

*Two City Songs:  
Preludes and Time-Stone*

Ryan Harper

Text by T.S. Eliot and Lola Ridge

SSAATTBB

2008

***Preludes***  
**T.S. Eliot**

IV.

His soul stretched tight across the skies  
That fade behind a city block,  
Or trampled by insistent feet  
At four and five and six o'clock;  
And short square fingers stuffing pipes,  
And evening newspapers, and eyes  
Assured of certain certainties,  
The conscience of a blackened street  
Impatient to assume the world.

I am moved by fancies that are curled  
Around these images, and cling:  
The notion of some infinitely gentle  
Infinitely suffering thing.

Wipe your hand across your mouth, and laugh;  
The worlds revolve like ancient women  
Gathering fuel in vacant lots.

***Time-Stone***  
**Lola Ridge**

Hallo, Metropolitan-  
Ubiquitous windows staring all ways,  
Red eye notching the darkness.  
No use to ogle that slip of a moon.  
This midnight the moon,  
Playing virgin after all her encounters,  
Will break another date with you.  
You fuss an awful lot,  
You flight of ledger books,  
Overrun with multiple ant-black figures  
Dancing on spindle legs  
An interminable can-can.

But I'd rather... like the cats in the alley... count time  
By the silver whistle of a moonbeam  
Falling between my stoop-shouldered walls,  
Than all your tally of the sunsets,  
Metropolitan, ticking among stars.

## Preludes

Text by T.S. Eliot  
Music by Ryan Harper

Music by Ryan Harper

SOPRANO      *=66, weary*  
*mf* ————— *f* ————— *mf* , *<= mp* —————  
 His soul stretched tight a-cross the skies that fade be - hind a ci - ty block, or  
*mf* ————— *f* ————— *mf* , *<= mp* —————  
 ALTO      His soul stretched tight a-cross the skies that fade be - hind a ci - ty block, or  
*mf* ————— *f* ————— *mf* *mp* —————  
 TENOR      His soul stretched tight a-cross the skies fade be - hind a ci - ty block, or  
*mf* ————— *f* ————— *mf* *mp* —————  
 BASS      His soul stretched tight a-cross the skies fade be - hind a ci - ty block, or  
*mf* ————— *f* ————— *mf* *mp* —————  
 Piano (rehearsal only)      *=66, weary*  
*mf* ————— *f* ————— *mf* *<= mp* —————  
 S.      7      *mf* ————— *f* *accel.* ————— *ff* , A  
 tram-pled by in - sis-tent feet at four and five and six o'clock;  
 A.      *mf* ————— *f* ————— *ff* ,  
 tram-pled by in - sis-tent feet at four and five and six o'clock;  
 T.      *mf* ————— *f* ————— *ff* , *p*  
 tram-pled by in - sis-tent feet four five six clock; and short square  
 B.      *mf* ————— *f* ————— *ff* ,  
 tram-pled by in - sis-tent feet four five six clock; , A  
 Pno.      *mf* ————— *f* *accel.* ————— *ff* *p*  
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13

S. *p*

A. *p*

T.

B.

Pno.

and eve - ning and eve - ning and eve - ning  
 stuff-ing pipes. stuff-ing pipes. stuff-ing pipes. stuff-ing  
 fin - gers and short square fin - gers and short square fin - gers and short square fin - gers and  
 news - pa - pers

20

S. *f* **B**

A. *f*

T. *f*

B. *f*

Pno. *f* **B**

and eve - ning and eyes a - ssured of  
 pipes stuff-ing pipes, and eyes a - ssured of  
 short square fin - gers and short square fin - gers, and eyes a - ssured of  
 news - pa - pers news - pa - pers, and eyes a - ssured of

26

S. cer-tain cer-tain-ties, the con-science of a black-enèd street

A. cer - tain - ties, the con-science of im - pa - tient to a-ssume the world

T. cer - tain - ties, the con-science of a black-enèd street

B. cer - tain - ties, the con-science of

Pno.

