



S P R I N G

Frederic H. Cowen
(1852-1935)

Sir Frederic Hymen Cowen (1852-1935) was born Hymen Frederick Cohen in Kingston, Jamaica. His father became treasurer to “Her Majesty’s Opera” and the family moved to England when Frederic was age four. At age six, his composition *Minna-waltz* was published and, at age eight, an operetta, *Garibaldi*. His first public piano recital was when he was eleven. In 1865, he won the Mendelssohn Scholarship at the Leipzig Conservatorium. However, he did not accept the award and attended the institution as an independent student, since his parents unwilling to give up control of him, as required by the prize. After returning to England, he became successful as a composer. His *Symphony No. 3 in C minor* (1880) became the most regularly and widely performed British symphony until Elgar’s First. From 1888-1892 he was conductor of Philharmonic Society of London after the resignation of Sir Arthur Sullivan (reappointed in 1899). In 1896, Cowen was appointed conductor of the Liverpool Philharmonic Society and of the Hallé Orchestra. He also conducted the Bradford Festival Choral Society, the Bradford Permanent Orchestra, and the Scottish Orchestra (Royal Scottish National Orchestra). Cowen received honorary doctorates from Cambridge and Edinburgh, and was knighted in 1911.

Spring, the sweet Spring, Is the year's pleasant King;
Then blooms each thing, Then maids dance in a ring,
Cold doth not sting, The pretty birds do sing:
Cuckoo, jug-gug, pu-we, to-witta-woo!

The palm and may Make country houses gay,
Lambs frisk and play, The shepherds pipe all day,
And we hear aye birds this merry lay:
Cuckoo, jug-gug, pu-we, to-witta-woo!

The fields breathe sweet, The daisies kiss our feet,
Young lovers meet, old wives a-sunning sit,
in ev'ry street These tunes our ears do greet:
Cuckoo, jug-gug, pu-we, to-witta-woo!

Spring, the sweet Spring!

Thomas Nashe (1567-1601)

Spring

F. H. Cowen

Allegro molto quasi presto ♩ = 132
sempre leggiero

S *mf* Spring, the sweet Spring, Is the year's plea - sant King; *p* Then

A *mf* Spring, the sweet Spring, Is the year's plea - sant King; *p* Then

T *mf* Spring, the sweet Spring, Is the year's plea - sant King; *p* Then

B *mf* Spring, the sweet Spring, Is the year's plea - sant King; *mf* Then blooms each thing, _____

4

S *p* maids dance in a ring, _____ The pret - ty birds do sing,

A *p* maids dance in a ring, _____ The pret - ty birds do sing,

T *p* maids dance in a ring, _____ The pret - ty birds do sing, *f* Maids

B *mf* _____ Cold doth not sting, _____

7

S *f* Maids dance in a ring, in a ring, The *p* pret - ty birds do sing, Then _____

A *f* _____ in a ring, in a ring, The *p* pret - ty birds do sing, Then _____

T *p* dance in a ring, in a ring, The pret - ty birds do sing, Then

B *f* _____ in a ring, in a ring, The *p* pret - ty birds do sing, Then

10

S blooms each thing, Maids dance in a ring, The pret - ty birds do sing, _____

A blooms each thing, Maids dance in a ring, The pret - ty birds do sing, _____

T blooms each thing, Maids dance in a ring, The pret - ty birds do sing, _____

B blooms each thing, Maids dance in a ring, The pret - ty birds do sing, _____

cresc. *f*

14

S Jug - jug, jug - jug, to - wit - ta -

A Jug - jug, jug - jug, to - wit - ta -

T Cuc - koo, cuc - koo, to - wit - ta -

B Pu - we, pu - we, pu -

p *p* *p* *p*

17

S woo! Spring, the sweet Spring! _____

A woo! Spring, the sweet Spring! _____

T woo! cuc - koo! O sweet Spring! _____

B we, to - wit - ta - woo! Spring, the sweet Spring! _____

p *p* *p* *p*

Spring

20

S *f* *poco rit.* O, the sweet Spring! *a tempo* The palm and may Make

A *f* *poco rit.* O, the sweet Spring! *a tempo* The palm and may Make

T *f* *poco rit.* O, the sweet Spring! *a tempo* The palm and may Make

B *f* *poco rit.* O, the sweet Spring! *a tempo* The palm and may Make

23

S coun - try hous - es gay, *p* The shep - herds pipe all day, _____

A coun - try hous - es gay, *p* The shep - herds pipe all day, _____

T coun - try hous - es gay, *p* The shep - herds pipe all day, _____

B *mf* coun - try hous - es gay, Lambs frisk and play, _____

26

S *p* Birds tune this mer - ry lay, *p* Shep - herds pipe, shep - herds

A *p* Birds tune this mer - ry lay, *p* Shep - herds

T *p* Birds tune this mer - ry lay, *p* Shep - herds pipe, shep - herds

B *mf* And we hear aye _____ this mer - ry lay, *p* shep - herds

29

S pipe all day, Birds tune this mer - ry lay, Lambs frisk and play, Shep-herds *cresc.*

