

HEATHER GILLIGAN

BATTLEGROUND

SOPRANO AND STRING QUARTET

- I. CARLOS
- II. REBECCA LETS HER HAIR DOWN
- III. HONEY & WATERMELONS
- IV. LIBERIA FEVER, 1877

POETRY BY
E. ETHELBERT MILLER

FULL SCORE

For Perusal Only

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COMPOSER **HEATHER GILLIGAN**'S MUSIC HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS HONEST, DIRECT, AND COMPASSIONATE WHILE EXPLORING EMOTIONS FROM HUMOR TO ANGUISH. HER RECENT SUCCESSES INCLUDE PREMIERES OF HER CHORAL, WIND BAND, AND ORCHESTRAL MUSIC AT THE NEW YORK CHORAL FESTIVAL IN CARNEGIE HALL AND THE WASHINGTON D.C. INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL AT THE JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS. HER AWARD-WINNING WORK FOR SOLO FLUTE WAS PUBLISHED IN THE 2015 SCI JOURNAL OF MUSIC SCORES AND CHOSEN FOR PERFORMANCE BY THE COLLEGE MUSIC SOCIETY AND THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA'S NEW MUSIC FESTIVAL. SHE SERVES AS A MEMBER OF THE BOSTON COMPOSERS COALITION, A GROUP OF SEVEN COMPOSERS DEDICATED TO THE CREATION, PERFORMANCE, EDUCATION, AND DISSEMINATION OF NEW AMERICAN MUSIC. SHE IS THE RECIPIENT OF THE MALLOY MILLER PRIZE IN COMPOSITION AND WAS NAMED COMPOSER OF THE YEAR BY THE NEW HAMPSHIRE MUSIC EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION. GILLIGAN RECEIVED HER DMA IN COMPOSITION FROM BOSTON UNIVERSITY, HER MM FROM THE LONGY SCHOOL OF MUSIC, AND A BS IN CHEMISTRY FROM LEHIGH UNIVERSITY. SHE CURRENTLY SERVES AS CHAIR OF THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT AT KEENE STATE COLLEGE IN KEENE, NH. WWW.HEATHERGILLIGAN.COM

E. ETHELBERT MILLER IS A WRITER AND LITERARY ACTIVIST. HE IS THE AUTHOR OF SEVERAL COLLECTIONS OF POEMS AND TWO MEMOIRS AND SERVES AS A BOARD MEMBER FOR THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION. MILLER IS AN INDUCTEE OF THE 2015 WASHINGTON, D.C. HALL OF FAME AND RECIPIENT OF THE AWP 2016 GEORGE GARRETT AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE IN LITERATURE AND THE 2016 D.C. MAYOR'S ARTS AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED HONOR. HIS MOST RECENT BOOK IS *THE COLLECTED POEMS OF E. ETHELBERT MILLER*, EDITED BY KIRSTEN PORTER AND PUBLISHED BY WILLOW BOOKS. WWW.EETHELBERTMILLER.COM

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BY ALBANY RECORDS
MARGOT ROOD, SOPRANO
THE APPLE HILL STRING QUARTET

DURATION: APPROX. 15 MINUTES

POETRY BY E.ETHELBERT MILLER

CARLOS

MARIA COLLAPSED
BY THE TREE IN THE YARD

HER TEARS TOLD US THE NEWS OF CARLOS' DEATH.

I ASKED FOR HIS BODY AND
THEY LAUGHED

THEY TOLD ME I COULD HAVE IT
IF I PAID FOR THE BULLETS

WHAT VULTURES RULE THIS COUNTRY

HOLDING MARIA'S HAND MY MOTHER SOFTLY WHISPERED
JUAN, THERE ARE PESOS IN MY ROOM POR FAVOR

REBECCA LETS HER HAIR DOWN

I AM A VICTIM OF MY OWN WAR
AS I STAND IN THE SHOWER WATCHING
MY HAIR FALL AND SWIM

IS THIS WORSE THAN CANCER
THIS LOSS OF HAIR?

