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Lullaby

for voice and piano

words by Christina Rossetti



music by

Miriam Hyde

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Music edited by Christine Edwards

First published August 2006
Publications by Wirripang
18/106 Corrimal Street, Wollongong 2500
Australia

*Australian ISMN Agency
National Library of Australia*

Hyde, Miriam
Lullaby – for voice and piano
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ISMN: M720065 63 2

Lullaby

Lullaby, oh, lullaby!
Flowers are closed and lambs are sleeping;
Lullaby, oh, lullaby!
Stars are up, the moon is peeping;
Lullaby, oh, lullaby!
While the birds are silence keeping,
(lullaby, oh, lullaby.)
Sleep, my baby, fall a-sleeping,
Lullaby, oh, lullaby!

Christina Georgina Rossetti

Approximate duration of this song: 0.50''

Lullaby

(To Nora Lawetzky - later Law)

Words by Christina Rossetti

Music by Miriam Hyde

Andantino

Voice

Andantino

Piano

p

Lull - a - by, oh

6

mp

lull - a - by! Flowers are closed and lambs are sleep-ing. Lull - a by, oh lull - a - by!

6

11

mf

Stars — are up, the moon — is peep-ing.

11

cresc. *mf* *pp*

16

p

Lull - a - by, oh lull - a by! While the birds are

16

mp *p* *pp*

Lullaby

2

21

si - lence keep - ping, Sleep, my ba - by, fall a - sleep - ing,

colla parte

mp *ad lib.*

24

Lull - a - by, oh lull a - by!

mp *p* *rit.* *a tempo*

27

p

About the composer

Dr Miriam Hyde, AO OBE one of the foremost Australian pianists and composers of the twentieth century, was born in Adelaide in 1913.

She studied in London at the Royal College of Music for three years. Although composition was nominally a second study, it vied with piano for her time, as she produced a number of orchestral works including two concertos, in which she was soloist with the major London orchestras including the BBC. Returning to Australia in 1936 she became busy as a pianist, composer, teacher, examiner, lecturer and writer of numerous articles and analyses for music journals. For many years she conducted workshops in New South Wales country towns, for students preparing for piano examinations. She was in demand for giving master classes featuring her own compositions. Miriam was recitalist in capital cities and regional centres, and broadcast extensively on ABC Radio and 2MBS-FM. She gave her services in concerts for musical and other charities.

In 1997, aged 84, she travelled to London to give a concert of her major works at the Royal College of Music, some 62 years after her studies there. In recent years, far from retiring, she performed with the Strathfield Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Dr Solomon Bard, her *Fantasy-Romantic*, and at the age of 89, her *Piano Concerto No.2 in C# minor*. Her *Happy Occasion Overture* was played at the official opening of the 1995 CHOGM (Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting) in Wellington, New Zealand, in the presence of the Queen.

Her compositions were in many categories – piano solos and duets; chamber music involving piano, violin, viola, cello, flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon (2 CDs on the Walsingham label); orchestral (2 piano concertos and *Fantasy-Romantic*, 4 overtures, also *Heroic Elegy*, *Lyric*, *Village Fair*, *Fantasia on Waltzing Matilda*); and 50 songs and some choral works. In 2000, the ABC re-issued her piano concertos and *Village Fair* on a new CD for the Eloquence label.

Her major literary work was her autobiography *Complete Accord*, published by Currency Press in 1991. She wrote almost 500 poems, 15 of these used in her own songs, of which 5 won first prize in song competitions. For a selection of 50 poems, see the State Library of South Australia: www.slsa.sa.gov.au/women_and_politics/MiriamHydepoems.doc

Miriam's special awards include the OBE, AO, HonDLitt (Macquarie University), HonFMusA, International Woman of the Year for Service to Music (1991-1992 and 1998-99) from the Cambridge International Biographical Centre. As recently as 2001 she was awarded a Fellowship of the Institute of Music Teachers, and in 2002, of the Australian Society of Musicology and Composition. In 2002, she was presented with an Award from the Australian Music Centre for Long-Term Contribution to the Advancement of Australian Music.

On her 90th birthday, 15 January 2003, the ABC presented a celebratory concert at their Eugene Goossens Hall, Sydney with performances by outstanding musicians of some of her piano solos, chamber works and songs. It was broadcast direct on ABC Classic FM. In 2004 Dr Miriam Hyde was awarded by, American Biographical Institute: Woman of the Year 2004; The Australian International Conservatorium of Music: HonDipMus; University of Adelaide: Distinguished Alumni Award (for 2003) and APRA (Australasian Performing Rights Association): Distinguished Services to Australian Music.

Dr Miriam Hyde died on 11 January 2005. A Tribute Concert of her music and poetry was held at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, 23 July 2005, to honour her life and work.

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