

## II. The secrets of the old

William Butler YEATS (1865-1939)

Samuel BARBER (1910-1981)

*Allegro giocoso* *p*

Voix

I have old wo - men's se - crets now That had those of the

Piano

*p*

7 *mf*

V. young; — Madge tells me what I da - red not think When my blood was

Pno

*mf*

12 *p* *Poco riten.* *a tempo*

V. strong, And what had drowned a lo - ver once Sounds like an old song. —

Pno

*p*

19 *mf*

V. Though Mar - g'ry is strick-en dumb If thrown in Ma - dge's way, We

Pno

*mf*

26 *Più mosso*  
*poco cresc.*

V. three make up a so - li - tude; For none a - live to - day Can

Pno *dim.* *poco cresc.* *Red.*

32

V. know the stro - ries that we know Or say the things we

Pno

38

V. say: How much a man pleased wo - men

Pno

43

V. most Of all that are gone, How such a pair loved man - y

Pno

48

V. years and such a pair but one, Sto - ries of the bed\_ of

Pno

54

V. straw \_\_\_\_\_ Or the bed\_ of\_ down. \_\_\_\_\_

Pno

poco rall. a tempo *pp*

The musical score is written for voice (V.) and piano (Pno). It consists of two systems. The first system starts at measure 48 and ends at measure 53. The second system starts at measure 54 and ends at measure 58. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The time signature changes from 3/4 to 2/4 at measure 49, then to 3/8 at measure 52, and back to 2/4 at measure 57. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a simpler bass line in the left hand. The voice part has lyrics in English. Performance markings include 'poco rall.' and 'a tempo pp'.

J'ai désormais les secrets des vieilles femmes,  
ceux des jeunes ;  
Madge me confie ce que je n'osais penser  
quand j'étais insouciante,  
et ce qui avait jadis noyé un amant  
résonne comme une vieille chanson.

Bien que Margery soit muette  
si elle croise le chemin de Madge,  
nous trois formons une solitude ;  
car nul vivant aujourd'hui  
ne peut connaître les histoires que nous connaissons,  
ni dire les choses que nous disons :

comment tel homme plaisait le plus aux femmes  
parmi tous ceux qui nous ont quittés,  
comment tel couple s'est aimé pendant de longues années  
et tel autre un seul instant,  
histoires d'un lit de paille  
ou d'un lit de duvet.