WHY DO I THINK OF BALDING
MEN IN WAR CAMPS
AND JAPANESE WOMEN
AFTER THE BOMB?

I LOVE MY HAIR
AS MUCH AS LIFE

TO BRUSH
TO COMB
TO HOLD

MY HAIR NO LONGER
IN MY EYES

(REFORMATTED WITH PERMISSION FROM THE POET)

HONEY & WATERMELONS

A MAN IS MAKING A BOMB.
HIS SLENDER FINGERS
ARE LIKE THREADS AND WIRES
WEAVING INTO METAL.

THE MAN IS NOT THINKING
OF DESTRUCTION OR HOW A
CHILD MIGHT LOSE A LIMB
OR A MOTHER A CHILD.

HE IS THINKING OF HONEY
AND WATERMELONS AND A
COUNTLESS NUMBER OF VIRGINS
TO HOLD HIS HANDS.

THE MAN IS THINKING OF
PARADISE AND HOW THIS LIFE
IS AN ILLUSION AND WHAT
HE IS MAKING IS NOT A BOMB.

ON THE TABLE NEXT TO HIS
TOOLS IS A BOOK FILLED
WITH WONDER AND MIRACLES
HE CANNOT UNDERSTAND.

THE MAN IS HUNGRY FOR
THE NEXT LIFE SO HE
COMPLETES HIS WORK
AND CLEANS HIS TABLE.

A MAN IS WALKING DOWN
THE STREET WITH A BOMB.
HE STOPS NEXT TO A MAN
WHO LOOKS LIKE ME.

LIBERIA FEVER, 1877

MY YOUNGEST COMES RUNNING
OUT OF THE SUMMER NIGHTMARE
CHASED BY WHITE MEN WHO WOULD
PREFER US DEAD INSTEAD OF FREE.

WHEN I SLEEP THE SAME DREAM
RETURNS LIKE A SHIP SAILING ACROSS WATER
SWEATING I TOSS IN MY BED WHILE MY WIFE
MUMBLES A PRAYER FOR PROTECTION

ALL OUR POSSESSIONS
IN OUR HANDS
WE WALK ON THE SAME LAND THAT PLANTED
SCARS ON OUR BACKS AND FEET

MANY FOLKS SUFFER FROM A STRANGE FEVER
SOMETHING CURED ONLY BY THE TOUCH OF AN AFRICAN
WIND

BATTLEGROUND

E. Ethelbert Miller

I. CARLOS

Heather Gilligan

♩ = 66

Soprano

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

Sadly
No vib.

ppp

p

Sadly
Light vib.

n *p*

mp

Sadly
No vib.

n *mp*

mp

Sadly, to imitate crying

sfz *3* *sfz* *3*

7

With a sad, pure tone
p

ma - ri - a col - lapsed

To imitate crying

mp

No vib.

sfz

mf *p*

pp

To imitate crying

sfz *3* *sfz*

Light vib.

p

No vib.

Light vib.

pp *p*

mp

13

by the tree in the yard her tears

A

accel. ♩ = 76

f

18

told us the news of car - los' death

A

accel. ♩ = 76

With vib.

f

With vib.

sfz

With vib.

mf

sfz

f

sfz

mf

With vib.

p

f

24

Musical score for measures 24-27. The score is written for four staves: Treble Clef (top), Treble Clef (second), Bass Clef (third), and Bass Clef (bottom). The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 3/4. Dynamics include *sfz*, *f*, *ff*, *mf*, and *mp*. There are several slurs and accents. A triplet of eighth notes is present in the second staff of measure 25. A large red watermark "For Perusal Only" is overlaid diagonally across the score.

28

Musical score for measures 28-31. The score is written for four staves: Treble Clef (top), Treble Clef (second), Bass Clef (third), and Bass Clef (bottom). The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 3/4. Dynamics include *p*, *mf*, *f*, and *sfz*. There are several slurs and accents. Triplet markings are present in the second and third staves of measure 29. A large red watermark "For Perusal Only" is overlaid diagonally across the score.

