



SONGS OF NEW BEGINNING

KURT M. MEHLENBACHER

Songs of New Beginnings

Leah Soderberg

Kurt M. Mehlenbacher

I. Known and felt—unsought borders

Soft and cool, much like falling snow; with rubato ($\text{♩} = \text{c. } 72$)
molto legato; no vibrato

Mezzo Soprano

Known and felt- un - sought bor - ders,

Piano

pp molto legato

pp

ad lib.

una corda

6

skin, white - washed dawn-

pp

mp

p

una corda

10

pp

p

break o - pen.

pp

mp

ad lib.

Songs of New Beginnings - I. Known and felt– unsought borders

15 *pp* slight, warm vibrato *p*
Sea foam, thirst - y breast

p *pp* poco cresc.
8vb una corda

19 *mp* poco accel. With a little more motion ($\text{♩} = \text{c. 78}$) *mf*
par - ti - cle, light- our two, yet small
poco accel. *p* *mf*
ad lib.

24 *f* hands- break o - pen. *mf*
mp cresc. poco a poco



Songs of New Beginnings - I. Known and felt– unsought borders

27

Break o - pen- bread - lace, sur - fac -

f *mp*

30

poco rit.

es a - ligned.

f *p*

poco rit. *p*

33 Tempo I ($\text{♩} = \text{c. } 72$)

pp *p*

Songs of New Beginnings - I. Known and felt– unsought borders

36

New con-ti-nents, i-den-ti-

mp *pp* *p*

40

fied. De-

mp dim. poco a poco

una corda

45 Slightly warmer

fined, new con-ti-nents-

pp *p* *pp* *p*

R&d.

Songs of New Beginnings - I. Known and felt– unsought borders

49

very slight vibrato

mp

the trans - par-ent skin_____ of ten - den - cy.

p

mp

p

morendo

pianissimo

54

poco rit. -----,

pianissimo

poco rit. -----

una corda

II. The way we deny beauty in part

59

Light and folksy ($\text{♩} = 78 - 84$; $\text{♪} = \text{♩}$ throughout)

mf

Mezzo Soprano

The way— we de-ny beau - ty— in part. We

Piano

mp

p

pianissimo ad lib.

Songs of New Beginnings - II. The way we deny beauty in part

64

want it whole clean, ach ing in its limbs. We want it at last-

68

La,

72

la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la!

The

Songs of New Beginnings - II. The way we deny beauty in part

75 *f*

head names it - self a riv - er. A mouth.

mf *p*

79 *mp* *pp* *p* cresc. poco a poco - - - - -

throat. A - gain,

cresc. poco a poco - - -

84 - - - - - *mf* - - - - -

we fill the cups with milk. A morn - ing

- - - - - *mf* - - - - -

Songs of New Beginnings - II. The way we deny beauty in part

87 *f*

fills whole with it - self-

gold - lit - tered dust.

91

Sen -

una corda

Songs of New Beginnings - II. The way we deny beauty in part

99

ti - ment.

mp pp cresc. poco a poco

una corda

103

107

A root__ blooms. De-sire sees__ a__ thing be - come less of a thing- A

ff mp mf p

Songs of New Beginnings - II. The way we deny beauty in part

112 *f* *mp* *ff* *p*

new begin - ning. De-sire sees clar-i - ty shak - ing it - self ter - ri-bly free. A

mf *mp* *f* *pp mp*

116 *mf* *=mp* *=p*

sound _ be-comes a wound be - comes a sun. Some -

mf *pp*

120

mp *f*

times, through the dark flight of birds. Some - times, your own.

mp *f*

III. Voices rise to one another

Foggy; molto scherzando ($\text{♩} = 72$; $\text{♪} = \text{♩}$ throughout)

Mezzo Soprano

Piano

p

Reo..... ^ ^ ^ ^

11 12 13

3

p breathy

Voic - es _____ rise _____

4

_____ ^ ^ ^ ^

5

to one _____

6 7 8 9

_____ ^ ^ ^ ^

Songs of New Beginnings - III. Voices rise to one another

8

an - oth - er,

p

Light and bouncy

11 *sffz* cresc. poco a poco -----

bounce a-against the in - vis-i-ble

mp > pp

15 *mf* *pp*

light -----

mf dim. ----- *p*

sost. -----

Songs of New Beginnings - III. Voices rise to one another

18

p — *mp*

of _____ rooms.

mp

una corda

21

pp

very slight vibrato
p cresc. poco a poco

A

Red.

23

against the truth

A

Songs of New Beginnings - III. Voices rise to one another

25

of the mat

mp slightly blurry cresc.

Rcd. ad lib.

27

p

ter.

8va

sub. *p* buzzing

29

Here is

8va

f

mp

Songs of New Beginnings - III. Voices rise to one another

Quirky and aggravated

31 *mf* *fp* *time.* *Here*

(*8va*) *sffz* *mf* *sost.*

33 *sub. mp* *f* *is its fat* *yarn* *un -*

p *una corda* *sost.*

36 *rav - el - ing,* *fp* *una corda*

Songs of New Beginnings - III. Voices rise to one another

39

no vibrato
mp

gath-er-ing— wish-es

weaving poco cresc.

sub. *p*

no *R&D.*

42

mf

mp

— from bird - calls,

or-a-cles— the map of move-ment laced a -

sub. *p*

45

f

twitchy and abrupt
mf

cross skin. Here is a map

sffz

sffz

R&D. ad lib.

Songs of New Beginnings - III. Voices rise to one another

47

poco rit.

of the year o - pen - ing stones,

poco rit.

49 Fluid (Tempo I)

legato
p

yearn

Reo.

Note: paranthetical pitches may be omitted if needed.

51

ing for new_

Songs of New Beginnings - III. Voices rise to one another

53

land.

mp

6/8

55

For pre - ce -

p

6/8

*Ad lib.
una corda to the end*

59

dence _____ to tell us where we _____

pp

cutely

p

mf

cutely

mp

Songs of New Beginnings - III. Voices rise to one another

62

— are told. —

65

Drive us hard - er down to it.

IV. The transparent skin of tendency

Declamatory, yet peaceful ($\text{♩} = \text{c. } 60$)

3

Mezzo Soprano

A mouth, a throat,

ad lib.

Songs of New Beginnings - IV. The transparent skin of tendency

7

p legato

p

ppp

11

trans - par - ent skin of ten - den-cy, the

pp

15 **Lyrically present**

f dim. poco a poco

cool slic - ing wreck of

mf

sost.

Songs of New Beginnings - IV. The transparent skin of tendency

19

time and what

p *f* light Leo.

sost.

23

we make from it.

26

p

pp 6 1 5 *p < mp > pp* *p*

sost.

Leo. ad lib.

Songs of New Beginnings - IV. The transparent skin of tendency

31

poco rit.
no vibrato
p

What is known and

37 Icy; a tempo ($\downarrow = \text{c. } 60$)

mp

pp

felt- _____ this

8va

p lightly

mp

una corda _____

40

mp

bor - der, space- _____ this

(8va)

p

mp

Songs of New Beginnings - IV. The transparent skin of tendency

43

poco rit. -----

whorled be - gin - ning, whorled be -
(8va) poco rit.
mf pp
poco rit.
una corda to the end

a tempo

46

mp pp p mf

gin - ning. Our un - mend-ing
(8va) a tempo
mp pp p mf

50

p mp pp p pp

its seams.
(8va) *mp pp p pp*