

PROGRAM NOTE:

Vachel Lindsay's poem "The King of Yellow Butterflies" is subtitled "a poem game"; the musical setting is a kind of game as well, a game of skill, full of tongue-twisting, deft turns for the singers. Word painting is used in the setting of "shiver," "whimper," and "each pool is like a looking glass," where the vocal lines make a mirror image. The work as a whole should leave a hovering, insubstantial impression, like a cloud of butterflies.