B

33

With sadness

p

3

3

i asked _____ for his bo-dy

B

pp

For Perusal Only

40

mf

Growing angry

3

3

and they laughed they told me i could have it _____ if i

mf

sul pont.

3

mf

(sul pont.)

f

sul pont.

3

mf

sul pont.

3

mf

mp

3

mf

44

f

mf

paid for the bul - lets

what vul - tures rule this

Musical score for measures 44-46. It features five staves: vocal line, two piano staves, and two bass staves. The music is in 5/4 and 4/4 time signatures. Dynamics include *f*, *mf*, *mp*, and *sul pont.* (sustained). There are triplets and slurs throughout. A large red watermark "For Perusal Only" is overlaid on the score.

47

coun - try

Ord.

ff

f

ff

Begin phrase ord;
poco a poco sul pont.

sul pont.

Begin phrase ord;
poco a poco sul pont.

sul pont.

Begin phrase ord;
poco a poco sul pont.

sul pont.

f

f

ff

Musical score for measures 47-50. It features five staves: vocal line, two piano staves, and two bass staves. The music is in 4/4 time signature. Dynamics include *ff*, *f*, and *sul pont.* (sustained). There are triplets and slurs throughout. A large red watermark "For Perusal Only" is overlaid on the score.

C Tempo I

With a deep sense of sorrow

52

p



hol - ding ma - ri - a's hands my mo - ther soft - ly whis - pered,

C Tempo I

Ord. *p*

p Ord.

p Ord. With mute *pp*

61 *Very quietly; almost a whisper*



juan there are pe - sos in my room por fa - vor

p

pp

pp

II. REBECCA LETS HER HAIR DOWN

69 ♩ = 80

♩ = 80
With a feeling of melancholy

77 ♩ = ♩
With a feeling of melancholy

I am a vic-tim of my own war _____ As I stand in the

82

mf *mp*

sho-wer_ watch-ing my hair fall and swim

89

D

p *mf* *mp*

Is this worse than can - cer this loss of hair?

D

pp *mf* *p* *mf* *f*

pp *mf* *p* *mf*

pp *mp* *f* *mp* *mf*

pp *mf* *p* *mf*

Icy and resentful

mf

96

Why do I think _____ of bal - ding men _____ in war _____ camps_

mf

f

101

mf

f

_____ and Ja - pa - nese wo - men af - ter the bomb? _____

mf

f

ff

107 Più mosso

With sad emotion
mp

I love my hair as much

E

Più mosso With sad emotion

as life to brush to comb to hold

115

mf

p

mp

Regretful, sad, contemplative

123

p *mp* *p*

My hair no lon - ger in my eyes

130

p

HONEY & WATERMELONS

Tempo I: Urgent

137 ♩ = 50

Musical score for measures 137-145. The score is for a piano and includes four staves: Treble Clef (top), Treble Clef (second), Bass Clef (third), and Bass Clef (bottom). The tempo is marked 'Tempo I: Urgent' with a quarter note equal to 50 (♩ = 50). The music is in common time (C). The first two staves are marked 'ff' (fortissimo) and 'With intensity'. The third staff is marked 'ff' and 'With intensity'. The fourth staff is marked 'ff' and 'With intensity'. The music features a melodic line in the upper staves and a bass line in the lower staves. A large red watermark 'For Perusal Only' is overlaid diagonally across the score.

146

With quiet urgency, as if
divulging a secret
mp

Musical score for measures 146-150. The score is for a piano and includes four staves: Treble Clef (top), Treble Clef (second), Bass Clef (third), and Bass Clef (bottom). The tempo is marked 'Tempo I: Urgent' with a quarter note equal to 50 (♩ = 50). The music is in common time (C). The lyrics are: 'A man is ma-king a bomb... His slen-der fin-gers'. The first staff is marked 'mp' (mezzo-piano). The second and third staves are marked 'p' (piano) and 'sfz' (sforzando). The fourth staff is marked 'f' (forte) and 'p' (piano). The music features a melodic line in the upper staves and a bass line in the lower staves. A large red watermark 'For Perusal Only' is overlaid diagonally across the score.

