

Kite

for soprano and cello

Christopher LaRosa

Text by Ernest Hilbert

PerUSA

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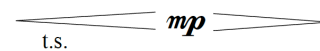
I ran my kite till it gulled at the sun,
And from the newfound flight it took
Command as much as I, and trained
My arm toward the sky, and strained
The armature of spreaders, spar, and knock.
It threw its silhouette against the sun,
Then bowed blue before a berm of cloud,
And set itself against a greater blue.
It swooped, twisted my wrists, and grew
To be too strong, as nery as a bird
Of prey, a winged but featherless
Raptor I once held, now spun
Away and unbearable to possess,
A thing apart; though still tethered,
Fatherless, and finally unfathered.

Christopher LaRosa

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Rehearsal Notes

1. Accidentals do not carry through “measures.”
2. “t.s.” abbreviates “trill swell.” The hairpins of a trill swell indicate an increase and decrease of both volume and frequency of trill.



Kite

for Sara Wilkins

Christopher LaRosa
Text by Ernest Hilbert

with breadth, not strictly (ca. ♩ = 60)

pp *mp* *pp*

non vib., lontano.

Soprano

[o] → [a] → [u] → [i] → [u]

Cello

lontano

ppp *p* *pp* *p* *pp* *mp*³_{sub.}

2

S

[u] → [i]

Vc.

p *poco* *poco sfz* *pp*

3

S

[u] (trill to harm.) I ran my

Vc.

mp *p* *poco sfz*

t.s.

* The arrows indicate a gradual change from one vowel to the next in the given duration.

4 *mf* *p* *mf* *mp*

S kite, I ran my kite, my kite, my

Vc. *mp* *fp* *mf* *mp* *f* *p*

tr *fluid, not mechanical*

5 kite, my kite, my kite, I ran my kite

Vc. *f*

6 *f* *mp*

S till it gulled,

Vc. *sfz* *mp*

8 *sub. p*

S gulled at the sun,

Vc. *sfz* *f*

10 *non vib.* *poco*

S the [sə] [o] [i] [ən]

fluttering, weightless
(trill to harm.)
(III) tr (II) tr (I) tr sim. tr tr tr tr tr tr

Vc. *mp* *poco* sim.

11 *poco vib.* *mf*

S and from the new - found flight it took com -

Vc. tr tr tr 5 5 6 6 6 *fp* *cresc.*

12 *f* *con moto (ca. ♩ = 72)*

S mand as much as I, and

(ord.) - - - sul pont. - - - ord.
tr tr tr tr

Vc. 7 8 *f* *f* *p* *f* *mp*

14

S — trained — my arm — toward the sky, toward the sky toward the sky, —

ord. - - - sul pont. - - - ord.
tr tr tr tr tr

Vc. > (b.o.) > (b.o.) 3 3 3 3 3 *detaché, legato* *sfz*

timbre becoming rougher (as in "straining") subito clean timbre

15

S *mp* *f*

and strained and strained and strained the ar - ma - ture

(ord.) - - s.p. - - ord. (ord.) - - sul pont.

Vc. *fp* *molto* *fp* *mf* *f*

16

S *mp* *mp*

of spread - ers spar and knock. It threw its

Vc. *f* *mp*

17

S *molto* *sub. p*

sil - hou - ette a - gainst the sun,

Vc. *mf* *f*

Tempo I (ca. ♩ = 60)

V.S.

19 *mp*
S then bowed blue, _____ bowed blue _____ be - fore a
fluttering, weightless
(III) *tr* (II) *tr* (I) *tr* *sim.* *tr* *tr* *tr* *sim.*
Vc. *mp* *poco* *mp* *f*

20
S berm _____ of cloud, _____ and set it - self, _____ set it - self a - gainst a great _____
tr *tr* *tr* *sim.* *tr* *tr* *tr* *sim.*
Vc. *mp* *poco* *mp* *fp* *mp* *sim.*

21 *accel.*
S er blue _____ It
sub. p *mf*
Vc. *p*

22 *con moto* (ca. ♩ = 72)
S swooped, _____ It swooped _____
Vc. *mf* 4 4

24 *mf* *pointed* *f*
S twist - ed my wrists, twist - ed my wrists, and
Vc. *fp* *f*

accel. ----- ca. ♩ = 100
sub. *p*

26

S
grew, _____ grew, _____ grew, _____ to be too

Vc.
legato
3
3
3
3
3
6
sub. *p*

sub. ca. ♩ = 72
f

27

S
strong, too strong, too strong, too strong, too strong, as nerv - y as a

Vc.
agitato
poco sul pont.
6
6
6
6
6
6
f *meno f* *f* *meno f* *fp*
staccato

29

S
bird of prey, a

Vc.
mf
6
6
6
6
6
6
fp *molto* *fp*
molto sul pont. poco sul pont.

30

S
winged but feath - er - less rap - tor I once held, _____

Vc.
6
6
6
6
ord.
3
5
f
mf

31

S
a bird of prey, _____

Vc.
mf *sfz*
6
3
ord.
poco sul pont. ord. 5
poco sul pont.
3
6
staccato *fp* *mf* *f* *fp*
staccato

32 *mp*

S
as nerv-y as a bird *3* now spun a - way _____ spun a - way, spun a -
molto sul pont.

Vc.
6 *6* *6* *6* *6* *6* *6* *6* *6* *6*
fp

33 *mf* *mp*

S
way, _____ un - bear - a - ble, un - bear - a - ble _____ to pos - sess _____
ord.

Vc.
6 *6* *6* *6* *6* *6* *6* *6* *6* *6*
molto *fp* *sfz sfz*

34 *f*

S
strong, too strong, _____ too strong, too strong, _____ a thing a -
f

Vc.
f *3* *3* *3* *3* *3* *3* *3* *3* *3* *3* *3* *3* *3*
f

35 *meno mosso* (ca. $\text{♩} = 48$)

S
part;
(ord.) ----- *poco*
sul tasto

Vc.
3 *3* *3* *3* *3* *3* *3* *3* *6* *6*
ff *mp* *p*
(rebow subtly as needed)

37 *non vib. p*

S: though still teth - ered,

Vc. *tr* (∞) *tr*

t.s. *mp*

39

S: fa - ther - less and fi - nal - ly fin - nal - ly un -

Vc. *tr*

t.s. *mp* *pp*

42

S: fa - thered, un -

Vc. *wispy* *p*

43 *accel. poco a poco*

S: [fa] [u] [i] [ε]

Vc. *thinner still* *decresc. poco a poco*

ca. ♩ = 80

44 *n*

Vc. *pp* *n*

* Exact coordination between singer and cellist during the accelerando is not important, so long as the singer finishes before the cellist.