

Sappho: To Aphrodite

Words by Jon Corelis, from the Greek of Sappho

Music by Jon Corelis

Note: the accompaniment is given as an example. In this Musescore version, it is set to koto, to suggest the bright sound of a Greek lyre. A Celtic harp would also work; a modern orchestral harp would be too soft.

♩ = 120 appassionato

Aph - ro - di - te, im - mor - tal, en - throned in won - der, Sky — Daugh -

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is the vocal line, and the lower staff is the accompaniment. The music is in a 3/4 time signature and features a complex, changing meter. The lyrics are: "Aph - ro - di - te, im - mor - tal, en - throned in won - der, Sky — Daugh -".

ter, web - stress of schemes, I en - treat you not to break my

The second system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is the vocal line, and the lower staff is the accompaniment. The music continues with the same complex, changing meter. The lyrics are: "ter, web - stress of schemes, I en - treat you not to break my".

spir - it with pangs of an - guish, Queen, La - dy, Moth — ther, but now

The third system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is the vocal line, and the lower staff is the accompaniment. The music continues with the same complex, changing meter. The lyrics are: "spir - it with pangs of an - guish, Queen, La - dy, Moth — ther, but now".

19

come to me, if in the past you ev - er al - so heed - ed me when I

26

cried from a - far, and, leav - ing be - hind the gold - en house of

32

your fa - ther Zeus you de - scend - ed, borne in a char - i - ot yoked to a

38

flock of love - ly spar - rows fly - ing fast o - ver

43

earth's black rich - ness, Thick - ly flut - ter - ing

47

wings lead-ing you a pas - sage through bright mid heav - en, soon ar -

53

riv - ing, and you, O su - preme in bless - ing, e - ter -

58

ni - ty's smile gleam - ing from your ex - pres - sion, asked me

63

now this time what a - gain I suf - fered, what did I

68

pray for, what be - yond all else I would want to hap - pen, with

74

all my love mad-dened heart: "Who now needs per - sua - sion to

79

be led back to your af - fec - tion? Who is it, Sap - pho, who

84

hurts you? Though she now may run, she will soon pur - sue you;

90

now she may spurn gifts but she soon will give them; now she

96

feels no love, but she soon will feel it, e - ven un - will - ing.

102

Com - ing this time a - gain, act as my de - liv' - ress, un -

107

wind this mas - ter - ing pain; — be - come ful - fill - er of

112

ev' - ry - thing that my pas - sion hopes for: take your

117

stand as my al - ly.