



# ***Echo***

*A setting of a poem by  
Christina Rossetti*

music by

**HORACE KEATS**

Edited by Wendy Dixon, guest artist soprano soloist for Opera Australia and  
David Miller AM, Chair of Ensemble Studies, Sydney Conservatorium of Music.

Historical notes have been provided by the composer's son, Brennan Keats.

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Publications by Wirripang  
18/106 Corrimal Street, Wollongong 2500  
Australia

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*Keats, Horace*  
*Echo*

ISMN M720007 65 6

# Echo

Christina Rossetti

Horace Keats

**Moderato** ♩ = 80

Voice

Piano

*mf*

*mf*

Come to me in the si - lence of the

night;

Come in the speak - ing si - lence of a

dream.

*p*



years. *p* 0

**Andante** *cresc. e accel.*

Dream, how sweet, too sweet, too bit - ter sweet, whose

*p* *f p* *cresc e accel.*

wak'ning should have been in Par - a-dise where souls

**Lento**

brim-ful of love a-bide and meet. Where

*rall. molto* *mf*

*rall.* *ten. 9*

thirst - ing, long - ing eyes, watch the slow door, that op - en-ing, let-ting in, let's

*rall. colla voce*

*Tempo primo mf*

out no more. Yet

*mf rall. mf*

come to me in dreams that I may give my

ver - y life a - gain — though cold in death.

*p*

Echo

4/5

*p* *rall. molto*

Come back to me in dreams, that I may give pulse for pulse, breath for breath.

*Piu lento p ten.*

Speak low,

Lean low, as long a-go, my love, how long a

**Tempo I** *rall.*

- go.

# ***A Poet's Composer***

by **Brennan Keats**

**The biography of the Australian composer, Horace Keats, 1895 – 1945, and the connection with some of his associate artists such as Peter Dawson, Barbara Russell and the poets, Kenneth Mackenzie, Hugh McCrae, Christopher Brennan and many others.**

The biography deals with the formation of the ABC, as well as, giving a strong insight into the life of Australian musicians, poets and composers from the early 30's until mid 1945. A period of time when the only form of financial support for composers came, not from grants, but from either performing or teaching. To add to the frustration, World War II commenced. Not only did this event make it hard to have music published (paper was not readily available) but it led to the death of the composer's eldest son, the impact of which was so great that he ceased composing for two years thereafter. The war also brought with it the introduction to Australia of American movies, which in turn led to a profound change in musical taste. It is said that if Keats had survived, he would have been able to fully absorb this change and turn it to his advantage. Despite this he is considered a man whose music was written well ahead of his time.

This book is more than the story of an Australian composer it is a social history of a period of musical and social change. It is a tribute to a forgotten generation of composers and poets who truly knew the meaning of the term "art for arts sake".

Published by

**Publications by Wirripang**  
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