

FULL SCORE

Elderly
Craftsman
at his Bench



for piano trio and
solo soprano

Áine Mallon

PERUSAL COPY

Preface

Elderly Craftsman at his Bench | Áine Mallon for piano trio and solo soprano

Commissioned by GlasDrum with funds provided by The Arts Council Music Commission Award. Premiered by the Fidelio Trio and Daire Halpin at GlasDrum Winter Chamber Music Festival 2022.

Instrumentation:

Soprano
Violin
Violincello
Piano

Duration:

4:00'

First performance:

Performed by Daire Halpin and the Fidelio Trio on Friday 25th November 2022 in Belvedere House, GlasDrum Winter Chamber Music Festival.

Text: *Elderly Craftsman at his Bench* (2013) by Thomas Kinsella.
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Elderly Craftsman at his Bench

At my workbench, in my bent body,
I am disturbed repeatedly by the same alien thoughts.
The details are varied and unconnected, but distinct.

I believe now they are appeals
from serious honest efforts, like my own,
reaching unfulfilled out of the past,

and have learned in time to put my work to one side.
to relax, and think my way
back into the depths of their origin;

appealing in my turn
to the emptiness at their source,
to call them back.

Tell them
there is no peace here.
And comfort them on their return.

This restores a working calm,
so that I can attend to my work again.
Hoping there will be a like thoughtfulness
for me and mine when the time comes.

Performer notes:

Voice:

The below notation is used to denote a gradual move from a very still senza vibrato sound to a warmer vibrato.

The first instance will be denoted:

senza vibrato \longrightarrow vibrato

And thereafter:

senza \longrightarrow vib.

Piano:

Muted strings are shown with a '+' symbol. Please apply firm pressure to the end of the string near the 'end pins' inside the piano; but not so much to completely dampen the sound. Sustain pedal should be used as indicated and the overall effect should produce a mechanical but sustained sound.



Strings:

All natural and artificial harmonics as written.

Any other techniques are indicated by written instructions in the score.

Elderly Craftsman at his Bench

Thomas Kinsella

Áine Mallon

♩ = 52

Soprano Solo

Still p *senza vibrato* → *vibrato*

At my work - bench

Violin

Laboured p
pizz; let ring

Violoncello

p
pizz; let ring

Piano

p

Red.

4

S. Solo

Carefully rit. *♩ = 52* *mp*

in my bent bo - dy I am dis

Vln.

rit.
arco; sul pont *pizz; let ring*

Vc.

arco; sul pont *pizz; let ring*

Pno.

♩ = 52

Red.

7

S. Solo

turbed re - pea - ted - ly by the same a - li - en thoughts the

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

ord.

mp

p

Still arco

p

5



10

S. Solo

de-tails are var-ied and un-con-nect-ed but di - stinct. I be

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

mp

arco; sul pont.

mp

arco; sul pont.

mp

p

Red.

13 *mf* *3*
 senza vib. → vib.

S. Solo
 lieve now they are ap-peals from

Vln. *3*

Vc. *b.e.*

Pno. *Delicately ord.*
mp

16 *mf* *3* *f*
 senza → vib.

S. Solo
 se-ri-ous hon-est ef-forts like my own, reach-ing un-ful-filled out of the

Vln. *mp* *mf* *f*

Vc. *mp* *mf* *f*

Pno. *Ped.* *mp* *mf*
mp *mf*
 Ped. ad lib. *Ped.*

A ♩ = 113

smooth and relaxed
mp

19 *mp*

S. Solo
past, and have

Vln.

Vc. *Barely contained energy*
ord.
mp

Pno.



22

S. Solo
learned in time to put my work to one side. to re-

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

25

S. Solo

la - x, and think my way back _____ in to the depths of their

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

mp

28

B

S. Solo

or-i - gin;_ a(h) _____

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

mf

Tsrying to catch and assuage the thoughts

33

S. Solo *mp* a(h)

Vln. *mp* *mf*

Vc. *mp* *mp* *mf*

Pno. *mp* *mf*



37

S. Solo *f* ap - peal - ing in my

Vln. *p* *mf* *f*

Vc. *mf* *f*

Pno. *p* *8va*

40

S. Solo

turn _____ *searching* _____ *f* to _____ the

Vln.

tr tr tr
f _____ *sub. p*

Vc.

f _____ *mp*

Pno.

8va
f _____ *mp*
mf _____ *p*

43

S. Solo

rit. _____ $\bullet = 113$ *mp* _____ *f* emp-ti-ness at their source, _____ to call them

Vln.

port. _____

Vc.

p _____

Pno.

rit. _____ $\bullet = 113$ *f* _____

47

S. Solo

back. Tell them there is no peace here.

Vln.

mf

f

Vc.

mf

f

Pno.

mf



insistent
ff

50

S. Solo

there is no peace

Vln.

f

ff

Vc.

f

ff

Pno.

ff

52 ♩ = 66

freely; with warmth

S. Solo
here. And com-fort them on_ their re -

Vln. *still*
sfzp

Vc. *still*
sfzp

Pno. **p**

sfz
+ 8vb
Ped.

p
Ped. ad lib.

58 **C** ♩ = 52

S. Solo
turn. This re- stores. a_ work - ing_

Vln. **mp** *sul pont.*
pp

Vc. **mp** *sul pont.*
pp

Pno. **mp**

+ 8vb

62

S. Solo

calm_____ so_ that_ I can_ at - tend_____ to my

Vln.

mp

Vc.

mp

Pno.

mp

65

S. Solo

work a - gain to my work a - gain. Hop - ing there will be_____ a like

Vln.

mp

Vc.

mp

Pno.

mp

freely

with warmth
sul. IV

68

S. Solo

thought - full - ness for me and mine. when the time comes.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

70

S. Solo

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

pizz; let ring

p

3

3

pizz; let ring

p

p + + +

+ + +

Red.