

I. Invocation: A SILVER SUDDEN PARODY OF SNOW

Triplum

A silver sudden parody of snow
tickles the air to golden tears, and hark!
the flicker's laughing yet, while on the hills
the pines deepen to whispers primeval and throw
backward their foreheads to the barbarous bright
sky, and suddenly from the valley thrills
the unimaginable upward lark
and drowns the earth and passes into light

Duplum

(slowly in life's serene perpetual round
a pale world gathers comfort to her soul,
hope richly scattered by the abundant sun
invades the new mosaic of the ground...)

Tenor

Spring, that omits no mention of desire...

- e.e. cummings

II. Homily: [In Just-spring]

In Just-
spring when the world is mud-
luscious the little
lame balloonman

whistles far and wee

and eddieandbill come
running from marbles and
piracies and it's
spring

when the world is puddle-wonderful

the queer
old balloonman whistles
far and wee
and bettyandisbel come dancing

from hop-sotch and jump-rope and

it's
spring
and
the

goat-footed

balloonMan whistles
far
and
wee

- e.e. cummings

III. Offertory: BLUE-BUTTERFLY DAY

It is blue-butterfly day here in spring,
And with these sky-flakes down in flurry on flurry
There is more unmixed color on the wing
Than flowers will show for days unless they hurry.

But these are flowers that fly and all but sing:
And now from having ridden out desire
They lie closed over in the wind and cling
Where wheels have freshly sliced the April mire.

- Robert Frost

IV. Benediction: SPRING HYMNAL

O still miraculous May! O shining girl
of time unvarnished! O small intimate
gently primeval hands, frivolous feet
divine! O singular and breathless pearl!
O indefinable frail ultimate pose!
O visible beatitude sweet sweet
intolerable! silence immaculate
of god's evasive audible great rose!

- e.e.cummings

commissioned by Somnium Ensemble, Tatu Erkkilä, conductor,
in celebration of the choir's 10th anniversary

CATHEDRAL OF SPRING

I. Invocation: A silver sudden parody of snow

ALEX FREEMAN (2019)

e.e. cummings
(1894–1962)

$\text{♩} = 78$

Soprano 1
Spring (ng) Spring

Soprano 2
Spring (ng) Spring Spring

Alto 1
Spring (ng) Spring Spring

Alto 2
Spring (ng) Spring (ng)

Tenor 1
Spring (ng) Spring (ng) Spring (ng)

Tenor 2
Spring (ng) Spring (ng)

Baritone
Spring (ng) Spring (ng)

Bass
Spring (ng) Spring (ng) Spring (ng)

S.1
mf A

S.2
p f A

A.1
p f Spring

A.2
f > mp Spring (ng) slow ly f > p Spring (ng)

T.1
f > mp Spring (ng) Spring (ng)

T.2
f > p Spring (ng) Spring (ng)

Bar.
f > mp Spring (ng) f > p Spring (ng) Spring (ng)

B.
f > p Spring (ng) mf that o

11

S.1 *f* sil - ver sud - den pa - ro - dy of snow *p* snow

S.2 *f* sil - ver sud - den pa - ro - dy of snow *f* tic - kles the

A.1 *p* in life's *mf* se - rene

A.2 *mf* in life's se - rene

T.1 *p* o - - - - mits *p* snow

T.2 *mf* life's se - rene

Bar. *mp* o - mits o - mits

B. *p* mits *mp* o - mits o - mits

16

S.1 *f* tick - les the air to gol - den tears and hark!

S.2 air per - pe - tu - al round and hark! the

A.1 per - pe - tu - al round gol - den tears hark! the

A.2 *f* tic - kles the air to gol - den tears and hark! *ff* the

T.1 *f* tic - kles the air to gol - den tears and hark! *ff* the

T.2 *f* Spring *p* and hark! *ff* hark!

Bar. *f* Spring *p* no men - tion of de - sire *f*

B. *f* no men - tion of de - sire *f*

21

S.1 flick-er's laugh-ing yet while on the hills the pines the pines deep - en to

S.2 flick-er's laugh-ing yet while on the hills the pines

A.1 flick-er's laugh-ing yet while on the hills the pines deep - en

A.2 flick-er's laugh-ing yet while on the hills the pines deep - en n

T.1 flick-er's laugh-ing yet while on the hills

T.2 while on the hills

Bar. flick-er's laugh-ing on the hills the pines deep - en

B. flick-er's laugh-ing on the hills the pines deep - en

26

S.1 whis - pers prim - e - - val whis - pers

S.2 whis - pers to whis - pers whis - pers

A.1 n and throw back - ward their

A.2 whis - pers whis - pers

T.1 whis - pers whis - pers

T.2 whis - pers [m]

Bar. deep - en and throw back - ward their fore - heads

B. deep - en and throw back - ward their fore - heads

31

S.1 to the bright sky

S.2 bright bright sky

A.1 fore-heads to the bar-barous bright sky sky

A.2 whis-pers bright bright sky

T.1 bright sky

T.2 whis-pers the bright bright sky

Bar. to the bar-barous bright sky sky

B. to the bar-barous bright bright sky

36

S.1 and sud-den-ly from the val-ley

S.2 and sud-den-ly from the val-ley

A.1 Spring (ng) and sud-den-ly from the val-ley

A.2 Spring (ng) spring

T.1 and sud-den-ly from the val-ley

T.2 Spring (ng) scat-tered

Bar. Spring (ng) from the val-ley

B. Spring (ng) Spring (ng) sud-den-ly

