

For my brother Mark

# Spring Memories

Words (very) freely adapted from  
Henrik Ibsen 'Memoires of Spring'

Roderick Williams  
after Grieg 'Til våren' Op 43. No. 6

**Allegro appassionato** ♩. = 76\*

Soprano *pp*  
\*\*lu lu lu lu lu lu lu lu lu lu lu lu lu lu...

Alto *pp*  
\*\*lu lu lu lu lu lu lu lu lu lu lu lu lu lu...

Tenor *p espress.*  
God grants all things a

Bass



S. 5  
S. dream of Spring; Life sweep-ing through all cre - a - tion,

A.

T. 8  
B.

\* Grieg's metronome marking for the piano is ♩. = 84. This might be a little too fast for a sung version.

\*\* These legato 'non-words' can have the lightest of consonants, becoming more emphatic when marked with a tenuto line,

9

S.

A.

T.

B.

Joy ma-king us sing! \_\_\_\_\_ Clouds \_\_\_\_\_ de - part - ing,

lu \_\_\_\_\_

13

S.

A.

T.

B.

melt - ing a - way; \_\_\_\_\_ Spring's \_\_\_\_\_ re - turn em -

lu \_\_\_\_\_

17

S.

A.

T.

B.

-bla - zons the day, All of our doubts \_\_\_\_\_ and our sor - rows are

*Spring Memories* and *Du var vinden* (published separately, catalogue number EP73627) were originally conceived as linked pieces, commissioned by the Edvard Grieg Kor for a joint concert with student singers from the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester. The idea is that these pieces might be performed separately or, in circumstances where two choirs are present, simultaneously.

*Spring Memories* is an arrangement for voices of the first piece by Grieg that I ever encountered. My older brother used to play *Til våren* Op 43 No 6 when we were boys living at our family home in North London. The bright tonality of F# major made a distinct impression on me (especially when played on our idiosyncratic upright piano), as did the way the pulsating right-hand accompaniment shadowed the melody in the left. I became so familiar with the piece that I began copying my brother, trying to work it out for myself without having seen the music. It became over time an iconic piece for me. The Edvard Grieg Kor is well used to singing transcriptions of famous Grieg pieces as part of their showcase concerts at Trolldhaugen, Grieg's Bergen home and I wanted to add to their canon. The words are inspired by the poem *Vaarens Minde* by Henrik Ibsen (1828–1906), freely adapted into English in order to fit the shape and character of Grieg's melody.

Roderick Williams  
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Duration: c. 3 minutes