fourth system (measures 33-36) has lyrics 'Don't dare _____ dis -'. The piano part includes various textures, including chords, arpeggios, and melodic lines, with dynamic markings like *più f*.

36

turb my love - ly things

I dis - turb not a speck of paint, nor a mote of dust.

lightly

39

A dark pe - dal

Hold Slightly

42

hold back

pia - no stood a - gainst a wall,

hold back

ff

REPRESENTATIONS

5
44

f fa - ded mu - sic on a

46

stand. She said ve - ry li - ttle ne - ver ad - mo -

Hold Slightly

46

Hold Slightly

48

Leisurely (*hold back*)

nishing and I said

48

Leisurely (*hold back*)

Resume as initially

51

+1

e - ven less, ne - ver an - swer - ing back,

56

pa - tting her ti - ny dog One day she com - plained

59

she had been su - per-se - ded and that was that

REPRESENTATIONS

7

62

She held her - self e - *f*ect all the same, proud so proud

65

of her dis - po - si - tion to con - front that

69

we - ling wail of i - nner an -

ossia

73

guish I stood my ground ne - ver a -

76

ddre - ssing her un - said wish for me hold back ,

78

to ad - mire her her self -

mp

REPRESENTATIONS

9
83

my self - es - teem my dig - ni - ty

es - teem her self - es - teem A ma - ssive hold back

87

keep me e - rect my things hold me

ma - ho - ga - ny ca - bi - net held her

Resume

89

up all these and this my sil - ver

up all these and this my sil - ver

92

Drag
un - tar - nished

Slow
pp
Red.

Drag

95

un - tar - nished this my sil - ver

sil - ver vessels Do come

Lightly

99

they kept her her com - pa - ny

come in li - ttle

99

revert gradually to a slow motion before laying the final addled...

cluckingly

EGGS