

Prelude to Autumn

for harp solo—based on a poem
by Rainer Maria Rilke

$\text{♩} = 72$ (constant throughout)

by Cliff Crego

The first system of the harp solo is written in 3/8 time. The right hand begins with a series of quarter notes, with a performance instruction: *(measured; 'float' the 8th slightly)*. The left hand plays a simple bass line of quarter notes. A dynamic marking of *mf* is placed below the first measure. A repeat sign is present at the end of the system, with a *mf* marking above the first measure of the repeat and the instruction *(sounds where written)*.

D C B | E F G-flat A

A

The second system of the harp solo starts at measure 9. The right hand features a melodic line with a slur over measures 9-10 and a fermata over measure 11. The left hand continues with a steady bass line.

The third system of the harp solo starts at measure 17. The right hand has a melodic line with a slur over measures 17-18 and a fermata over measure 19. The left hand has a bass line with a fermata over measures 19-20. A circled cross symbol (⊕) is located at the end of the system.

The fourth system of the harp solo starts at measure 22. The right hand has a melodic line with a slur over measures 22-23 and a fermata over measure 24. The left hand has a bass line with a fermata over measures 24-25.

The fifth system of the harp solo starts at measure 28. The right hand has a melodic line with a slur over measures 28-29 and a fermata over measure 30. The left hand has a bass line with a fermata over measures 30-31. There are two circled numbers '9' above the right hand staff, indicating a nine-measure phrase.

C

33

crescendo poco a poco

D-flat

D

36

f (poco)

mf

E

39

mp

D

(B)

44

mp (*ma sonoro*)

c. 2' 30"

On th Web at:

http://cs-music.com/harp/prelude-to-autumn_1.html



(Image: Mountain Ash, compound leaves—North America)

Autumn

The leaves are falling, falling as if from afar,
as if withered in the distant gardens of heaven;
with nay-saying gestures they fall.

And in the nights falls the heavy earth
from all the stars into loneliness.
We all are falling. This hand there falls.

And look at the other: it is in all of them.
And yet there is one, who holds all this
falling with infinite gentleness in his hands.

Rainer Maria Rilke (tr. Cliff Crego)

Autumn

The leaves are falling, falling as if from afar,
as if withered in the distant gardens of heaven;
with nay-saying gestures they fall.

And in the nights falls the heavy earth
from all the stars into loneliness.

We all are falling. This hand there falls.
And look at the other: it is in all of them.

And yet there is one, who holds all this
falling with infinite gentleness in his hands.

Rainer Maria Rilke (tr. Cliff Crego)

Herbst

Die Blätter fallen, fallen wie von weit,
als welken in den Himmeln ferne Gärten;
sie fallen mit verneinender Gebärde.

Und in den Nächten fällt die schwere Erde
aus allen Sternen in die Einsamkeit.

Wir allen fallen. Diese Hand da fällt.
Und sieh dir andre an: es ist in allen.

Und doch ist einer, welcher dieses Fallen
unendlich sanft in seinen Händen hält.

Rainer Maria Rilke