rit.  
mp

31 C  $\text{J} = 66$   
S. I am moved by fan-cies that are curled a - round these i - ma - ges and

A. I am moved by fan-cies that are curled a - round these i - ma - ges and

T. I am moved by fan-cies that are curled a - round these i - ma - ges and

B. I am moved by fan-cies that are curled a - round these i - ma - ges and

Pno.

mp

38

S. *mf* cling: the no - tion of some in-fi - nite - ly gen - tle in-fi nitely suffering thing.

A. *mf* clinging: the no - tion of some in-fi - nite - ly gen - tle in-fi nitely suffering thing.

T. *mf* 8 clinging: the no - tion of some gen - tle su - ffer - ing thing.

B. *mf* clinging: the no - tion of some gen - tle su - ffer - ing thing.

Pno. *mf* *mp* *ff*

44

**D**

S. *pp* Solo (2nd Sop.) mm *mp* Tutti Wipe your hands a - cross your

A. Wipe your hands a - cross your

T. Wipe your hands a - cross your

B. Wipe your hands a - cross your

Pno. *pp* *mp*

51

S. mouth, and laugh; the worlds re - volve like

A. mouth, and laugh; the worlds re - volve like

T. mouth, and laugh; the worlds re - volve like

B. mouth and laugh; the worlds re - volve like

Pno.

**p**

**p**

**p**

**p**

*accel.*

55

S. an - cient wo - men ga - the - ring fuel in va - cant lots.

A. an - cien wo - men

T. an - cien wo - men

B. an - cien wo - men

Pno.

**A tempo**

**mf**

*rit.*

**ppp**

**mf**

**ppp**

**mf**

**ppp**

**mf**

**ppp**

# Time-Stone

Text by Lola Ridge  
Music by Ryan Harper

SOPRANO

$\text{♩} = 100, \text{ freely}$   
\*Repeat chaotically and quickly

*ppp* ————— *f*, *A ff* —————

\*Hallo, Metropolitan Hal-lo, Me<sup>3</sup>-tro po - li -

ALTO

*pp* ————— *f*, *ff* —————

\*Hallo, Metropolitan Hal-lo, Me<sup>3</sup>-tro po - li -

TENOR

*mp* ————— *f*, *ff* —————

8 \*Hallo, Metropolitan Hal-lo, Me<sup>3</sup>-tro po - li -

BASS

*p* ————— *f*, *ff* —————

\*Hallo, Metropolitan Hal-lo, Me<sup>3</sup>-tro po - li -

Piano (rehearsal only)

$\text{♩} = 100, \text{ freely}$   
\*Repeat chaotically and quickly

*ppp* ————— *f*, *ff* —————

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9      *f*      *p*      *mp*

S.      tan-                  U - bi - qui - tous      win-dows      sta-ring      all      ways,      all      ways,

A.      *f*      *mp*

A.      tan-                  win-dows      sta-ring      all      ways,      all      ways,

T.      *f*      *mp*

T.      tan-                  win-dows      sta-ring      all      ways,      all      ways,

B.      *f*      *mp*

B.      tan-                  win-dows      sta-ring      all      ways,      all      ways,

Pno.      *f*      *p*      *mp*

*♩ = 66*

S. 15 ***p*** red eye notch-ing the dark - ness. ***f*** No use to o - gle that slip of a moon,  
A. ***p*** dark - ness. ***f*** No use to o - gle that slip of a moon,  
T. 8 ***p*** dark ness. ***f*** No use to o - gle that slip of a moon,  
B. — dark ness. ***f*** No use to o - gle that slip of a moon,  
Pno. ***p*** ***f***

20      *< = mp* **B** *p with sincere empathy*      *< = mf*

S.      a moon.. This mid - night the moon play-ing vir - gin af-ter all her en- coun  
*< = mp*  
A.      a moon.. vir - gin af-ter all her en- coun  
*< = mp*  
T.      a moon.. vir - gin af-ter all her en- coun  
*< = mp*  
B.      a moon.. This mid- night the moon af-ter all her en- coun  
*< = mp* **B** *with sincere empathy*      *p*      *< = mf*

Pno.

