

# Ah, the Air Smells Good

written for the Vortex Repertory Company production of *The Elementals: AIR*

Jalal ad-Din Muhammad Rumi  
(13th century)

Chris Humphrey  
(1950-)

*languidly* ♩ = 76

The musical score is written for Clarinet in B♭, Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Piano, and Viola. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The tempo is marked 'languidly' with a quarter note equal to 76 beats per minute. The Soprano part has the lyrics 'Ah, the' under the final two notes. The Piano part consists of a right-hand melody and a left-hand accompaniment of quarter notes. The Viola part has a melodic line in the final measure.

**Performance notes:** There should be one set of wind chimes in each vocal section, and the chimes should be made of different materials so as to sound completely different from each other.

The wind chimes should be played sparingly, never for longer than three measures, where indicated by ✨.

Wind (mouth) noises [low breathy whistles, sssshhhhhh, etc.], on the other hand, should continue until their cessation is indicated.

Ah, the Air Smells Good

8

B♭ Cl.

8

S  
air smells good to - day.

A  
Ah, the air smells good to - day.

T

8

Pno.

8

Vla.

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for the piece 'Ah, the Air Smells Good'. The score is written for six parts: B♭ Clarinet (B♭ Cl.), Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), Piano (Pno.), and Viola (Vla.). The music is in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps) and begins at measure 8. The Soprano part has the lyrics 'air smells good to - day.' The Alto part has the lyrics 'Ah, the air smells good to - day.' The Piano part consists of a right-hand melody and a left-hand accompaniment. The Viola part provides a harmonic accompaniment. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, slurs, and dynamic markings.

15

B♭ Cl.

15

S

Ah, the air smells good to -

A

Ah, the air smells good.

T

8 This is a breeze that can en - ter the soul. Ah, the air smells good to -

15

Pno.

15

Vla.

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for the piece 'Ah, the Air Smells Good', page 3. The score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features six staves: B♭ Clarinet, Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), Piano (Pno.), and Viola (Vla.). The vocal parts (S, A, T) have lyrics. The instrumental parts (B♭ Cl., Pno., Vla.) provide accompaniment. The piano part consists of a right-hand melody and a left-hand bass line. The score begins at measure 15. The lyrics are: 'This is a breeze that can enter the soul. Ah, the air smells good to -'. The vocal parts have a melodic line that follows the lyrics. The instrumental parts have a rhythmic accompaniment.

22

B $\flat$  Cl.

22

S

day.

A

—

T

8

day.

22

Pno.

22

Vla.

29

B $\flat$  Cl.

29

S

A

T

8

Pno.

29

Vla.

The trees in their em - brace, \_

The trees in their em - brace, \_

The trees in their em - brace, \_

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for the piece 'Ah, the Air Smells Good', page 5. The score is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features six staves: B♭ Clarinet, Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Piano, and Viola. The vocal parts (S, A, T) enter at measure 29 with the lyrics 'The trees in their embrace, \_'. The piano accompaniment begins at measure 8. The B♭ Clarinet and Viola parts have a melodic line starting at measure 29. The Alto and Tenor parts have a melodic line starting at measure 29. The Soprano part has a melodic line starting at measure 29. The piano accompaniment consists of a right-hand melody and a left-hand bass line. The right-hand melody starts at measure 8 and continues through measure 29. The left-hand bass line starts at measure 8 and continues through measure 29. The score ends at measure 29.

35

B♭ Cl.

35

S

the birds in flight.

A

the birds in flight.

T

8

the birds in flight.

35

Pno.

35

Vla.

Detailed description: This page of a musical score is for the sixth measure of the piece 'Ah, the Air Smells Good'. It features six staves: B♭ Clarinet, Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Piano, and Viola. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The Soprano, Alto, and Tenor parts have lyrics: 'the birds in flight.' The Piano part consists of a right-hand melodic line and a left-hand accompaniment of quarter notes. The Viola part mirrors the B♭ Clarinet part. Measure numbers 35 and 8 are indicated at the start of their respective staves.

