

Cataracts

Sop, Alto, Baritone & Piano

By David Haines 5th January 2020
 Commissioned by North Cambridge Family Opera
 Thanks for advice to Michael Todd BSc (Hons) Optometry

Allegretto ♩ = 92

Piano introduction in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The music is marked *p* (piano) and *Senza ped.* (without pedal). The right hand features a flowing eighth-note melody, while the left hand provides a steady accompaniment of eighth notes.

VERSE 1

p

Sop 4
 My world is gra - du - al - ly fa - ding a - way Slow - ly

Alto
 My world is gra - du - al - ly fa - ding a - way Slow - ly

Bar
 My world is gra - du - al - ly fa - ding a - way Slow - ly

Vocal and piano accompaniment for Verse 1. The vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, Baritone) enter with the lyrics "My world is gradually fading away slowly". The piano accompaniment continues with the same melody as the introduction, marked *p* (piano).

simile

Sop *mf* *f*
7 year by year, though not day by day Co - lours less vi - vid, trou - ble

Alto *mf* *f*
year by year, though not day by day Co - lours less vi - vid, trou - ble

Bar *mf* *f*
year by year, though not day by day Co - lours less vi - vid, trou - ble

Sop *p*
10 see - ing at night There are ha - loes a - round ev' - ry source of light I used to

Alto *p*
see - ing at night There are ha - loes a - round ev' - ry source of light I used to

Bar *p*
see - ing at night There are ha - loes a - round ev' - ry source of light I used to

Sop *f* 13

smoke like a chim-ney, and I drank too much Did not wear shades in the sun, but now I

Alto *f*

smoke like a chim-ney, and I drank too much Did not wear shades in the sun, but now I

Bar *f*

smoke like a chim-ney, and I drank too much Did not wear shades in the sun, but now I

Sop 16

know they were such stu-pid things to do, I wish I'd re - a - lised How

Alto

know they were such stu-pid things to do, I wish I'd re - a - lised How

Bar

know they were such stu-pid things to do, I wish I'd re - a - lised How

Sop

19

REFRAIN 1

p

bad-ly I was da - ma - ging my pre - cious eyes Is it a ca - ta - ract ca -

Alto

p

bad-ly I was da - ma - ging my pre - cious eyes Is it a ca - ta - ract ca -

Bar

p

bad-ly I was da - ma - ging my pre - cious eyes Is it a ca - ta - ract ca -

poco stacc.

p

Sop

22

tas - tro - phe? Am I doomed to one day not be a - ble to see? As my

Alto

tas - tro - phe? Am I doomed to one day not be a - ble to see? As my

Bar

tas - tro - phe? Am I doomed to one day not be a - ble to see? As my

Sop

25

vi - sion fades year by year by year I feel a se - cret

Alto

vi - sion fades year by year by year I feel a se - cret

Bar

vi - sion fades year by year by year I feel a se - cret

Piano accompaniment for measures 25-27.

Sop

28 *f*

grow - ing fear... *pp* Oooo...

Alto

f grow - ing fear... *pp* Oooo...

Bar

f grow - ing fear... *pp* Oooo...

come primo

f *pp*

Senza ped.

Sop VERSE 1

31 3 *p*

oooo... oooo... Oooo... The sur - geon says

Alto 3 *p*

oooo... oooo... Oooo... The sur - geon says

Bar 3 *p*

oooo... oooo... 3 Oooo... The sur - geon says



Sop

34

She'll a - nes - the - tize my eye, it'-ll be pa-ra-lysed With - in corne - a two ti - ny cuts

Alto

She'll a - nes - the - tize my eye, it'-ll be pa-ra-lysed With - in corne - a two ti - ny cuts

Bar

She'll a - nes - the - tize my eye, it'-ll be pa-ra-lysed With - in corne - a two ti - ny cuts



Sop *mp* 37
 she will in-cise Through which a hole with a need - dle in the lens will be made Ul-tra

Alto *mp*
 she will in-cise Through which a hole with a need - dle in the lens will be made Ul-tra

Bar *mp*
 she will in-cise Through which a hole with a need - dle in the lens will be made Ul-tra

Sop *mf* 40
 sound will e-mul - si - fy the lens so de-gra - ded The ca - ta - ract's out - er lay - er,

Alto *mf*
 sound will e-mul - si - fy the lens so de-gra - ded The ca - ta - ract's out - er lay - er,

Bar *mf*
 sound will e-mul - si - fy the lens so de-gra - ded The ca - ta - ract's out - er lay - er,

Sop

43

cor-tex by name Will be as-pi-ra-ted (sucked a - way) to a-chieve the aim of ma-king

Alto

cor-tex by name Will be as-pi-ra-ted (sucked a - way) to a-chieve the aim of ma-king

Bar

cor-tex by name Will be as-pi-ra-ted (sucked a - way) to a-chieve the aim of ma-king

Sop

46

room for a fold - ing plas - tic lens to be In - ser - ted in the cap - sule to re -

Alto

room for a fold - ing plas - tic lens to be In - ser - ted in the cap - sule to re -

Bar

room for a fold - ing plas - tic lens to be In - ser - ted in the cap - sule to re -

Sop

49 *p* REFRAIN 2

turn to me The kind of vi - sion that I once en - joyed Rich

Alto

p REFRAIN 2

turn to me The kind of vi - sion that I once en - joyed Rich

Bar

p REFRAIN 2

turn to me The kind of vi - sion that I once en - joyed Rich

Sop

52

col-lours and cla - ri - ty no long - er an - noyed by be - ing un - ab - le to re - cog - nise

Alto

col-lours and cla - ri - ty no long - er an - noyed by be - ing un - ab - le to re - cog - nise

Bar

col-lours and cla - ri - ty no long - er an - noyed by be - ing un - ab - le to re - cog - nise

Sop

55

fa - ces of friends May - be ca - ta - racts will prove to be a

Alto

fa - ces of friends May - be ca - ta - racts will prove to be a

Bar

fa - ces of friends May - be ca - ta - racts will prove to be a

Sop

57

f CODA

bles-sing in the end I will ap - pre - ci - ate like ne - ver be - fore this pre - cious

Alto

f CODA

bles-sing in the end I will ap - pre - ci - ate like ne - ver be - fore this pre - cious

Bar

f CODA

bles-sing in the end I will ap - pre - ci - ate like ne - ver be - fore this pre - cious

Sop

60

sense I thought was lost now it has been re-stored I will re - mind my-self each day how

Alto

sense I thought was lost now it has been re-stored I will re - mind my-self each day how

Bar

sense I thought was lost now it has been re-stored I will re - mind my-self each day how

Piano accompaniment for measures 60-62, featuring a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand, both in a B-flat major key signature.

Sop

63

luc - ky I've been to see a - gain the way that I used *f* to see *p*

Alto

luc - ky I've been to see a - gain the way that I used *f* to see *p*

Bar

luc - ky I've been to see a - gain the way that I used *f* to see *p*

Piano accompaniment for measures 63-65, featuring a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand, both in a B-flat major key signature. Dynamics *f* and *p* are indicated.

Sop

66 *f*

I'll see a - gain with cla - ri - ty, I'll see a - gain how I used to see!

Alto

f

I'll see a - gain with cla - ri - ty, I'll see a - gain how I used to see!

Bar

f

I'll see a - gain with cla - ri - ty, I'll see a - gain how I used to see!

Sop

69

I'll see a - gain with cla - ri - ty, I'll see a - gain how I used to see!

Alto

I'll see a - gain with cla - ri - ty, I'll see a - gain how I used to see!

Bar

I'll see a - gain with cla - ri - ty, I'll see a - gain how I used to see!