25      **p**      *somewhat darker*      **pp**      *p*  
S.      ters, a - no - ther date with you. **p**      *mf*  
A.      ters will break a - no - ther date with you. You  
*p*      **pp**      **p**      *mf*  
T.      ters will break a - no - ther date with you. You  
*p*      **pp**      **p**  
B.      ters, date with you.  
*somewhat darker*  
Pno.      **p**      **pp**      *p*      *mf*

31 *mf*

S. You fuss,

A. *fuss an aw-ful lot, you fuss, you fuss, an aw-ful lot, you fuss an aw-ful lot, you fuss, you fuss, an aw-ful lot, you*

T. *fuss an aw-ful lot, you fuss an aw - ful lot, you fuss an aw-ful lot, you fuss an aw - ful lot, you*

B. *>*

Pno. *>*

*you fuss,*

33

S. you fuss, you

A. fuss an aw-ful lot, you fuss, you fuss, an aw-ful lot, you fuss an aw-ful lot, you fuss, you fuss, an aw-ful lot, you

T. fuss an aw-ful lot, you fuss an aw - ful lot, you fuss an aw-ful lot, you fuss an aw - ful lot, you

B. you fuss, you

Pno.

35 *brighter*

S. flight, you flight, you flight of led - ger books,

A. flight of led - ger books, you flight, you flight of led - ger books, you

T. flight of led - ger books, you flight, you flight of led - ger books, you

B. flight, you flight, you flight of led - ger books,

Pno.

36

S. flight, you flight, you flight of led - ger books,

A. flight of led - ger books, you flight, you flight of led - ger books, you

T. 8 flight of led - ger books, you flight, you flight of led - ger books, you

B. flight, you flight, you flight of led - ger books,

Pno.

Overrun with multiple ant-black figures dancing on spindle-legs, repeat chaotically and quickly

37

*ff*

S. flight, you flight, you flight of led - ger books,

*ff*

A. flight of led - ger books, you flight, you flight of led - ger books, you

*ff*

T. 8 flight of led - ger books, you flight, you flight of led - ger books, you

*ff*

B. flight, you flight, you flight of led - ger books,

Pno.

## Overrun with multiple ant-black figures dancing on spindle-legs, (cont.)

38

S. flight, you flight, you flight of led - ger books,

A. flight of led - ger books, you flight, you flight of led - ger books, you

T. 8 flight of led - ger books, you flight, you flight of led - ger books, you

B. flight, you flight, you flight of led - ger books,

Pno.

## Overrun with multiple ant-black figures dancing on spindle-legs, (cont.)

39

S. flight, you flight, you flight of led - ger books,

A. flight of led - ger books, you flight, you flight of led - ger books, you

T. 8 flight of led - ger books, you flight, you flight of led - ger books, you

B. flight, you flight, you flight of led - ger books,

Pno.

Overrun with multiple ant-black figures dancing on spindle-legs, *sighing*



S. 40

flight, you flight, you flight of led-ger books, an in - ter-mi-na-ble can - can...

A.

flight of led-ger books, you flight, you flight of led-ger books, an in - ter-mi-na-ble can - can...

T.

flight of led-ger books, you flight, you flight of led-ger books, an in - ter-mi-na-ble can - can...

B.

flight, you flight, you flight of led-ger books, an in - ter-mi-na-ble can - can...

Pno.

*sighing* rit.

*p*

43 D ♩ = 66 with natural ease  
mp

S.

But I'd ra - ther... like the cats in the al - ley... time by the sil-ver whi-stle

A.

