



Diaphenia

John Gerrard Williams
(1888–1947)

John Gerrard Williams (1888-1947) was born in London and began a career as an architect. He devoted his spare time to music, joining choral societies and orchestras. He had had no other training when he began to compose in 1911, becoming a fruitful composer and arranger. Most works are smaller forms and intimate in nature. Much of his best work are lyrical songs. Williams composed an orchestral ballet, a rhapsody, a suite and assorted smaller pieces. His string quartets reflect French influence, especially that of Debussy and his piano music has been compared to Ravel's. His choral music was mainly brief in format, writing songs for mixed voices (e.g. *Diaphenia*, *Sweet Kate*, *Fair, Sweet, Cruel*, *Charming Chloe*, *Three Sleeps*, *When Laura Smiles*, *Whither Runneth My Sweet Heart?* and the wordless *Tragic Fragment*), women's voices (*The Hawthorne Tree*), four-part men's voices (e.g. *Old Farmer Buck*, *Thou Sent'st to Me a Heart* and *Scizzars are Pumpy*) and two part children's voices (e.g. *Welcome Sweet Pleasure*, *I Loved a Lass* and *Foreign Craft*). Williams also wrote hundreds of instrumental arrangements of folk-songs, folk dance tunes, popular melodies, J.S. Bach and more.

Diaphenia, like the Daffdowndilly,
White as the sun, fair as the lily;
Heigh-ho, how I do love thee!
I do love thee as my lambs
Are beloved of their dams.
How blest were I if thou would'st prove me.

Diaphenia, like the spreading roses
That in thy sweets all sweets en-closes;
Fair Sweet, how I do love thee!
I do love thee as each flower
Loves the sun's life-giving power,
For dead, thy breath to life might move me.

Diaphenia, like to all things blessed,
When all thy praises are expressed;
Dear joy, how I do love thee!
As the birds do love the spring,
Or the bees their careful King,
Then in requite, sweet Virgin love me.

From Francis Pilkington's
"First Book of Songs or Ayres" (1605)

Diaphemia

J. G. Williams

Con moto ♩ = 152

S *p* Di - a - phe - ni - a, like the Daff - down - dil - ly, *cresc.* White as the

A *p* Di - a - phe - ni - a, like the Daff - down - dil - ly, *cresc.* White as the

T *p* Di - a - phe - ni - a, like the Daff - down - dil - ly, *cresc.* White as the

B *p* Di - a - phe - ni - a, like the Daff - down - dil - ly, *cresc.* White as the

6
S sun, fair as the li - ly; Heigh - ho, how

A sun, fair as the li - ly; Heigh - ho, how

T sun, fair as the li - ly; Heigh - ho, how

B sun, fair as the li - ly; Heigh - ho,

11

S *ten. pp* I do love thee! I do love thee as my lambs Are be -

A *ten. pp* I do love thee! I do love thee as my lambs Are be -

T *ten. pp* I do love thee! I do love thee as my lambs Are be -

B *ten. pp* how I do love thee! I do love thee as my lambs Are be -

cresc.

16

S *poco rit. dim.* lov - ed of their dams. How blest were I if thou would'st prove me.

A *poco rit. dim.* lov - ed of their dams. How blest were I if thou would'st prove me.

T *poco rit. dim.* lov - ed of their dams. How blest were I if thou would'st prove me.

B *poco rit. dim.* lov - ed of their dams. How blest were I if thou would'st prove me.

a tempo

22

S *p* Di - a - phe - ni - a, like the spread - ing ro - ses, That in thy

A *p* Di - a - phe - ni - a, like the spread - ing ro - ses, That in thy

T *p* Di - a - phe - ni - a, like the spread - ing ro - ses, That in thy

B *p* Di - a - phe - ni - a, like the spread - ing ro - ses, That in thy

cresc.

27

S sweets all sweets en - clo - ses; Fair Sweet, how

A sweets all sweets en - clo - ses; Fair Sweet, how

T sweets all sweets en - clo - ses; Fair Sweet, how

B sweets all sweets en - clo - ses; Fair Sweet,

32

S I do love thee! I do love thee as each flow'r Loves the

A I do love thee! I do love thee as each flow'r Loves the

T I do love thee! I do love thee as each flow'r Loves the

B how I do love thee! I do love thee as each flow'r Loves the

ten. *pp* *cresc.*

37

S sun's life - giv - ing pow'r, For dead, thy breath to

A sun's life - giv - ing pow'r, For dead, thy breath to

T sun's life - giv - ing pow'r, For dead, thy breath to

B sun's life - giv - ing pow'r, For dead, thy breath to

poco rit.

41 *dim.* *a tempo* *p*

S life _____ might move me. Di - a - phe - ni - a, like _____

A life _____ might move me. Di - a - phe - ni - a, like _____

T life _____ might move me. Di - a - phe - ni - a, like _____

B life might move me. Di - a - phe - ni - a, like _____

45 *cresc.*

S _____ to all things bless - ed, When all thy prais - es _____ are ex -

A _____ to all things bless - ed, When all thy prais - es _____ are ex -

T _____ to all things bless - ed, When all thy prais - es _____ are ex -

B _____ to all things bless - ed, When all thy prais - es _____ are ex -

50 *ten.*

S press - ed; Dear joy, how _____ I do love thee! _____

A press - ed; Dear _____ joy, how _____ I do love _____ thee! _____

T press - ed; Dear _____ joy, how _____ I do love _____ thee! _____

B press - ed; Dear joy, how I do love thee! _____

55

pp *cresc.*

S — As the birds do love the spring, Or the bees their care - ful King, Then _____

A — As the birds do love the spring, Or the bees their care - ful King, Then _____

T — As the birds do love the spring, Or the bees their care - ful King, Then _____

B — As the birds do love the spring, Or the bees their care - ful King, Then _____

60

rit. *dim.*

S — in re - quite, sweet Vir - gin love me.

A — in re - quite, sweet Vir - gin love me.

T — in re - quite, sweet Vir - gin love me.

B — in re - quite, sweet Vir - gin love me.

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