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JULIANA HALL

# THE POET'S CALENDAR

12 Songs for Tenor and Piano

on Poems by  
Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

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Cover design by David Sims.

## JANUARY

Janus am I; oldest of potentates;  
Forward I look, and backward, and below  
I count, as god of avenues and gates,  
The years that through my portals come and go.  
I block the roads, and drift the fields with snow;  
I chase the wild-fowl from the frozen fen;  
My frosts congeal the rivers in their flow,  
My fires light up the hearths and hearts of men.

## FEBRUARY

I am lustration; and the sea is mine!  
I wash the sands and headlands with my tide;  
My brow is crowned with branches of the pine;  
Before my chariot-wheels the fishes glide.  
By me all things unclean are purified,  
By me the souls of men washed white again;  
E'en the unlovely tombs of those who died  
Without a dirge, I cleanse from every stain.

## MARCH

I Martius am! Once first, and now the third!  
To lead the Year was my appointed place;  
A mortal dispossessed me by a word,  
And set there Janus with the double face.  
Hence I make war on all the human race;  
I shake the cities with my hurricanes;  
I flood the rivers and their banks efface,  
And drown the farms and hamlets with my rains.

## APRIL

I open wide the portals of the Spring  
To welcome the procession of the flowers,  
With their gay banners, and the birds that sing  
Their song of songs from their aerial towers.  
I soften with my sunshine and my showers  
The heart of earth; with thoughts of love I glide  
Into the hearts of men; and with the Hours  
Upon the Bull with wreathed horns I ride.

## MAY

Hark! The sea-faring wild-fowl loud proclaim  
My coming, and the swarming of the bees.  
These are my heralds, and behold! my name  
Is written in blossoms on the hawthorn-trees.  
I tell the mariner when to sail the seas;  
I waft o'er all the land from far away  
The breath and bloom of the Hesperides,  
My birthplace, I am Maia. I am May.

## JUNE

Mine is the Month of Roses; yes, and mine  
The Month of Marriages! All pleasant sights  
And scents, the fragrance of the blossoming vine,  
The foliage of the valleys and the heights.  
Mine are the longest days, the loveliest nights;  
The mower's scythe makes music to my ear;  
I am the mother of all dear delights;  
I am the fairest daughter of the year.

## JULY

My emblem is the Lion, and I breathe  
The breath of Libyan deserts o'er the land;  
My sickle as a sabre I unsheathe,  
And bent before me the pale harvests stand.  
The lakes and rivers shrink at my command,  
And there is thirst and fever in the air;  
The sky is changed to brass, the earth to sand;  
I am the Emperor whose name I bear.

## AUGUST

The Emperor Octavian, called the August,  
I being his favorite, bestowed his name  
Upon me, and I hold it still in trust,  
In memory of him and of his fame.  
I am the Virgin, and my vestal flame  
Burns less intensely than the Lion's rage;  
Sheaves are my only garlands, and I claim  
The golden Harvests as my heritage.

## SEPTEMBER

I bear the Scales, where hang in equipoise  
The night and day; and when unto my lips  
I put my trumpet, with its stress and noise  
Fly the white clouds like tattered sails of ships;  
The tree-tops lash the air with sounding whips;  
Southward the clamorous sea-fowl wing their flight;  
The hedges are all red with haws and hips,  
The Hunter's Moon reigns empress of the night.

## OCTOBER

My ornaments are fruits; my garments leaves,  
Woven like cloth of gold, and crimson dyed;  
I do not boast the harvesting of sheaves,  
O'er orchards and o'er vineyards I preside.  
Though on the frigid Scorpion I ride,  
The dreamy air is full, and overflows  
With tender memories of the summer-tide,  
And mingled voices of the doves and crows.

## NOVEMBER

The Centaur, Sagittarius, am I,  
Born of Ixion's and the cloud's embrace;  
With sounding hoofs across the earth I fly,  
A steed Thessalian with a human face.  
Sharp winds the arrows are with which I chase  
The leaves, half dead already with affright;  
I shroud myself in gloom; and to the race  
Of mortals bring nor comfort nor delight.

## DECEMBER

Riding upon the Goat, with snow-white hair,  
I come, the last of all. This crown of mine  
Is of the holly; in my hand I bear  
The thyrsus, tipped with fragrant cones of pine.  
I celebrate the birth of the Divine,  
And the return of the Saturnian reign; —  
My songs are carols sung at every shrine,  
Proclaiming "Peace on earth, good will to men."

— Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

For Dominick Argento, with love

# The Poet's Calendar

for Tenor and Piano

## January

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Juliana Hall

(b. 1958)

Suspended Time (♩ = 44)

3 Ped. Una corda

\* Ped.

5

ppp

Ped. \* Ped. \* Ped. \*

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8

Musical staff for measures 8-10. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The time signature changes from 5/4 to 6/4 at measure 9. The staff contains rests for all measures.

Piano accompaniment for measures 8-10. The right hand has a *ppp* dynamic marking. The left hand has a *Ped.* marking at the start of measure 8 and a *\* Ped.* marking at the start of measure 9. The music features sustained chords and a melodic line in the right hand.

