

**JAY C. BATZNER**

# **TWO SHORTER SONGS**

*text by Dora Sigerson Shorter*

for medium voice and alto sax

duration: 4:15

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### **Program Notes**

*Two Shorter Songs* was originally composed for countertenor Jerry Hui and saxophonist Aaron Durst. Whenever a composer is given the opportunity to write for a countertenor with perfect pitch, we are honor-bound to do so! I am thrilled that Jerry and Aaron were open to me writing for them.

### **Texts by Dora Sigerson Shorter**

#### **Beware**

I closed my hands upon a moth  
And when I drew my palms apart,  
Instead of dusty, broken wings  
I found a bleeding human heart.  
I crushed my foot upon a worm  
That had my garden for its goal,  
But when I drew my foot aside  
I found a dying human soul.

#### **An Eclipse**

Let there be an end  
And all be done;  
Pass over, fair eclipse,  
That hides the sun.

Dear face that shades the light  
And shadows me,  
Begone, and give me peace,  
And set me free.

# Beware

transposed score

Dora Sigerson Shorter

Jay C. Batzner

Slowly, rubato (♩ = 60)

Alto Sax

*pp* *f* *p* <

I

5

*p* *fp* *f*

closed my hands up-on a moth And

9

*p* *f* *mp*

when I drew my palms a-part, Instead of dust-y,

13

*p* *f*

bro - ken wings I found a bleed - ing hu - man heart.\_

mf mf f mf mp

I crushed my foot\_

mp f mf

up - on a worm\_ That had my gar - den for its goal\_

f p

But when I drew my foot\_ a-

mf pp f p

side\_ I found\_ a dy - ing hu - man

f mp pp

soul\_

# Eclipse

transposed score

Dora Sigerson Shorter

Jay C. Batzner

Alto Sax **Plaintive, serene** (♩ = 60)

*pp* *p*

Let there be an

*mf* *mf* *p* *p*

end and all be done Pass o-ver, fair e-

*mf* *pp* *p* *mp*

clipse that hides the sun Dear face that shades the

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

light and shadows me, begone and give me peace and

*pp*

set me free

# Beware

score in C

Dora Sigerson Shorter

Jay C. Batzner

Alto Sax

Slowly, rubato (♩ = 60)

*f* *p*

I

*p* *fp* *f*

*f*

closed my hands up-on a moth And

*p* *f* *mp*

when I drew my palms a - part, Instead of dust - y,

*p* *f* *mf*

bro-ken wings I found a bleed-ing hu - man heart...

18

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

I crushed my foot\_ up - on a

22

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

worm\_ That had my gar - den for its goal, -

26

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

But when I drew my foot\_ a - side\_ I

30

*pp* *f* *pp* *f*

found\_ a dy - ing\_ hu - man soul.\_\_\_\_

# Eclipse

score in C

Dora Sigerson Shorter

Jay C. Batzner

Alto Sax **Plaintive, serene** (♩ = 60)

Let there be an

end and all be done Pass o-ver, fair e-

clipse that hides the sun Dear face that shades the

light and shadows me, be gone and give me peace and

set me free