

Eros

from *The Four Loves* SATB divisi

Kenneth Tay

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TEXT

Come live with me and be my love, And we will all the pleasures prove, That Valleys, groves, hills, and fields, Woods, or steepy mountain yields.

And we will sit upon the Rocks, Seeing the Shepherds feed their flocks, By shallow Rivers to whose falls Melodious birds sing Madrigals.

And I will make thee beds of Roses And a thousand fragrant posies, A cap of flowers, and a kirtle Embroidered all with leaves of Myrtle;

A gown made of the finest wool Which from our pretty Lambs we pull; Fair lined slippers for the cold, With buckles of the purest gold;

A belt of straw and Ivy buds, With Coral clasps and Amber studs: And if these pleasures may thee move, Come live with me, and be my love.

The Shepherds' Swains shall dance and sing For thy delight each May-morning: If these delights thy mind may move, Then live with me, and be my love.

The Passionate Shepherd to his Love, Christopher Marlowe (1564-1593)

PROGRAMME NOTES

The third movement of a choral cycle, the name *Eros* is taken from C.S. Lewis's 1960 book, *The Four Loves*. The British pastoral style in the Renaissance is encapsulated in the poetry of Christopher Marlowe, which gives a first-person glimpse into the thoughts of a seemingly innocent shepherd-boy: his final words do not include a promise of a lasting relationship. Although we can simply assume that the shepherd is purely blinded by emotions, the selective appeal to sensations and feelings brings to question the trustworthiness of the shepherd. This musical setting is therefore a playful one.

PERFORMANCE NOTES

- 1. Ghost notes are to be whispered on the given consonant.
- Glissando should be done only between the connected notes, e.g. the pitch bend starts on beat 2 of Db, arriving on F on beat 3 of bar 21 of the 2nd movement.
- 3. Closed and sung on the ending consonant, i.e. slain, moon and pull.



Christopher Marlowe (1564-1593)

Kenneth Tay (b.1992)



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² gliss. only between connected notes - see preface for details





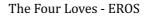


















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