A pipe all day, Birds tune this mer - ry lay, Lambs frisk and play, Shep-herds *cresc.*

T pipe all day, Birds tune this mer - ry lay, Lambs frisk and play, Shep-herds *cresc.*

B pipe all day, Birds tune this mer - ry lay, Lambs frisk and play, Shep-herds *cresc.*

32

S pipe all day, Birds tune this mer - ry lay, Jug - jug, *f* *p*

A pipe all day, Birds tune this mer - ry lay, Jug - jug, *f* *p*

T pipe all day, Birds tune this mer - ry lay, Cuc - koo, *f* *p*

B pipe all day, Birds tune this mer - ry lay, *f*

36

S jug - jug, to - wit - ta - woo! *p* 3

A jug - jug, to - wit - ta - woo! *p* 3

T cuc - koo, to - wit - ta - woo! cuc - koo! *p* 3

B Pu - we, pu - we, pu - we, to - wit - ta - woo! *p* 3

Spring

39 *p* Spring, the sweet Spring! — *f* *poco rit.* O, the sweet Spring!

A *p* Spring, the sweet Spring! — *f* *poco rit.* O, the sweet Spring!

T *p* — O sweet Spring! — *f* *poco rit.* O, the sweet Spring!

B *p* Spring, the sweet Spring! — *f* *poco rit.* O, the sweet Spring!

43 *a tempo* *p* The fields breathe sweet, The dais - ies kiss our feet, Young lov - ers meet, Old

A *a tempo* *p* The fields breathe sweet, The dais - ies kiss our feet, Young lov - ers meet, Old

T *a tempo* *p* The fields breathe sweet, The dais - ies kiss our feet, Young lov - ers meet, Old

B *a tempo* *p* The fields breathe sweet, The dais - ies kiss our feet, Young lov - ers meet, Old

47 wifes a sun-ning sit, Lov-ers meet, lov - ers meet, old wifes, old —

A wifes a sun-ning sit, *cresc.* Lov-ers meet, lov - ers meet, old wifes, old

T wifes a sun-ning sit, *cresc.* Lov-ers meet, lov - ers meet, old wifes, old

B wifes a sun-ning sit, *p* The fields breathe sweet, — Lov-ers meet, old wifes, old

51

S
wives a sun - ning sit, In *f* ev - 'ry street, in ev - 'ry street These

A
wives a sun - ning sit, In *f* ev - 'ry street, in ev - 'ry street These

T
wives a sun - ning sit, In *f* ev - 'ry street, in ev - 'ry street These

B
wives a sun - ning sit, In *f* ev - 'ry street, in ev - 'ry street These

54

S
tunes our ears do greet, _____ *p* Jug - jug, jug - jug,

A
tunes our ears do greet, _____ *p* Jug - jug, jug - jug,

T
tunes our ears do greet, _____ *p* Cuc - koo, — cuc - koo, —

B
tunes our ears do greet, _____ *p* Pu -

58

S
to - wit - ta - woo! *p* *f* Spring, the sweet

A
to - wit - ta - woo! *p* *f* Spring, the sweet

T
to - wit - ta - woo! *p* *mf* cuc - koo! _____ O sweet

B
we, pu - we, pu - we, to - wit - ta - woo! *f* Spring, the sweet

Spring

61

S Spring! _____ O, the sweet Spring!

A Spring! _____ O, the sweet Spring!

T Spring! _____ O, the sweet Spring!

B Spring! _____ O, the sweet Spring!

ff *poco rit.*

Detailed description: This is a musical score for four voices: Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). The score is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It begins at measure 61. Each voice part starts with a melodic line for 'Spring!' followed by a rest. The lyrics for the second part are 'O, the sweet Spring!'. The Soprano and Alto parts have a final note with a fermata. The Tenor and Bass parts have a final note with a fermata. Performance markings include *ff* (fortissimo) and *poco rit.* (poco ritardando). The Soprano and Alto parts have a sharp sign above the final note. The Tenor and Bass parts have a sharp sign above the final note.

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