

AMULET



ERIC SHANFIELD

AMULET

Eric Shanfield | 2009, rev. 2013 | 7'

poems by Samuel Menashe

for Emilia

I. Winter

II. Star

III. Water

Mezzo-soprano

Alto Flute in G

Clarinet in B \flat

Horn in F

Tenor Trombone

Viola

Violoncello

Score in C.

Grand pauses are always measured.

Samuel Menashe's tart, epigrammatic poems complete yet another entry in the long line of short verse set by Eric Shanfield. Arranged according to theme, I have set a variety of his work for mezzo-soprano with a mixed ensemble focused on a warm mid-range.

The first song begins with a short musical idea, progressively adding one note to the end and then subtracting one note from the beginning until gradually it works its way around to where it began. The second tries a theme before unwinding it into another, while the final song is a kind of miniature song cycle in itself, each poem separated by a brief measured pause. The work ends with a lush, quiet coda just after sunset.

Amulet was written for Emilia.

AMULET | poems by Samuel Menashe

I. Winter

Winter

I am entrenched
Against the snow,
Visor lowered
To blunt its blow

I am where I go

The Dead of Winter

In my coat I sit
At the window sill
Wintering with snow
That did not melt
It fell long ago
At night, by stealth
I was where I am
When the snow began

(I Lie In Snows)

I lie in snows
Drifted so high
No one knows
Where I lie

II. Star

A-
round
my neck
an amu-
let
Be-
tween
my eyes
a star
A
ring
in my
nose
and a
gold
chain
to
Keep me
where
You
are

III. Water

Sheen

Sun splinters
In water's skin
Quivers hundreds
Of lines to rim
One radiance
You within

(A Pot Poured Out)

A pot poured out
Fulfills its spout

(The Sea Staves)

The sea staves
Concave waves

(A Flock of Little Boats)

A flock of little boats
Tethered to the shore
Drifts in still water
Prows dip, nibbling

Waterfall

Water falls
Apart in air
Hangs like hair
Light installs
Itself in strands
Of water falling
The cliff stands

Twilight

Looking across
The water we are
Startled by a star—
It is not dark yet
The sun has just set

Looking across
The water we are
Alone as that star
That startled us,
And as far

for Emilia
AMULET

Samuel Menashe

I. WINTER

Eric Shanfield

$\text{♩} = 132$ 3 *mf*

Mezzo-soprano

Alto Flute

Clarinet in B \flat

Horn in F

Tenor Trombone

Viola

Violoncello

ff *f* *mf*

8

M.S.

A. Fl.

Cl.

Hn.

Tbn.

Vla.

Vc.

trenched A - gainst the snow,

I. WINTER

13

M.-S. *12* *13* *V* *U*
 Vi - sor low - ered To blunt its blow
 ft. norm. lip gliss.

A. Fl.

Cl.

Hn.

Tbn.

Vla.

Vc.



20

M.-S. *17* *p sub.* *20*
 I am where I go

A. Fl.

Cl.

Hn.

Tbn.

Vla.

Vc.

I. WINTER

22 *mf*

M.-S. In my coat I sit

A. Fl. *mf*

Cl. *mf*

Hn. *mf*

Tbn. Straight mute *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Vc. off the string *mf*

26 *mf* **27**

M.-S. At the win-dow sill Win - ter - ing with snow

A. Fl. *mf*

Cl. *mf*

Hn. *mf*

Tbn. via sord. *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *mf*

I. WINTER

31

33

M.-S. *That did not melt* *It fell long a - go* *At*

A. Fl.

Cl.

Hn.

Tbn. *Senza sord.*
mf

Vla.

Vc. *pizz.*
mf



35

M.-S. *night, by stealth* *I was where I am* *When* *the*

A. Fl.

Cl.

Hn.

Tbn.

Vla.

Vc.

44

40

M.-S. *snow be-gan*

A. Fl.

Cl.

Hn.

Tbn.

Vla.

Vc. *arco* *pizz.* *arco*

45

M.-S. *f*
I _____ lie _____ in
W
tr~~~~~

A. Fl.

Cl.

Hn.

Tbn.

Vla.

Vc.

52

M.-S. *snows* _____ *Drift - ed* so high

A. Fl. *ft. overblow* *f*

Cl.

Hn.

Tbn.

Vla.

Vc.



57

M.-S. *No* *one*

A. Fl. *chiff* *ff* *p*

Cl. *ff* *p*

Hn. *ff*

Tbn. *ff* *In hat* *p*

Vla. *ff* *p*

Vc. *ff*

59

M.-S. knows. Where

A. Fl. Sigh (Lip gliss.)

Cl.

Hn.

Tbn.

Vla.

Vc. *p*

63

M.-S. I lie

A. Fl. *p*

Cl. *p*

Hn.

Tbn. *pp* gliss. *p*

Vla.

Vc.

for Emilia
AMULET

Samuel Menashe

II. STAR

Eric Shanfield

$\text{♩} = 116$

Mezzo-soprano *mp*
A-round my neck an

Alto Flute *f* *sim.* *mp*

Clarinet in B \flat *f* *sim.* *mp*

Horn in F *mf* *p*
Open

Tenor Trombone *mf* *p*

Viola *pizz.* *f*

Violoncello *pizz.* *f*

5 7

M.-S. am - u - let Be - tween my eyes a star _____ A

A. Fl.

Cl.

