

PROGRAM NOTES

This unaccompanied piece contrasts a simple *unison* motif with an *ostinato* in the lower voices. The homophonic refrain clearly declaims, “all forces have been steadily employed to complete and delight me.” After climaxing with a descant for soprano, the work recedes in intensity with a harmonic restatement of the opening motif.

There is never more than now.

I am the poet of the Body and I am the poet of the Soul.
I see, I dance, I laugh, I sing;

All forces have been steadily employed to complete and delight me,
Now on this spot I stand with my robust soul.

I celebrate myself, and I sing myself,
Every atom belonging to me as good belongs to you.

There was never any more inception,
Any more youth or age than there is now,
And there will never be any more perfection than there is now.
Never more than now.

Walt Whitman (1819–1892)
Leaves of Grass
Adapted by Michael John Trotta

PUBLISHER’S NOTES

This piece may be performed as part of a set of four Whitman settings under the master title, *This Is Thy Hour*. The compositions should be performed in the following order.

This Is Thy Hour	1.3581
Clear and Sweet Is My Soul	1.3582
→ I Celebrate Myself (unaccompanied)	1.3583
We Take Up the Task Eternal	1.3584

Michael John Trotta (b. 1978)

For biographical information visit:
www.mjtrotta.com

I Celebrate Myself

for SSATB Chorus unaccompanied

Walt Whitman (1819–1892)
Adapted by Michael John Trotta

Michael John Trotta
(ASCAP)

mp $\text{♩} = 84$

Soprano: There is nev - er more than

Alto: *mp* I am the

Tenor: *mp* I am the

Bass: *mp* I am the

Piano (for rehearsal only): $\text{♩} = 84$

4

now.

po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the

po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the

po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the

[5]

po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the

po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the

po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the

7

mp sim.

po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the

mp sim.

po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the

mp sim.

po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the

see,

[8]

I dance, I

po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the

po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the

po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the

po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the

10

laugh, I sing;

po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the

po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the

po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the

po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the

[11]

— All forc - es have been stead - i - ly em - ployed to com -
 po - et of the Soul. All forc - es have been stead - i - ly em - ployed to com -
 po - et of the Soul. All forc - es have been stead - i - ly em - ployed
 po - et of the Soul. All forc - es have been stead - i - ly em - ployed

14
 plete and de - light me, O Now on this spot I *cresc.*
 plete and de - light me, O Now on this spot I *cresc.*
 to com - plete and de - light me, Now on this spot I *cresc.*
 to com - plete and de - light me, Now on this spot I *cresc.*

17

stand with my ro - bust soul. O I

stand with my ro - bust soul. O I

stand, on this spot I stand with my ro - bust, with my ro - bust soul.

stand, on this spot I stand with my ro - bust, with my ro - bust soul.

20

cel - e - brate my - self, and I

cel - e - brate my - self, and I

mf I cel - e - brate my - self, I sing my - self,

mf I cel e - brate my - self, I sing my - self,

22 *fp*

sing my - self,

sing my - self,

I cel - e - brate my - self, I sing, I sing my - self,

I cel - e - brate my - self, I sing, I sing my - self,

24

Ev - ery at - om that be - longs to me as good be - longs, be -

Ev - ery at - om that be - longs to me as good be - longs, be -

Ev - ery at - om that be - longs to me as good be - longs to you, be -

Ev - ery at - om that be - longs to me as good be - longs to you, be -

27 *p*
 longs to you. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the

p
 longs to you.

p
 longs to you.

p
 longs to you.

29 *sim.*
 po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the

mf
 There was nev -

mf
 There was nev -



[30]

po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the

er an - y

er an - y

This musical system covers measures 30 and 31. It features a vocal line with lyrics, a piano accompaniment, and a grand staff. The lyrics are: "po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the er an - y". The piano accompaniment consists of a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a simple bass line in the left hand.

32
po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the

more in - cep -

more in - cep -

This musical system covers measures 32 and 33. It features a vocal line with lyrics, a piano accompaniment, and a grand staff. The lyrics are: "po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the more in - cep -". The piano accompaniment continues with the same eighth-note pattern in the right hand and bass line in the left hand.