153

f

are like threads and wir-es wea-ving in - to me-tal.

Now with a sense of resolution,
realizing the weight of one's actions

159

mp *mf* *mf*

The man is not think-ing of de - struc - tion

165

f

or how a child might lose a limb_ or a mo-ther_ a child_____

p *mf* *p*

p *mf* *p*

p *mf* *p*

p *f* *p* *mp*

173

F
Tempo II: Waltz *Lightly*
mf

He is think-ing of ho-ney and wa-ter -

F
Tempo II: Waltz

mp

mp

mp

pizz. *mf*

pizz. *arco* *mp*

p *mf* *mp*

180

me- lons_ and a count - less num - ber of vir - gins to hold his hands.

mp

pizz.

mf

arco

mp

f

p

188

The man is think - ing_ of pa - ra - dise and how his life is an il - lu - sion

G

mf

G

arco

mf

mf

mf

197

Suddenly more serious

f *ff*

and what he is ma-king is not a bomb.

Tempo I: Urgent

H *With a sense of urgency*
mp

206

On the ta-ble next to his tools is a book.

H

Tempo I: Urgent

mp *mf* *p*

I**J**

Tempo III: Pesante

17

214

mf Tempo II: Waltz*f* $\text{♩} = 80$

filled with won-der and mir-a-cles he can - not un-der-stand. The man is hun - gry

I**J**

Tempo III: Pesante

Tempo II: Waltz

f $\text{♩} = 80$

222

mp

for the next life so he com - pletes his work and cleans his ta - ble.

18 **K** Tempo I:

With a sense of urgency
mp

230

A man is wal-king_ down the street with a bomb_ He

K Tempo I:

p *f*

235

stops next to a man who looks like me.____

p *f* *p* *f* *p* *f*

LIBERIA FEVER, 1877

241 $\text{♩} = 66$
Unhurried

With a sad, bluesy feel
mp *mf*

My young-est comes run-ning out of the sum-mer

p *mf*

With mute *p* *mf*

With mute *p* *mf*

With mute *p* *mf*

249 *mp* *mf* *f* *mp*

More square, less bluesy

night - mare chased by white men who would pre - fer us dead in -

p *mf* *mp* *f*

254

Bluesy

L

More square, less bluesy

♪ = ♩

stead_of free When I sleep the same dream re - turns like a

261

Bluesy

accel.

mf

mp

mf

ship sail - ing a - cross the wa - ter Sweat - ing, I toss in my bed while my

No mute

mp mf p mp mf

pizz. (pizz.) arco No mute

mp mf p p pizz. (pizz.) arco

267

♩ = 96

wife mum - bles a prayer for pro - tec - tion All our pos -

M

♩ = 96

mf

No mute

mf

No mute

mf

273

f

ses - sions in our hands We walk on the same land

f

f

f

f

280

mf

that plan-ted scars on our backs and feet

mp

mp

mp

mp

288

N Tempo I ♩ = 66

mp

Ma-ny folks suf-fer from a strange fe-ver

pp

pp

pp

pp

pp

296

Bluesy

mf

Some-thing cured on-ly by the touch

304

p

of an A - fri - can wind

Warmly

309

Musical score for measures 309-313. The score is written for five staves: a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and three individual bass clef staves. The top staff contains rests. The second staff features a melodic line with a *cantabile* marking and a *mp* dynamic. The third, fourth, and fifth staves provide harmonic accompaniment, with dynamics ranging from *pp* to *mp*. A large red watermark "For Perusal Only" is overlaid diagonally across the score.

314

Musical score for measures 314-318. The score is written for five staves: a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and three individual bass clef staves. The top staff contains rests with time signature changes from 4/4 to 3/4 and back to 4/4. The second staff features a melodic line with a *p* dynamic. The third, fourth, and fifth staves provide harmonic accompaniment, with dynamics ranging from *p* to *pp*. A large red watermark "For Perusal Only" is overlaid diagonally across the score.