

BENJAMIN BRITTEN

*Eight Folk Song
Arrangements*
(1976)

for medium voice and piano

piano version by

COLIN MATTHEWS

FABER *ff* MUSIC

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These arrangements, in their original version for high voice and harp,
were written for Peter Pears and Osian Ellis in the Spring of 1976

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Contents, Sources and Acknowledgements

1. Lord! I married me a wife page 2

Words and melody from *English Folk Songs from the Southern Appalachians*, collected by Cecil Sharp, edited by Maud Karpeles, O.U.P., Second Edition 1932, Volume II, No. 116, page 122. Sung by Mrs. Tom Rice at Big Laurel, N. Carolina, 18th August 1916. The original title was *Rain and Snow*.

2. She's like the swallow page 4

Words and melody from *Folk Songs from Newfoundland*, collected by Maud Karpeles, Faber & Faber, 1971, No. 83, page 243. Sung by Mr. John Hunt at Dunville, Placentia Bay, 8th July 1930 (adapted). (Words taken from the singing version in the Appendix, page 332.) Words and melody © 1971 by Faber & Faber Ltd. Reprinted with permission.

3. Lemady page 8

Words and melody from *Folk Song Journal*, Volume V, No. 19, June 1915, page 175. Noted by Clive Carey from the singing of Mr. Robert Beadle at Stoup Brow, Whitby, Yorkshire, September 1911, the words taken down by Mary Neal. Words and melody © 1915 by J. Curwen & Sons Ltd. Reprinted with permission.

4. Bonny at morn page 12

Words and melody from *Northumbrian Minstrelsie*, 1885, reprinted in *North Countrie Ballads, Songs and Pipe Tunes*, arranged by W. Gillies Whittaker, J. Curwen & Sons Ltd.

5. I was lonely and forlorn page 16

Traditional Welsh Air ('Bugeilio'r Gwenith Gwyn'). Collected by Maria Jane Williams of Aberpergwm and published in 1844 in *Ancient National Airs of Gwent and Morgannwg*. English words by Osian Ellis. Reprinted with permission.

6. David of the White Rock page 20

Melody by David Owen (1709–39) of 'Y Garreg Wen' near Porthmadog, Gwynnedd. Published in *Musical and Poetical Relicks of the Welsh Bards*, 1784. Welsh words by Ceiriog (John Ceiriog Hughes, 1832–87); second verse added by Osian Ellis. English words by Thomas Oliphant (translated from a Welsh lyric by Talhaiarn) published in Hullah's *The Song Book*, Macmillan, 1866.

7. The False Knight upon the road page 24

Words and melody from *English Folk Songs from the Southern Appalachians*, collected by Cecil Sharp, edited by Maud Karpeles, O.U.P., Second Edition, 1932, Volume I, No. 2, version A, page 3. Sung by Mrs. T. G. Coates at Flag Pond, Tennessee, 1st September 1916.

8. Bird Scarer's song page 26

Words and melody from *Folk Song Journal*, Volume II, No. 6, January 1905, page 49. Noted by Cecil Sharp from the singing of Mr. John Parnell at East Harptree, Somerset, April 1904. The original title was *Bird Starver's Cry*.

FOLK SONG ARRANGEMENTS

for medium voice and piano

arranged for piano by
COLIN MATTHEWS

BENJAMIN BRITTEN
(1913-1976)

1. Lord! I married me a wife

Fast and spiteful

Voice *sf sf sf with force*

Lord! Lord! Lord! I mar - ried me - a

Piano

wife! wife! wife! She gave me trou - ble all - my

life! life! life! Made me work! work!

The score consists of three systems. Each system has a voice line and a piano accompaniment. The piano accompaniment features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes and triplets. The first system ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign. The second system ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign. The third system ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

2. She's like the swallow

Original setting: E minor

Flowing

She's like the swal - low that

flies so high, She's like the ri - ver that ne - ver runs

dry, She's like the sun - shine on the lee shore, I

love my love — and love is no more.

p smooth

sim.

mf

p