

## The Sunne Rising

### Partition

Chant pour ténor avec accompagnement de piano.

**Musique composée en 1948 par Arthur Oldham (1926-2003).**

Texte : poème d'amour de John Donne (1572-1631)

*The sunne rising by John Donne*

Busy old fool, unruly Sun,  
Why dost thou thus,  
Through windows, and through curtains, call on us ?  
Must to thy motions lovers' seasons run ?  
Saucy pedantic wretch, go chide  
Late school-boys and sour prentices,  
Go tell court-huntsmen that the king will ride,  
Call country ants to harvest offices ;  
Love, all alike, no season knows nor clime,  
Nor hours, days, months, which are the rags of time.  
Thy beams so reverend, and strong  
Why shouldst thou think ?  
I could eclipse and cloud them with a wink,  
But that I would not lose her sight so long.  
If her eyes have not blinded thine,  
Look, and to-morrow late tell me,  
Whether both th' Indias of spice and mine  
Be where thou left'st them, or lie here with me.  
Ask for those kings whom thou saw'st yesterday,  
And thou shalt hear, "All here in one bed lay."  
She's all states, and all princes I ;  
Nothing else is ;  
Princes do but play us ; compared to this,  
All honour's mimic, all wealth alchemy.  
Thou, Sun, art half as happy as we,  
In that the world's contracted thus ;  
Thine age asks ease, and since thy duties be  
To warm the world, that's done in warming us.  
Shine here to us, and thou art everywhere ;  
This bed thy center is, these walls thy sphere.



*Source: "Poems of John Donne", John Donne (Vol I), E.K. Chambers, Ed., London: Lawrence & Bullen, 1896. 7-8.*

## **Création**

Créé le samedi 24 avril 1948 (après-midi) par Peter Pears (ténor) et Benjamin Britten (piano) au cours d'un récital à Wigmore Hall (Londres), qui comportait également la création en Angleterre de « Job's Course » de Henry Purcell et d'un « Canticle » de Benjamin Britten.

## **Edition**

Cette partition n'a pas été publiée et aurait été perdue ou détruite.

*Source: Landon Swanson, Christopher: «The Voice of the New Renaissance: The Premiere Performances of Peter Pears». Treatise Doctor of Musical Arts. School of Music of Florida State University, 1<sup>st</sup> June 2004 (page 73).*