[33]

po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the

mf
An - y more youth or

tion, An - y

tion, An - y

35

po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Soul.

age than there is

more youth or age than there

more youth or age than there

37 *mp*

now, — And there will nev - er be — an - y more per - fec - tion than there is

mp

now, — And there will nev - er be an - y more per - fec - tion than there is

mp

is now, nev - er more than

mp

is now, nev - er more than

40 *f*

now, more per fec - tion than there is now, —

f

now, more per - fec - tion than there is now, —

f

now, — now, —

f

now, — now, —

44 *p* *mp*

nev - er more,

nev - er more,

nev - er more,

nev - er more,

48 *p* *mp* *mp*


than there is now.

than there is now. I am the

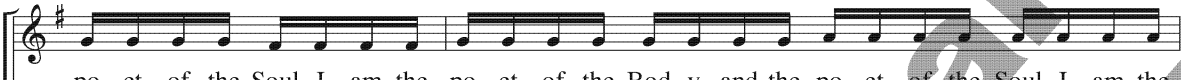
than there is now.

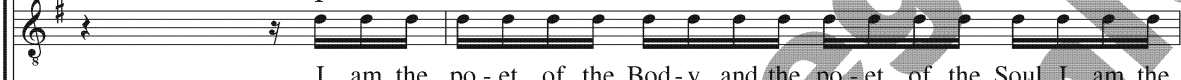
than there is now.


52


A  po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the

[53]

A  po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the

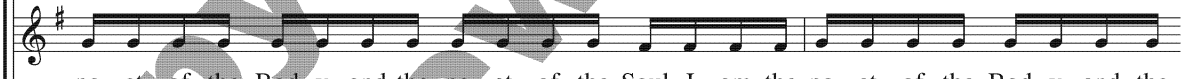
T  *mp*
I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the

B  *mp*
I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the



55

S  *mf*
I see, _____

A  po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the

T  po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the

B  po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the



[56]

I dance, I

po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the

po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the

po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the

58

laugh, I sing;

po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the

po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the

po - et of the Bod - y and the po - et of the Soul. I am the po - et of the Bod - y and the

[59]

— All — forc - es have been stead - i - ly em -
 po - et of the Soul. All forc - es have been stead - i - ly em -
 po - et of the Soul. All forc - es have been
 po - et of the Soul. All forc - es have been

61

S 1
 ployed O

S 2
 ployed to com-plete and de-light me, O

A
 ployed to com-plete and de-light me, O

T
 stead-i-ly em-plied to com-plete and de-light me, Now

B
 stead-i-ly em-plied to com-plete and de-light me, Now

64

O _____ O _____

cresc.
Now on this spot I stand with my ro - bust

cresc.
Now on this spot I stand with my ro - bust

cresc.
on this spot I stand, on this spot I stand with my ro - bust,

cresc.
on this spot I stand, on this spot I stand with my ro - bust,

67

_____ O I _____

soul. *f* O I cel - e - brate my -

soul. *f* O I cel - e - brate my -

with my ro - bust soul. *f* I cel - e - brate my - self,

with my ro - bust soul. *f* I cel - e - brate my - self,

69

cel - e - brate my - self,
 self, and I sing my -
 self, and I sing my -
 I sing my - self, I cel - e - brate my - self,
 I sing my - self, I cel - e - brate my - self,

71

and I sing my - self, all good,
 self, ev - ery at - om that be -
 self, ev - ery at - om that be -
 I sing, I sing my - self, ev - ery at - om that be -
 I sing, I sing my - self, ev - ery at - om that be -

73

be - longs to you, be -

longs to me as good be - longs, be -

longs to me as good be - longs, be -

longs to me as good be - longs to you, be -

longs to me as good be - longs to you, be -

75

longs to you. *p*

longs to you. *p*

longs to you. *p*

longs to you. *p*

longs to you. *p*

78 *mp* *p*

S Nev - er more than now.

A Nev - er more than now.

T Nev - er more than now.

B Nev - er more than now.

ca. 4:00

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