

for Paige Shelton

The Crown of Roses

for Soprano Voice and Piano

A.N. Pleshcheev
(1825-1893)

James Vernon
b. 1959

Quietly ♩ = 76

Soprano

Piano

p

Ped. *Ped.* *simile*

6

S

p

When Je - sus Christ was yet a child _____

Pno.

11

S

mp

_____ He had a gar - den small and wild, _____ Where - in he cher - ished ro - ses fair, and

Pno.

mp

17 *p*

S wove them in - to gar - lands there. _____ Now

Pno. *p*

22

S once, as sum - mer - time drew nigh, _____ there came a troop of child - ren by, _____

Pno.

27 *mp*

S _____ and see - ing ros - es on the tree, with shouts they plucked them

Pno. *mp*

31 *p* *mf*

S mer - ri - ly. _____ "Do you bind

Pno. *p* *mf*

36

S

ros - es in your hair?" they cried in scorn _____ to Je - sus there. _____

Pno.

41

S

_____ The boy said humb - ly "Take, I pray _____ all but the nak - ed

Pno.

46

S

thorns a - way."

Pno.

51

rit. *a tempo* *p*

S

Then

Pno.

f *pp*

56

S

of the thorns they made a crown, _____ and with rough fing - ers

Pno.

60

S

pressed it down, _____ till on his fore - head fair and

Pno.

mp

mp

65

S

young _____ red drops of blood like ros - es

Pno.

p *rit.*

p

70

S

sprung. _____

Pno.

pp

a tempo