

DAVID NUNN

this lunar beauty

for soprano, clarinet in A, harp and double bass

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Full score

(2019)

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Text

This lunar beauty
Has no history
Is complete and early,
If beauty later
Bear any feature
It had a lover
And is another.

— *W. H. Auden*

Written for The Hermes Experiment.
The first performance took place at The Royal Academy of Music on 29 April 2019.

Set for soprano, clarinet in A, harp and double bass.
Duration c. 5'30".
Score in C.

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for Héloïse, Oli, Anne and Marianne

this lunar beauty

text: W H Auden

David Nunn

tranquil ♩ = 65

sop

cl (A)

hp

db

pp

D#	C#	B#	
E#	F#	G#	Ab

3

cl

hp

mp

6

cl

hp

mf

pp

7

cl

hp

db

p

mf

pp

pp

mp

(pp)

sul tasto

msp → sp

9

cl

hp

db

mf

f

p

msp → sp

pp

mp

(pp)

11

cl

hp

pp

mp

pp

pp

mf

pp

13

sop

cl

hp

mp

mf

mp

pp

This lu - - - nar

3

5

3

15 *p* *(pp)*

sop beau - ty

cl *mp*

hp *mf*

db ord. *pp* *mf* *pp* 3

17 *p* *mf* *p*

sop has no hist - 'ry-

cl *p* *mp*

hp *pp*

db ord. → msp

19

sop

cl

hp

p

p *mf* *p*

mf *pp*

is



20

sop

cl

hp

db

mf *mp*

mf *(ff)* *pp*

mp

com plete and ear - ly,

Bb
Eb

gliss.

22

sop

cl

hp

db

ff *p* *mf* (*p*)

ff *mp* *ff*

ord.

msp → ord.

ff (*p*) *p* *sffz* *mf* *ff*

ord. → sp

24

sop

cl

hp

db

mp hushed

if beau - ty lat - er

p

pp *mp* *pp*

msp → sp → msp

pp *mp*

gliss.

pdlt

27 *mp* *mf* *pp*

sop bear a ny feat ure

cl *p* *mf* 3 5

hp *mp* *p* *mf* 8^{va}

db *p espress.* *mf* *mp* *f* 3 3

30

sop

cl *p* *mf* *mp* *f* 3 3 3 5 *mf*

hp *mp* *f* 12 6 5 *gliss.* *loco* *buzz*

db *mp* *mf* *f* 3 *ffz*

32

sop *p* This lu

cl *p* 3 3 3 5

hp

db *(mp)*

35

sop *mf* *pp* nar beau ty

cl *mf* *pp* pldt bdlc 5

hp

db *pp* *mf* *(pp)* *pp* *mp* *(pp)* *mp* pizz.

D# C#
F# G# A#

m sp → sp → m sp

38 *p* *mp* *p* *mf*

sop has no hist - ry is com -

cl *mp* *pp*

hp (ord.) *mf* bdlc

db arco msp → sp → msp sp pizz. *p* *mf* *p* *pp* *mp*

41 *mf*

sop plete and ear - ly,

cl *mp* *pp* *f*

hp pdlt *mp* *pp* bdlc ord. *f* *8va*

db arco *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *pp* *mp*

44

sop *mp* *f*
if — beau — ty la — ter —

cl *mf* *f* *p* *mf* (*pp*)

hp *ff* *mp* *pp* *mf* *pp* [A \sharp]

db *pp* *mf* (*pp*) *mp* pizz. III

48

sop *pp* *mp* (*pp*)
bear — a — ny fea — ture —

cl *mp* *p*

hp RETUNE: (-30 cents), ideally without sounding any notes
[C \sharp F \sharp] *pp* [C \sharp F \sharp A \sharp]

db arco *p* *pp*

54 $\text{♩} = 45$ *pp* distant and slightly folk-like

sop $\text{It} \text{---} \text{had a lo-ver}$ and --- is a-no-ther. $\text{It} \text{---} \text{had a lo-ver}$

cl *pp*

hp *mp* *mf*

58

sop *pp* and --- is a-no-ther.

cl *mp* *sempre*

hp *mp* *mf*

db *p* *mf* *(pp)*

sul pont. 0 l.v.

61 *mp* wistful

sop It had a lo - ver

cl

hp

db pizz. (non l.v.) *p*

62

sop and is a - no - ther. (This lu - nar

cl

hp D# D#

db l.v. *mf* (*pp*)

65

sop

beau - ty.) It had a lo-ver

cl

hp

68

sop

and is a-no-ther.

cl

hp

db

pp p > pp

71

cl

hp

db

72

cl

hp

74

cl

hp