11

Vocal line for measures 11-12. The lyrics are "Ja - - - - nus am - - - - I;". The melody is in the treble clef with a *pp* dynamic marking. The time signature is 4/4.

Piano accompaniment for measures 11-12. The right and left hands play sustained chords in the 4/4 time signature.

13

Vocal line for measures 13-14. The lyrics are "old - - - - est - - - - of - - - -". The melody is in the treble clef. The time signature changes from 4/4 to 6/4 at measure 14.

Piano accompaniment for measures 13-14. The right hand has a *ppp* dynamic marking and an *8va* marking. The left hand has a *Ped.* marking. The music features sustained chords and a melodic line in the right hand. The time signature is 4/4 for measures 13-13.5 and 6/4 for measures 14-14.5.

# February

Juliana Hall  
(b. 1958)

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

1 Peacefully (♩ = 52)

Musical score for measures 1-2. The score is in 9/8 time and consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part features a melodic line in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand. Pedal markings are present below the piano part.

Musical score for measures 3-4. The tempo is marked *Poco Rit.*. The piano part continues with a melodic line in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand. Pedal markings are present below the piano part.

Musical score for measures 5-8. The tempo is marked *A Tempo*. The piano part continues with a melodic line in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand. Pedal markings are present below the piano part.

I am lus - - tra - - tion;

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7 *mf*

and the sea is mine!

*mf*

Ped. \* Ped. \* Ped. \* Ped. \*

9 **Playfully** *p*

I wash the

**Playfully** *pp*

Ped. \* Ped. \* Ped. \* Ped. \*

11

sands and headlands with my tide;

*8va*

Ped. \* Ped. \* Ped. \*

# March

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Juliana Hall

(b. 1958)

**Furiously** (♩ = 108)

*f* *ff*

I Mar - ti - us am!

*f* *ff* *fff*

Once first, and now the third!

*marcato* *mf*

To lead the Year was

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10 *f* *p*

my ap - point - ed place; A mor - tal

13 *mp* *p*

dis - pos - ses-sed me by a word, And set there

16 *mf* *mp* *mf* **Poco Rit.**

Ja - - - nus with the dou - ble face.

37

*f* *mp* *p*

## April

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Juliana Hall  
(b. 1958)

1 Simply (♩ = 96)

*p*

3

*p*

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5 *mp*

I o - pen wide the

7 *mf*

por - tals of the Spring

9 *mf*

To wel - come the pro - ces - sion of the

*p*

*mp*

# May

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Juliana Hall  
(b. 1958)

1 **Bright** (♩ = 104)

*f* Hark! \_\_\_\_\_

*mf* *f*

*f* The sea - far - ing wild - fowl \_\_\_\_\_

*ff* *f*

loud pro - claim My com - ing,

Ped. \*Ped. \*Ped. \* Ped. \*

Ped. \*Ped. \* Ped. \* Ped. \*

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9 *p*

and the swarm - ing of the

*p*

Ped. \* Ped. \* Ped. \* Ped. \*

11 *mp* *mf*

bees. \_\_\_\_\_ These are my her - alds,

*mp* *mf*

Ped. \* Ped. \* Ped. \* Ped. \* Ped. \*

14 *f* *p* Poco Rit. ---

and be - hold! my name

*f* *mp* *p* Poco Rit. ---

Ped. \* Ped. \* Ped. \* Ped. \* Ped. \* Ped. \* Ped. \* Ped. \*

1 Simply (♩ = 88)

Musical score for the first system, measures 1-2. It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment in 4/4 time. The piano part starts with a dynamic marking of *p*.

Musical score for the second system, measures 3-4. The vocal line includes the lyrics "Mine is the Month of". The piano accompaniment continues with a dynamic marking of *p*.

Musical score for the third system, measures 5-6. The vocal line includes the lyrics "Ros es; yes, and". The piano accompaniment features a dynamic marking of *mp* and *p*.

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7 *mf*

mine The Month of Mar - ria - ges!

9 *mp*

All pleas - ant sights — And scents,

11 *mf* *p*

the fra - grance of the blos - som - ing vine, — The

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Juliana Hall  
(b. 1958)

1 With Gusto (♩ = 108)

*mf*

My

1

*p*

3

*mp*

em - blem is the Li - on, and I breathe

*mf* *p*

5

*p*

The breath of Lib-y-an des - erts o'er the land;

*p* *p*

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8 *mf* *f*

My sick-le as a sa-bre I un - sheathe,

11 *f* *mp*

And bent be - fore me the pale har-vests stand. The lakes and riv - ers shrink at

14 *p* *pp*

my com-mand, And there is thirst and fe-ver in the air;

1 Warmly (♩ = 50)

The first system of the musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef, starting with a whole rest in 5/4 time, followed by a 4/4 time signature change, and ending with a 5/4 time signature change. The middle staff is the right-hand piano part, starting with a whole rest, then a half note G#4, and a half note A4, all under a slur. The bottom staff is the left-hand piano part, starting with a whole rest, then a triplet of eighth notes (F#3, G3, A3), and a whole note G3. Dynamics include piano (p) and a pedal (Ped.) marking. A large watermark 'Copying is illegal' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