Ah, the Air Smells Good

41

B♭ Cl.

S

Ah, the air smells good to - day

A

T

8

A grace like new clothes thrown a-cross a gar - den, the first blue vi-<sup>3</sup>o-lets

41

Pno.

41

Vla.

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for the piece 'Ah, the Air Smells Good', page 7. The score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features six staves: B♭ Clarinet, Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Piano, and Viola. The Soprano part has the lyrics 'Ah, the air smells good to - day'. The Tenor part has the lyrics 'A grace like new clothes thrown a-cross a gar - den, the first blue vi-<sup>3</sup>o-lets'. The Piano part consists of a right-hand melody and a left-hand accompaniment. The Viola part provides harmonic support. The page number '7' is in the top right corner.

46

B♭ Cl.

46

S

46

A

T

8

Pno.

46

Vla.

Straight from the mys-ter-ies with - in the

This is a breeze that can en - ter the soul. Straight from the mys-ter-ies with - in the

kneel - ing. Ah, the air smells good to -

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for a vocal ensemble and instrumental accompaniment. The page is numbered '8' at the top left and has the title 'Ah, the Air Smells Good' centered at the top. The score begins at measure 46. The instruments are arranged vertically from top to bottom: B♭ Clarinet (B♭ Cl.), Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), Piano (Pno.), and Viola (Vla.). The vocal parts (S, A, T) have lyrics written below their staves. The piano accompaniment consists of a grand staff with a treble and bass clef. The B♭ Clarinet and Viola parts have a melodic line with long notes and some eighth-note passages. The Alto part has a steady eighth-note accompaniment. The Tenor part has a few notes, including a rest marked with an '8'. The Soprano part has long notes and some eighth-note passages. The piano accompaniment features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in the right hand and quarter notes in the left hand. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is not explicitly shown but appears to be 4/4 based on the note values.



53

B $\flat$  Cl.

53

S

in-ner courts of Love.

A

in-ner courts of Love.

T

8

day. Ah, the air smells good to - day.

53

Pno.

53

Vla.

60

B♭ Cl.

S

A

T

8

What<sup>3</sup>ev-er comes from Be-ing is caught up in be-ing, drunk-en-ly for-get-ting

60

Pno.

60

Vla.

Detailed description: This page of a musical score is for the piece 'Ah, the Air Smells Good'. It features six staves: B♭ Clarinet (Cl.), Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), Piano (Pno.), and Viola (Vla.). The music is in the key of D major (two sharps) and begins at measure 60. The B♭ Cl., T, and Vla. parts have melodic lines with eighth and quarter notes. The S and A parts are silent, indicated by horizontal lines. The Pno. part has a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes in the right hand and quarter notes in the left hand. The T part has lyrics: 'What<sup>3</sup>ev-er comes from Be-ing is caught up in be-ing, drunk-en-ly for-get-ting'. A rehearsal mark '8' is placed below the T staff. The tempo or dynamics marking '60' appears at the beginning of the B♭ Cl., S, and Pno. staves.

65

B♭ Cl.

S

A

T

8  
— the way back.

Pno.

Vla.

65

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for the piece 'Ah, the Air Smells Good', page 11. The score is written for six parts: B♭ Clarinet, Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Piano, and Viola. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The page number '65' is written above the first measure of each staff. The Soprano and Alto parts are mostly silent, indicated by horizontal lines. The Tenor part has a few notes in the first measure. The Piano part features a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes in the right hand and quarter notes in the left hand. The Viola part has a melodic line with some rests. The lyrics 'the way back.' are written below the Tenor staff, with a line indicating the vocal line.

*meno mosso* ♩ = 92

B $\flat$  Cl. 

S  \* and wind (mouth) noises

A  \* and wind (mouth) noises

T  \* and wind (mouth) noises

Pno. 

