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JULIANA HALL

THEME IN YELLOW

7 Songs for Mezzo-Soprano and Piano

on Poems by
Amy Lowell
Edna St. Vincent Millay
Robert Frost,
and Carl Sandburg

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Cover design by David Sims.



Gone, gone again is Summer the lovely. She that knew not where to hide, Is gone again like a jeweled fish from the hand, Is lost on every side.

Mute, mute, I make my way to the garden, Thither where she last was seen; The heavy foot of the frost is on the flags there, Where her light step has been.

Gone, gone again is Summer the lovely, Gone again on every side, Lost again like a shining fish from the hand Into the shadowy tide.

— Edna St. Vincent Millay

RIPE CORN

The wind blows. The corn leans. The corn leaves go rustling. The march time and the windbeat is on October drums. The stalks of fodder bend all one way, the way the last windstorm passed.

"Put on my winter clothes; get me an ulster; a yellow ulster to lay down in January and shut my eyes and cover my ears in snow drifts."

The wind blows. The corn leans. The fodder is russet. October says to the leaves, "Rustle now to the last lap, to the last leg of the year."

Carl Sandburg

NOVEMBER

The vine leaves against the brick walls of my house Are rusty and broken. Dead leaves gather under the pine-trees The brittle boughs of lilac-bushes Sweep against the stars. And I sit under a lamp Trying to write down the emptiness of my heart. Even the cat will not stay with me, But prefers the rain

Under the meagre shelter of a cellar window.

Amy Lowell

THEME IN YELLOW

I spot the hills With yellow balls in autumn. I light the prairie cornfields Orange and tawny gold clusters And I am called pumpkins. On the last of October When dusk is fallen Children join hands And circle round me Singing ghost songs And love to the harvest moon; I am a jack-o'-lantern With terrible teeth And the children know I am fooling.

-Carl Sandburg

GATHERING LEAVES

Spades take up leaves No better than spoons, And bags full of leaves Are light as balloons.

I make a great noise Of rustling all day Like rabbit and deer Running away.

But the mountains I raise Elude my embrace, Flowing over my arms And into my face.

I may load and unload Again and again Till I fill the whole shed, And what have I then?

Next to nothing for weight, And since they grew duller From contact with earth, Next to nothing for color.

Next to nothing for use, But a crop is a crop, And who's to say where The harvest shall stop?

-Robert Frost

SPLINTER

The voice of the last cricket across the first frost is one kind of good-by. It is so thin a splinter of singing.

-Carl Sandburg

HAZE GOLD

Sun, you may send your haze gold Filling the fall afternoon With a flimmer of many gold feathers. Leaves, you may linger in the fall sunset Like late lingering butterflies before frost. Treetops, you may sift the sunset cross-lights Spreading a loose checkerwork of gold and shadow. Winter comes soon—shall we save this, lay it by, Keep all we can of these haze gold yellows?

—Carl Sandburg

"Haze Gold" "Ripe Corn" "Splinter" and "Theme In Yellow" from THE COMPLETE POEMS OF CARL SANDBURG, Revised and Expanded Edition.

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Theme in Yellow

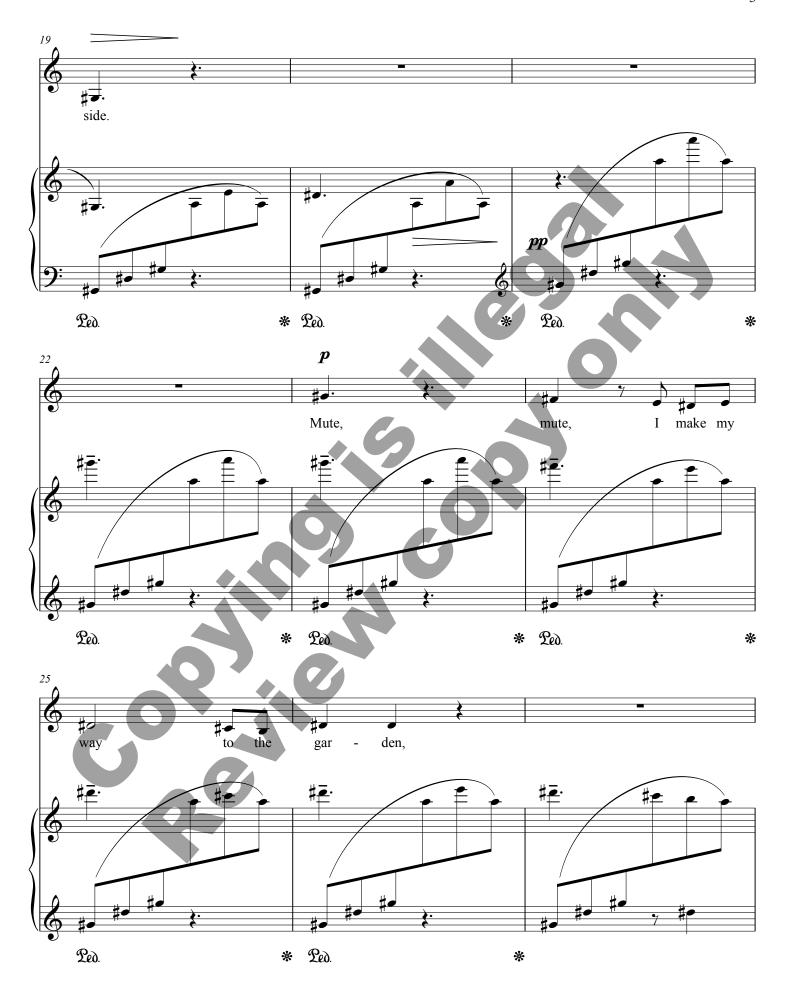
for Mezzo-Soprano and Piano

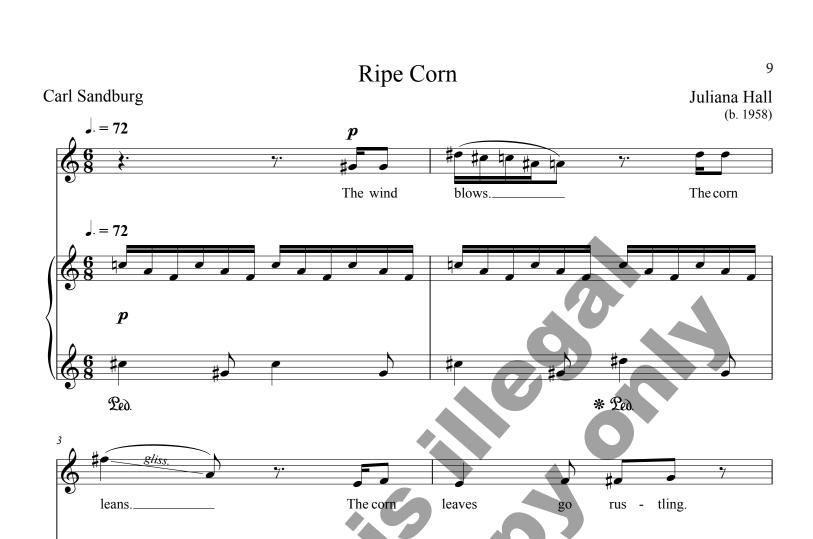
Song



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