

Notes/Dedication

As I dug through possible song texts for this project, I found myself reading through Shakespeare sonnets. The first one I came across, number 12, jumped off the page at me. It was as if the sonnet itself was singing its tune, projecting its voice into my head. Feeling charged and inspired, I kept reading. I came across number 73 and was transported back to a place I hadn't thought of since before college: English class of my junior year of high school with Mr. Kevin Kynock, and me, in front of the class, reciting this particular sonnet from memory.



Mr. Kynock is by far one of the most influential teachers I have ever had. His passion for the work of William Shakespeare was infectious, his love of teaching unforgettable. In his 40 years of teaching at B.C. High, 30 of them were spent heading the dramatics program. In that program he created an environment where students could express themselves, find their inner creativity, foster their theatrical skills, and most importantly, create a place where they could belong. Mr. Kynock taught, directed, and inspired countless numbers of students before retiring from his post in 2005.

At the time, being the typical tumultuous high school student, I did not appreciate what I was learning and from whom I was learning it. Only now in my current study of the sonnets have I begun to understand the beauty that Mr. Kynock saw in those timeless words.

Not two days after deciding upon and becoming incredibly excited about creating a set of Shakespeare songs, I received the news that Mr. Kynock had passed away (March 3, 2007). Needless to say, this setting and the ones that will eventually complete the set are dedicated to him as both a memorial and a thank you for everything he did for his students in his long career.

Instrumentation

Soprano
Tenor
Violin

Cello
2 Guitars