

# The Melodious Boat

For Soprano and Piano

Music by Benjamin Ellin

Poem by Ben Maier

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# The Melodious Boat

*For Catrine with love and hope*

Poem by Ben Maier

Music by Benjamin Ellin, July 2013

**Adagio maestoso.**

Soprano Solo

Piano

*mp deep and rich*

5

**A** *mp slightly distant*

Sop.

There is sil-ver at the sea's edge Be-tween the reeds and

Pno.

8

Sop. cu- ttle shells And there at the

Pno.

10

Sop. point where the land di-ssolves A sea, a sea of ten.

Pno. c.v.

**B**  
 (Not hurried... ♩. = ca 60)

12

Sop. song. Si - lent-ly a so - lemn

Pno. Shimmering...

14

Sop. rite Crowns of sea - weed, fish - ing nets All

Pno.

16

Sop. blue, all new in the moon - light I step

Pno.

**C** Cold  $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$

19

Sop. to - wards a sea of song. Be -

Pno.

21 **D**

Sop. *yond the land's edge A - wash with blue, the si-lent slee-ping town I*

Pno.

24 *crescendo...*

Sop. *slip in - to a sea\_\_ of song Where my lo - ver,*

Pno.

**With flowing movement...**

26 **E**

Sop. *Where my lo-ver has gone. He played a tune on a*

Pno.

28

Sop.

wee - ping string With a tune so\_ en - tran - cing the sails would sing.

Pno.

31

Sop.

He sang for sai-lors Of\_ their sweet-hearts on land His voice reeled in the

Pno.

**F**

**With anger**

34

Sop.

stars; from the sea-bed, su-mmoned the sand. But the sea, the

Pno.

*cantabile e sostenuto*

5

36 (no breath if possible...)

Sop. sea was jea-lous and gree-dy for his songs. She

Pno.

38

Sop. cast a net for his me - lo - - - - dies,

Pno.

40

Sop. She took his bo - dy all a - long.

*mf*

Pno. *sffz* *mf* *pp*

8va

Red.

**G**

**Lots of space - not always strict metre**

43

Sop. *simply*  
*p*  
I hear his

(Very evocative)

Pno.

Ped.

46

Sop. voice on the mid-night air I hear it from the shore

Pno.

49

Sop. I catch sad notes on the salt sea spray

Pno.



52 H

Sop. I weep to hear it more. And

Pno. *poco meno p*

56

Sop. so I fol - owed his voice from my gar - den

Pno.

58 ten.

Sop. Where not a drop of wa ter flows

Pno. *Ped.*

60

Sop. *To the point where the land fal-ters and di-ssolves, \_\_\_\_\_ To*

Pno.

**I**

**Tempo primo**

63

Sop. *this place where no flo-wer grows \_\_\_\_\_*

Pno.

66

Sop. **mp* simply and with beauty*  
*I will meet you at the land's*

Pno.

70

Sop. edge, \_\_\_\_\_ When the day is al-most done, To

Pno.

74

Sop. ge-ther we'll slip in - to a sea of song, where my lo-ver,

Pno. *mp*

78

Sop. where my love has gone. \_\_\_\_\_

Pno.

**J**

**Morendo al fine...**

81

Sop.

Pno.

*molto cantabile*

Detailed description: This system covers measures 81 to 84. The soprano part consists of whole rests. The piano part has a melodic line in the right hand starting with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5, then a half note B4, and finally a half note G4. The left hand provides a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes. The time signature changes from 4/4 at measure 81 to 3/4 at measure 82, and returns to 4/4 at measure 83. The tempo/mood is marked 'molto cantabile'.

85

Sop.

Pno.

*8vb*  
*p*

Detailed description: This system covers measures 85 to 88. The soprano part consists of whole rests. The piano part has a melodic line in the right hand starting with a half note G4, followed by a half note A4, and finally a half note G4. The left hand provides a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes. The time signature is 4/4. The tempo/mood is marked 'p' (piano) with an '8vb' dynamic marking. The piece concludes with a double bar line at the end of measure 88.