

Music played an important role in the Renaissance theatre and Shakespeare brought new subtlety to its use. In a theatre without lights and sets, it fell to music to underline mood, whether for magic, comedy, feasting or pathos. Here are thirty or so settings from Shakespeare's lifetime by Morley, Johnson, Dowland, Byrd, Ferrabosco and others, including lyrics set to ballad tunes that would have been very familiar to the actors in his company.

MUSIC FOR SHAKESPEARE'S THEATRE

Country Matters

- 1 Hark, hark! the lark 1:29
- 2 When daffodils begin to peer 0:54
- 3 When daisies pied 1:56
- 4 Fortune 2:36
- 5 Fear no more the heat o' the sun 2:45
- 6 Lawn as white as driven snow 1:17
- 7 Kemp's Jig 0:36
- 8 Callino 1:07
- 9 It was a lover and his lass 3:57
- 10 When that I was 2:55

This Music Mads Me

- 11 How should I your true love know? 0:58
- 12 Bonny, Sweet Robin 1:20
- 13 Tomorrow is St Valentine's day 1:05
- 14 And will he not come again? 0:47
- 15 In youth when I did love 1:40
- 16 Tarleton's Resurrection 1:06
- 17 Hey, jolly Robin 1:29
- 18 The poor soul sat sighing (Willow Song) 3:14

Seals of Love

- 19 O mistress mine 1:25
- 20 Come away death 1:38
- 21 Divisions on Greensleeves 2:16
- 22 Farewell dear heart 3:59
- 23 Packington's Pound 0:56
- 24 Take, O take those lips away 2:08
- 25 O sweet Oliver 0:17
- 26 Light o' Love 0:46
- 27 Who is Sylvia? 1:42
- 28 The Sick Tune 1:05
- 29 Sigh no more ladies 1:55
- 30 Come live with me 2:13

Music's Lore

- 31 When griping grief 2:29
- 32 O death rock me asleep 4:52
- 33 Heartsease 1:24
- 34 You spotted snakes 2:07
- 35 The woozel cock 0:34
- 36 Full fathom five 2:11
- 37 My Lady Hunsdon's Puff 1:23
- 38 Where the bee sucks 1:16

Full track details will be found in the enclosed booklet

Sung texts may be accessed at www.naxos.com/libretti/570708.htm

England's Helicon (Gerald Place, Tenor • Dorothy Linell, Lute)
Rebecca Hickey, Soprano

Recorded at St Martin's Church, East Woodhay, Berkshire, UK, 23–24 June 2007
Producers: Simon Joly, Gerald Place • Engineer: Mike Skeet (Pearl DS60 microphone)
Booklet notes: Gerald Place • Cover photo: Cammerydave / Dreamstime.com



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Playing Time
67:47



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