

Matthew Brown

\*1978

# Sublunary

für gemischten Chor (SSATB)  
for Mixed Choir (SSATB)

Partitur / Score

ED 22367

ISMN 978-0-001-15443-7

PREVIEW  
Low Resolution

## Sublunary

Mid-sentence, we remembered the eclipse,  
Arguing home through our scant patch of park  
Still warm with barrel wine, when none too soon  
We checked the hour by glancing at the moon,  
Unphased at first by that old ruined marble  
Looming like a monument over the hill,  
So brimmed with light it seemed about to spill,  
Then, there! We watched the thin edge disappear-  
The obvious stole over us like awe,  
That it was our own silhouette we saw,  
Slow perhaps to us moon-gazing here  
(Reaching for each other's fingertips)  
But sweeping like a wing across the  
Alien surface at the speed of darkness  
The crickets stirred from their  
Something out of time, come  
The roosting birds  
The neighborhood  
And then the moon was  
A dim red  
As real as a  
In the  
You  
Just the  
With light and smoke  
Laughing at a joke,  
Had passed  
Where we delayed  
In shadow we had made,

Alicia Elisabeth Stallings (\*1968)

## Performance Notes

All glissandi are short, to be executed as smoothly and gracefully as possible. In the vocal line of approximately one eighth note, starting right before the second line of the vocal staff and ending right before the second line is attached.

The accompanimental figures utilizing running eighth notes (e.g. the bass line on alternating "n" and "u") should be sung with little to no vibrato. The mouth is to be in the shape of the pure vowel indicated and only moving the tip of the tongue slightly to close to the "n" as notated; breaths should be staggered for the accompanimental figures, and the voices with text are to be in the foreground.

The given tempi are merely suggestions, although the tempo is paramount and care must be given to its expression.

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Alle Glissandi sind kurz und elegant wie möglich während der Dauer von fast einem Achtelnote, beginnend genau vor der zweiten Note, mit der die Glissandi verbunden sind.

Die Begleitfiguren, die laufende Achtelnoten (z. B. die einleitende Tenorlinie auf abwechselnde "n" und "u") sollten mit wenig bis gar keinem Vibrato gesungen werden. Dabei bleibt der Mund in der Form des angegebenen Monophthongs und nur die Zungenspitze bewegt sich leicht hin und her, um das "n" wie notiert. Der Atem sollte während der Dauer dieser Figuren abgestuft sein, und die Stimmen mit Text sollen im Vordergrund stehen.

Die angegebenen Tempi sind nur Vorschläge. Gleichwohl steht der Text des Stücks an erster Stelle, und es ist besondere Sorgfalt auf dessen Ausdruck zu verwenden.

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**PREVIEW**  
Low Resolution

# Sublunary

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flowing  $\text{♩}$  ca. 88

*pp* *p* *pp* *mp* *pp* <

Sopran 1  
Sopran 2  
Alt  
Tenor  
Bass

S 1  
S 2  
T

N.B. All glissandi are short, to be executed within the space of about an eighth note.

Text: "Sublunary" is reprinted from *Oliver* by A.E. Stallings.  
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12 *mp*

S 1 we re-mem - bered the e - clipse, — ar -

S 2 we re-mem - bered the e - clipse, — *mp*

A *(singer breathing)*

T

17 *mf* *mp* *p*

S 1 - go-ing home through our — still

S 2 go-ing home — still

A

T

S 1 with bar-rel wine, — when none too soon — We

warm — with bar-rel wine, — when none too soon — We

A

T

**PREVIEW**  
**Low Resolution**

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S 1  
checked the hour by glancing at the moon, un-phased at

S 2  
checked the hour by glancing at the moon, un

A  
n u n u n u n u n u n u n u n u n u

T  
u n u u u n u u u u n u n u u u n u n u n u

B  
*pp sempre*  
n u n u n u n u n u n u n u n u n u

**PREVIEW**

33

S 1  
old ru-ined mar-ble loom - - -

S 2  
old ru-ined mar-ble loom - - -

A  
nu nu nu no n no loom - - -

T  
nu nu nu nu nu no no no loom - - - ing

B  
u n u n u n u n u n o loom - - - ing

**PREVIEW**

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S1 *mf* *mp*  
 - - ing like a mon-u - ment o - ver the hill,

S2 *mf* *mp*  
 - - ing like a mon-u - ment o - ver the

A *mf* *mp*  
 - - ing like a mon-u - ment o

T *mf* *mp*  
 o - - - ver hill so

B *mf* *mp*  
 o - - - ver hill so

43

S1 *mf* *mp*  
 brimmed with light it seemed a - bout to

S2 *mf* *mp*  
 brimmed with light it seemed a - bout to

A *mf* *mp*  
 so brimmed with light it seemed a - bout to

T *mf* *mp*  
 brimmed with light it seemed a - bout to

B *mf* *mp*  
 brimmed with light it seemed a - bout to