

# The Vulture

for  
mezzo-soprano

Jonah Elrod

2015

The page left intentionally blank.

**Performance Notes:**

Humming is marked with a plus sign (closed mouth).

Whispered passages are marked with diamond note heads. Whispered passages should be breathy. The pitch should change slightly, while being in a comfortable register for the performer.

Whistling is preferred for marked passages, but if not possible, singing on "ah" is acceptable.

Stems without note heads are percussive and forceful.

**Program Notes:**

The Vulture was selected as a winner of the One Voice Project organized by Lisa Neher in 2015. The piece considers the idea that nothing really disappears, only transforms into something new. The vulture in the text even anticipates this transformation, not only searching for a meal, but relishing her participation in this process.

The text was written by the composer:

*The Vulture*

I am a vulture  
gazing among the trees

I am vulture  
patient for you

Patient, for your tiny morsels  
gazing for you

Once inside me,  
returned.

# for Lisa Neher The Vulture

Jonah Elrod

$\text{♩} = 80$   
**mysteriously,**  
 as if keeping oneself calm  
*mf*  
 + (hum)

$\text{♩} = 60$   
**with great relish**  
 molto rubato  
 whispered  
*mf*  $\ll$  (molto rit.)  $\ll$

Mezzo-soprano

*mm* *mm* I am a vult-ure

**thin, as if to oneself, remembering**  
 whistle, vib.  
 $\text{♩} = 80$  *mf* rit.

8  $\ll$   $\ll$   $\gg$

gazing among the trees. (ah) loco if sung

$\text{♩} = 100$   
**forceful, anticipating great pleasure**  
*f*

$\text{♩} = 80$   
**patiently**  
 + (hum)  
*mf*

16 *eliss.*

p ch fo p ch fo yuh tuh mm uh!

$\text{♩} = 60$   
**with great relish**  
 molto rubato  
 whispered  
*mf*  $\ll$

21

I am

27 *p sub.*  $\ll$  *pp*  $\ll$  *f*  $\ll$  *pp*  $\ll$   $\ll$

**almost lovingly**

vulture gazing between the trees patient for you

$\text{♩} = 80$   
 + (hum)  
*p*

$\text{♩} = 100$   
**harsh, becoming impatient**  
*f*

33  $\ll$   $\ll$

inside me.

thin, as if to oneself, remembering  
whistle, vib.

39 *f* *rit.* *mp* *pp* *lunga*

(ah)  
loco if sung

$\text{♩} = 60$   
with great relish  
molto rubato  
whispered

46 *mf* *f* *slow and precise*

pa - tient for your ti - ny mor - sels\_ I am gaz - ing p ch fo p ch fo yuh tuh

52 *pp* *pp* *f* *pp*  $\text{♩} = 80$  *harsh, becoming impatient*  $\text{♩} = 60$  *sing* *lunga* *pp*

ah ch p ch p p ch fo yuh p ch fo ah

with great anticipation

sing  
nat., vib.

58  $\text{♩} = 80$  *mf* *f* *mp*

mm once in-side me, re - turned.\_

confidently, patiently  
+ (hum)

64 *mf* *pp* *ppp*

mm mm mm mm