Hn. *mp*

Tbn. *mp*

Vla. *arco* *mp* *arco*

Vc. *mp*

II. STAR

9

M.-S. ring in my nose and a gold chain to Keep me where You are

A. Fl.

Cl.

Hn. *sim.*

Tbn. *sim.*

Vla.

Vc.

14

M.-S.

A. Fl.

Cl.

Hn.

Tbn.

Vla.

Vc.

18

M.-S.

A. Fl. *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

Cl. *mf*

Hn. *mf*

Tbn. *mf*

Vla. *mf*
off the string

Vc. *mf*

22

M.-S.

A. Fl. *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *f*

Cl. *p* *f*

Hn. + + + + +

Tbn. *p* *f*

Vla. *p* *f*

Vc. *mp* *f*

for Emilia
AMULET

Samuel Menashe

III. WATER

Eric Shanfield

$\text{♩} = 104$

Mezzo-soprano *p*
Sun

Alto Flute

Clarinet in Bb *mp*

Horn in F

Tenor Trombone *mp*
Cup mute
con sord.

Viola *mp*
pizz. con sord.
damp

Violoncello *mp*
sim.

6 *mp*

M.-S. splin-ters... In wa - ter's skin... Qui - vers

A. Fl. *mp*

Cl. *mp*

Hn.

Tbn.

Vla.

Vc.

III. WATER

16 *mf* **17**

M.-S. *mf* One ra - di - ance

A. Fl. *mf* 6 3 6 3

Cl. *mf*

Hn. *mf*

Tbn.

Vla. *mf* pizz.

Vc. *mf*

19

M.-S. You with - - in

A. Fl. 6 3 6 3 6 6

Cl.

Hn.

Tbn.

Vla.

Vc.

24

22

M.-S.

A. Fl.

Cl.

Hn.

Tbn.

Vla.

Vc.

6

6

6

6

6

p

mp

p

mp

p

mp

(Cup mute)



29

26

M.-S.

A. Fl.

Cl.

Hn.

Tbn.

Vla.

Vc.

mf

f

mf

f

mf

f

via sord.

arco

arco

f

p

p

8va

30

M.-S.

A. Fl.

Cl.

Hn.

Tbn.

Vla.

Vc.

32

33

M.-S.

A. Fl.

Cl.

Hn.

Tbn.

Vla.

Vc.

ft.

mf

1/2 tr

Straight mute

gliss.

mf

pp

pizz. norm.

mf

34 *mf*

M.-S. A pot poured out Ful - fills its spout

A. Fl.

Cl.

Hn.

Tbn. (Straight mute) *mf* via sord.

Vla. (pizz.) *mf* via sord.

Vc. *mf*

37 *mf*

M.-S. The sea staves

A. Fl. *mf* *mf* *sim.* *f* *f*

Cl. *p*

Hn.

Tbn. Senza sord. *p*

Vla. norm. *mf*

Vc.

M.-S. *ff*
Con - - - cave - - - waves

A. Fl. *ff*

Cl. *ff*

Hn. *ff*

Tbn. *ff*

Vla. *ff*
arco

Vc. *ff*

46 50

M.-S.

A. Fl.

Cl.

Hn.

Tbn.

Vla.

Vc.

51 *p* *4*

M.-S. *p* A flock of lit-tle boats.

A. Fl. *mp*

Cl. *mp*

Hn.

Tbn.

Vla. *mp* pizz.

Vc. *p* *4* *mp*

56 *mp*

M.-S. *mp* Te - thered to the shore

A. Fl. *mp* *1/2 tr* *1/2 tr* *1/2 tr* *1/2 tr* *1/2 tr*

Cl. *mp*

Hn.

Tbn.

Vla.

Vc.

M.-S. *mf*
Drifts in still wa - ter Prows dip

A. Fl. *mf*

Cl. *mf*

Hn.

Tbn. *p* *mf* *p*

Vla. *mf*
arco (not slurred)

Vc. *mf*

64

M.-S. nib - bl - ing

A. Fl. *f*

Cl. *f*

Hn.

Tbn. *mf* *p* *f*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *f*

68

M.-S. *f* Wa - ter falls A -

A. Fl. *f* 6 6

Cl. *f* 6 6

Hn. *f*

Tbn.

Vla. *f* 6 6

Vc. *f* 6 6

71

M.-S. part in air Hangs like hair

A. Fl. 6 6 *fp* 6 6

Cl. 6 6

Hn.

Tbn.

Vla. 6 6

Vc. 6 6

III. WATER

80

mp \rightarrow *p*

M.-S.

The cliff stands

A. Fl.

Cl.

Hn.

Tbn.

Vla.

Vc.

pizz.

p

pizz.

p

85

p

M.-S.

Look-ing a - cross The wa-ter___ we are Star-tled_ by a star

A. Fl.

Cl.

Hn.

Tbn.

Vla.

Vc.

90

M.-S. It is not dark yet... The sun has just set

A. Fl.

Cl.

Hn. warm

Tbn. warm

Vla.

Vc.



96

95

M.-S. Look-ing a-cross The wa-ter we are A-

A. Fl.

Cl.

Hn.

Tbn.

Vla.

Vc. arco con sord.

99

M.-S. lone as that star That star-tled us, And as

A. Fl.

Cl.

Hn.

Tbn.

Vla.

Vc.

p

p

p

arco con sord.



104

M.-S. far

A. Fl.

Cl.

Hn.

Tbn.

Vla.

Vc.

pp

p