The second system continues the musical score. The vocal line has a whole rest in 5/4 time, followed by a 4/4 time signature change, and ends with a 5/4 time signature change. The right-hand piano part has a half note G#4 and a half note A4 under a slur. The left-hand piano part has a triplet of eighth notes (F#3, G3, A3) and a whole note G3. Dynamics include piano (p). A large watermark 'Copying is illegal' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

The third system begins with the vocal line at measure 5, marked mezzo-piano (mp). The lyrics are: "The Em-per-or Oc - ta - vi - an,". The vocal line contains a quarter note G#4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note G#4. The piano accompaniment starts with a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic, featuring a half note G#4 and a half note A4. The right-hand piano part has a half note G#4 and a half note A4. The left-hand piano part has a half note G#3 and a half note A3. Dynamics include mezzo-forte (mf) and piano (p). A large watermark 'Copying is illegal' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

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8

called the Au - - gust,

10

*f*

I be - ing his fa - vor - ite,

*mf*

12

*f*

be - stowed his name Up - on

*mf*

# September

45

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Juliana Hall  
(b. 1958)

1 Lyricaly (♩ = 69)

The first system of the musical score is in 2/4 time. It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part begins with a *p* dynamic and includes the instruction "delicate pedal". The vocal line is mostly rests in this system.

The second system of the musical score contains the lyrics "I bear the Scales,". The piano accompaniment includes a *mp* dynamic marking and a *p* dynamic marking. The vocal line has a *mp* dynamic marking.

The third system of the musical score contains the lyrics "where hang in e - qui - poise The night and". The piano accompaniment includes a *p* dynamic marking and a *pp* dynamic marking. The vocal line has a *p* dynamic marking.

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10 *f* *f*

day;— and when un - to my lips I

13 *ff*

put my trum - pet, with its stress and noise—

15 *mp*

Fly the white clouds like tat - tered sails of ships;

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Juliana Hall  
(b. 1958)

1 A Little Sad (♩ = 63)

The first system of the musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in 4/4 time, starting with a whole rest. The middle staff is the right hand of the piano, featuring a melodic line with a trill (tr) and dynamics of piano (p) and pianissimo (pp). The bottom staff is the left hand of the piano, providing harmonic support with chords and a bass line. The system concludes with a 3/4 time signature change.

The second system continues the musical score. The vocal line (top staff) begins with the lyrics "My or - na - ments are fruits;". The piano accompaniment (middle and bottom staves) continues with the same melodic and harmonic material, including a trill and dynamics of p and pp. The system concludes with a 2/4 time signature change.

The third system continues the musical score. The vocal line (top staff) begins with the lyrics "my gar - ments leaves,". The piano accompaniment (middle and bottom staves) continues with the same melodic and harmonic material, including a trill and dynamics of pp and p. The system concludes with a 3/4 time signature change.

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♩ = 76

7 *mp*

Wo - ven like cloth of gold, — and

♩ = 76

*p*

9 *mp*

crim - son dyed; I do not boast — the

*p*

*Ped.* \* *Ped.* \*

12 *mp*

har - vest - ing of sheaves, — O'er — or - chards and o'er —

*mp*

*Ped.* \*

# November

53

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Juliana Hall

(b. 1958)

1 **Furiously** (♩ = 80)

**f**

The

*f*

Ped. \* Ped. \* Ped. \*

3

Cen - taur, Sag - it - tar - i - us, am

Ped. \* Ped. \* Ped. \* Ped. \*

5

I, Born of Ix - i - on's

*ff* *p*

*ff* *p*

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7 *mf*

and the cloud's em - brace; With

9

sound - ing hoofs a cross the earth I

11 *ff* *f*

fly, A

*ff* *f*

Ped. \* Ped. \*

1 Joyously (♩ = 108)

Musical score for the first system of 'December'. It features a vocal line in treble clef with a soprano clef (8) and a piano accompaniment in 6/8 time. The piano part consists of two staves: a right-hand staff with chords and a left-hand staff with a bass line. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The first measure of the piano accompaniment is marked with a forte *f* dynamic. The system concludes with a *Ped.* (pedal) instruction and an asterisk.

Musical score for the second system of 'December'. It continues the vocal and piano accompaniment from the first system. The piano part is marked with a forte *f* dynamic. The system concludes with a *Ped.* (pedal) instruction and an asterisk.

Musical score for the third system of 'December', which includes the vocal line. The vocal line begins with the lyrics: "Rid - ing up - on the Goat, with". The piano accompaniment is marked with *ff* (fortissimo) and *p* (piano) dynamics. The system concludes with a *Ped.* (pedal) instruction and an asterisk.

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7 *f*

snow - white hair, I come, \_\_\_\_\_

*f*

Ped. \*

**Poco Rit.** ..... ♩ = 84

9 *mp*

the last \_\_\_\_\_ of all. This crown of mine\_

**Poco Rit.** ..... ♩ = 84

*mp*

*p*

11

Is of the hol - - - - ly; \_\_\_\_\_