Vla.  *meno mosso*

80

B♭ Cl.

80

S

80

A

On a day when the wind is per-fect

8

T

80

Pno.

80

Vla.

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for the piece 'Ah, the Air Smells Good', page 13. The score is arranged for a chamber ensemble and includes vocal parts. The instruments listed are B♭ Clarinet (B♭ Cl.), Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), Piano (Pno.), and Viola (Vla.). The music is in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps) and begins at measure 80. The vocal parts (S, A, T) are mostly silent, with the Alto part having a line of lyrics: 'On a day when the wind is per-fect'. The piano accompaniment (Pno.) features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in the right hand and quarter notes in the left hand. The other instruments (B♭ Cl., S, T, Vla.) have rests throughout the passage.

88

B $\flat$  Cl.

88

S stop wind (mouth) noise

A the sail just needs to o - pen and the world is full of

T

88

Pno. pizz.

88

Vla. *mf*

95

B♭ Cl.

S

A

T

Pno.

Vla.

*f*

Ah, the air smells good to - day.

beau ty. To - day is such a day.

\*

102

B♭ Cl.

102

S

A

T

8

Pno.

102

Vla.

On a day when the

Detailed description: This page of a musical score is for the piece 'Ah, the Air Smells Good', page 16. It features six staves: B♭ Clarinet, Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Piano, and Viola. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 4/4. The score begins at measure 102. The B♭ Clarinet part has a melodic line with a slur over measures 102-105. The vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, Tenor) have rests until measure 106, where the Alto part has a vocal entry marked with an asterisk (\*). The lyrics 'On a day when the' are written under the vocal staves. The Piano part provides harmonic support with chords and a steady bass line. The Viola part has a melodic line that enters in measure 106. A rehearsal mark '8' is placed below the Tenor staff.



109

B♭ Cl.

S

A

T

8

Pno.

Vla.

wind is per - fect, the sail just needs to o - pen and the

116

B♭ Cl.

S

A

T

Pno.

Vla.

Ah, the air smells good to - day.

love starts. The love starts. To - day is such a day.

123

B $\flat$  Cl.

S

A

T

Pno.

Vla.

The air smells good The

To - day is such a

This is a breeze that can en - ter the soul \_

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for the song 'Ah, the Air Smells Good'. The page number is 19. The score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features five vocal parts: Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and two parts for Piano (Pno.). There are also instrumental parts for B♭ Clarinet (B♭ Cl.) and Viola (Vla.). The score begins at measure 123. The Soprano part has the lyrics 'The air smells good The'. The Alto part has the lyrics 'To - day is such a'. The Tenor part has the lyrics 'This is a breeze that can en - ter the soul \_'. The Piano part consists of two staves with a rhythmic accompaniment of chords. The B♭ Clarinet and Viola parts have a melodic line starting with a quarter note G4. The score is marked with a rehearsal sign '123' at the beginning of each part.

130

B♭ Cl.

S  
air — smells good to day.

A  
day. To - day is such a day.

T

Pno.

Vla.

pizz.

137

B $\flat$  Cl.

S

A

T

Pno.

Vla.

ah ah ah ah

143

B♭ Cl.

S

A

T

Pno.

Vla.

Ah, the

Ah, the

Ah,

The musical score is for the piece "Ah, the Air Smells Good" on page 22. It features six staves: B♭ Clarinet, Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Piano, and Viola. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The score begins at measure 143. The Soprano, Alto, and Tenor parts have lyrics "Ah, the" at the end of the first line. The Piano part has a dynamic marking of 8. The Viola part has a dynamic marking of 143. There are asterisks in the Soprano and Alto parts, likely indicating breath marks or performance instructions.

149

B $\flat$  Cl.

S

A

T

Pno.

Vla.

air smells good to - day.

air smells good to - day.

the air smells good to - day

8

\*

155

B $\flat$  Cl.

