

As thy shadow itself apply'th

?The Composer

THOMAS WHYTHORNE
(1528–95)

[♩ = c. 120]

S
As thy sha - dow it - self ap - ply'th To ___

A
As thy sha - dow it - self ___ ap - ply'th To

T
As thy sha - dow it - self ap - - - ply'th To

Bar
As thy sha - dow it - self ___ ap - ply'th To ___ fol -

B
As thy sha - dow it - self ap - ply'th To

Keyboard reduction

This is the consort song on which E. J. Moeran based his 'variations' for small orchestra, evocatively titled *Whythorne's Shadow* and published in 1931 as one of *Two Pieces for small orchestra*, the other being *Lonely Waters*, based on a Folksong he had collected.

Whythorne's original was published in 1571. It has something of the character of a gentle English country dance. The quaint F naturals on pp.1 & 2 and the baritone's C natural in bar 3 could be sharpened without doing any particular violence to the music. The print is quite neat but cannot wholly be relied upon for text underlay, which is nevertheless not untypical of its time and quite singable. This edition is based upon Peter Warlocks's transcription (publ. OUP, 1927).

The text is anonymous, but since the composer was capable of writing a good autobiography, it is not unlikely that the poem is by him. It does, however, have its grammatical and verbal obscurities and is somewhat convoluted, although the sense is clear enough. The only really unusual words (to this editor, at least) are 'gloze' whose meaning is (obviously!) related to the modern expression 'gloss over' or, perhaps, 'remain unnoticed' and 'wry'th' which means 'twists'.

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fol - low_ thee where - so thou go, And when thou_ bends, it - self_

fol - low thee where - so thou go, And when thou bends, it - self_

fol - low_ thee where - so thou go, And when thou_ bends, it - self_

- - low_ thee_ where - so thou go, And when thou_ bends, it - self_

fol - low thee where - so thou go, And when thou bends, it - self_

3

6

self it_ wry'th, Tur - ning, as_ thou, both to and fro; The

_ it_ wry'th, Tur - ning, as_ thou, both_ to and fro; The

self it_ wry'th, Tur - ning, as_ thou, both_ to and fro; The

_ _ _ it wry'th, Tur - ning, _ as_ _ _ _ thou, both to and fro; The

self it wry'th, Tur - ning, as thou, both to and fro; The

6

9

flat - ter - er doth e - ven so, And shapen him - self the

flat - ter - er doth e - ven so, And shapen him - self the

flat - ter - er doth e - ven so, And shapen him - self the

flat - ter - er doth e - ven so, And shapen him - self the

9

12

same to gloze, With man - y a fawn - ing and gay show, Whom

same to gloze, With man - y a fawn - ing and gay show, Whom

same to gloze, With man - y a fawn - ing and gay show, Whom

same to gloze, With man - y a fawn - ing and gay show, Whom

12

15

he would frame for his pur - pose, With man - ya fawn - ing

he would frame for his pur - pose, With man - ya fawn - ing

he would frame for his pur - pose, With man - ya fawn - ing and

he would frame for his pur - pose, With man - ya fawn - ing and

he would frame for his pur - pose, With man - ya fawn - ing

15

18

and gay show, Whom he would frame for his pur - pose.

and gay show, Whom he would frame for his pur - pose.

— gay show, Whom he would frame for his pur - pose.

— gay show, — Whom — he would frame for his pur - pose.

and — gay show, Whom. he would — frame for his pur - pose.

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