But I'd ra - ther... like the cats in the al - ley... time by the sil-ver whi-stle

T.

ra- ther... like the cats in the al - ley... count time by the sil-ver whi-stle

B.

ra- ther... like the cats in the al - ley... time by the sil-ver whi-stle

Pno.

D ♩ = 66 with natural ease  
mp

*disintegrating into paranoia*

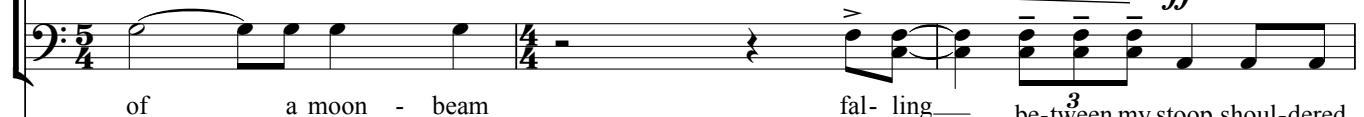
9

49

S. 

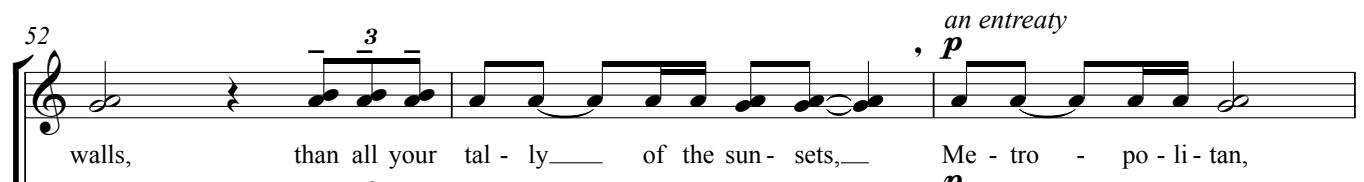
A. 

T. 

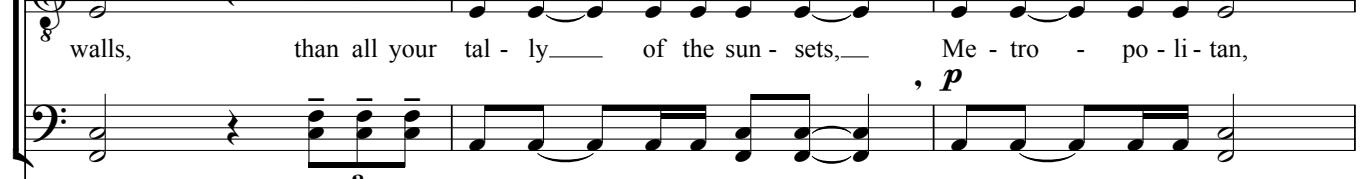
B. 

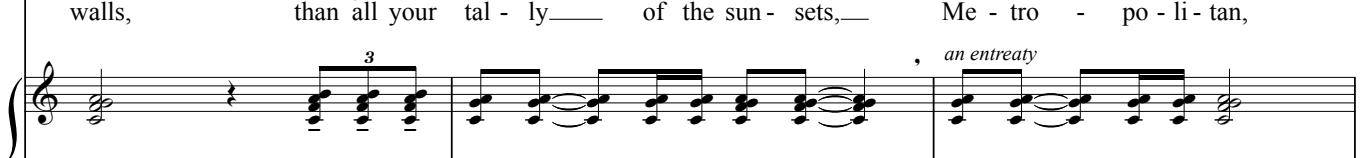
Pno. 

52

S. 

A. 

T. 

B. 

Pno. 

*accel.*

55 *evaporating*

S. *ti - cking*

A. *ti - cking*

T. *ti - cking*

B. *ti - cking*

Pno. *accel.*  
*evaporating*

**Ritenuto**

***ff*** ***p***

***ff*** ***p***

***ff*** ***p***

***ff*** ***p***