S

A

T

8

For a hun - dred thous-and years I have been dust grains,

3

Pno.

Vla.

155



160

B $\flat$  Cl.

S

A

T

8

float - ing and fly - ing in the will of the air.

Pno.

Vla.

160

*molto rit.*

166

B $\flat$  Cl.

S

A

T

Pno.

Vla.

Ah, the air smells good to - day.

173

B $\flat$  Cl.

S

A

T

Pno.

Vla.

Ah, the air smells good to - day.

180

B♭ Cl.

S

A

T

Pno.

Vla.

arco

The trees in their em-brace, \_\_\_\_\_ the birds in flight. \_\_\_\_\_

The trees in their em-brace, \_\_\_\_\_ the birds \_\_\_\_\_ in flight. \_\_\_\_\_

The trees in their em-brace, \_\_\_\_\_ the birds \_\_\_\_\_ in flight. \_\_\_\_\_

The score is for a musical piece titled "Ah, the Air Smells Good", page 28. It features six staves: B♭ Clarinet (B♭ Cl.), Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), Piano (Pno.), and Viola (Vla.). The music is in the key of D major (two sharps) and begins at measure 180. The vocal parts (S, A, T) have lyrics: "The trees in their em-brace, \_\_\_\_\_ the birds in flight. \_\_\_\_\_". The piano part includes the instruction "arco" under the first measure. The Viola part consists of a single melodic line with a long slur.

186

B♭ Cl.

S

A

T

Pno.

Vla.

Ah, the air smells good to -

The morn - ing wind brings a sweet

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for the piece 'Ah, the Air Smells Good', page 29. The score is in G major (one sharp) and begins at measure 186. It features six staves: B♭ Clarinet, Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Piano, and Viola. The Soprano and Tenor parts have lyrics. The Soprano line starts with a whole rest, followed by a half note 'Ah', a quarter note 'the', a quarter note 'air', a quarter note 'smells', a quarter note 'good', and a half note 'to -'. The Tenor line starts with a whole rest, followed by a half note 'The', a quarter note 'morn -', a quarter note 'ing', a quarter note 'wind', a quarter note 'brings', a quarter note 'a', and a half note 'sweet'. The Piano part consists of a right-hand melody of eighth and sixteenth notes and a left-hand accompaniment of quarter notes. The B♭ Clarinet and Viola parts have whole rests for the first four measures, then enter with eighth-note patterns. The Alto part has whole rests throughout the shown measures.

193

B♭ Cl.

S

A

T

Pno.

Vla.

day \_\_\_\_\_ Straight from the mys-ter-ies with-

This is a breeze that can en-ter the soul. Straight from the mys-ter-ies with-

smell. We must get up and take it in. \_\_\_\_\_ Straight from the mys-ter-ies with-

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for the piece 'Ah, the Air Smells Good', page 30. The score is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features six staves: B♭ Clarinet, Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), Piano (Pno.), and Viola (Vla.). The music begins at measure 193. The vocal parts (S, A, T) have lyrics: 'day \_\_\_\_\_ Straight from the mys-ter-ies with-'. The Alto part continues with 'This is a breeze that can en-ter the soul. Straight from the mys-ter-ies with-'. The Tenor part continues with 'smell. We must get up and take it in. \_\_\_\_\_ Straight from the mys-ter-ies with-'. The piano accompaniment consists of a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes in the right hand and a steady bass line in the left hand. The woodwinds (B♭ Cl. and Vla.) play a melodic line that mirrors the vocal parts.

200 *molto rit.*

B♭ Cl.

S

A

T

Pno.

Vla.

in the in-ner courts of Love. Ah, the

in the in-ner courts of Love. Ah, the

in the in-ner courts of Love. Ah, the

*pp*

*pp*

*pp*

*pp*

*pp*

*pp*

Ah, the Air Smells Good

207

B♭ Cl.

S

A

T

8

Pno.

Vla.

air smells good.

air smells good.

air smells good.