

# Summer Songs

for  
Baritone, Violin & Piano

Music: Philip Seaton

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Baritone, Violin & Piano

**I: Summer**

**II: The Fly**

**III: I love to see the summer beaming forth**

**Philip Seaton**

[music.philipseaton.net](http://music.philipseaton.net)

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# *Summer Songs*

## Philip Seaton

A short suite of songs that celebrate the English summer.  
For more information about the piece, see the blog post “Summer” at  
<https://music.philipseaton.net/summer-夏/>



### I. *Summer*

Christina Rossetti (1830-1894)

Winter is cold-hearted  
Spring is yea and nay,  
Autumn is a weather-cock  
Blown every way:  
Summer days for me  
When every leaf is on its tree;

When Robin's not a beggar,  
And Jenny Wren's a bride,  
And larks hang singing, singing, singing,  
Over the wheat-fields wide,  
And anchored lilies ride,  
And the pendulum spider  
Swings from side to side,

And blue-black beetles transact business,  
And gnats fly in a host,  
And furry caterpillars hasten  
That no time be lost,  
And moths grow fat and thrive,  
And ladybirds arrive.

Before green apples blush,  
Before green nuts embrown,  
Why, one day in the country  
Is worth a month in town;  
Is worth a day and a year  
Of the dusty, musty, lag-last fashion  
That days drone elsewhere.

### II. *The Fly*

William Blake (1757-1827)

Little fly,  
Thy summer's play  
My thoughtless hand  
Has brushed away.

Am not I  
A fly like thee?  
Or art not thou  
A man like me?

For I dance  
And drink and sing,  
Till some blind hand  
Shall brush my wing.

If thought is life  
And strength and breath,  
And the want  
Of thought is death,

Then am I  
A happy fly,  
If I live,  
Or if I die.

### III. *I love to see the summer beaming forth*

John Clare (1793-1864)

I love to see the summer beaming forth  
And white wool sack clouds sailing to the north  
I love to see the wild flowers come again  
And mare blobs stain with gold the meadow drain  
And water lilies whiten on the floods  
Where reed clumps rustle like a wind shook wood  
Where from her hiding place the Moor Hen pushes  
And seeks her flag nest floating in bull rushes  
I like the willow leaning half way o'er  
The clear deep lake to stand upon its shore  
I love the hay grass when the flower head swings  
To summer winds and insects happy wings  
That sport about the meadow the bright day  
And see bright beetles in the clear lake play



17 Languid ♩ = 102

*mp* Languid ♩ = 102

When eve-ry leaf is on its tree; When

*mp*

22

rob - in's not a beg-gar, And Jen - ny Wren's a bride, And

26

larks hang sing-ing, sing-ing, sing-ing, O - ver the wheat - fields wide, And

29

an - chored lil - lies ride, And the pen - du - lum spi - der

33

Swings from side to side, And blue-black beet-les trans-act

*mp*  
*p*

37

busi - ness, And gnats fly in a host, And fur - ry cat-er-pil-lars

41

has-ten That no time be lost, And moths grow fat and

46

thrive, And la - dy-birds ar-rive. Be - fore green

*pp* *mp*

51

ap - ples blush, Be - fore green nuts em-brown,

*mp*



57

Why, one day in the coun-try Is worth a

61

month in town; Is worth a day and a year Of the dus-ty, mus-ty, lag - last

66

fash - ion, That days drone else - where.

71

*tr*

*rallentando*

*p*

**Andante**

**Andante**

*rallentando*

*p*

# II. The Fly

William Blake (1757-1827)

77 *Con moto* ♩ = 128  
*mf*

*Con moto* ♩ = 128

*mf marcato*

83

89

(Clap as if catching a fly)

95 Adagio

Adagio  
*mp*

Lit-tle fly, Thy sum-mer's play My thought-less hand Has brushed a-way.

*mp*

99 Quasi recit

Con moto ♩ = 128

Quasi recit

Con moto ♩ = 128

Am not I A fly like thee? Or art not thou A man like me? For I

*mp leggiero*

103

dance And drink and sing, Till some blind hand Shall brush my wing.

108 **Adagio**

**Adagio** *f*

If thought is life and strength and breadth, And the want Of thought is

*f maestoso*

Red.

113

*mp*

death, Then am I a hap-py fly, If I live, Or if I die.

*mp*

vc

120 **Con moto** ♩. = 128

*p leggiero*

**Con moto** ♩. = 128

*p leggiero*

126

Musical score for measures 126-130. The score consists of three systems. The first system has a treble clef staff with a melody and a bass clef staff with rests. The second system has a grand staff with piano accompaniment. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is 3/4. Measure 126 starts with a treble clef, 3/4 time, and a key signature of three flats. The melody in the first system consists of eighth and quarter notes. The piano accompaniment in the second system features chords and eighth notes in both hands.

# III. I Love to See the Summer Beaming Forth

John Clare (1793-1864)

131 Andante

*f*  
*f maestoso*

I love to see the

*mf* *f*

*ped.*

137

*mp* *mp*

sum-mer beam-ing forth And white wool sack clouds sail-ing to the

*mp*

142

north I love to see the wild flowers come a - gain And

148

*pp*

*mp* *leggiero*

mare blobs stain with gold the mea-dow drain And wa - ter li-lies whi-ten

*p*

153

on the floods Where reed clumps rus-tle like a wind shook wood Where

156

from her hid-ing place the Moor Hen push-es And seeks her flag nest float-ing in bull rush-es



160

*mf*

*mf*

I like the wil - low lean - ing half way o'er The clear deep lake to

*mf*

166

stand up - on its shore I love the hay grass when the flow'r head springs

172

To sum - mer winds and in - sects hap - py winds That

*f*

177

*mf* *p* *mp*

sport a-bout the mea\_dow the bright day And see bright bee-tles in the

182

*dolce* *mp dolce*

clear lake play

186

*p*

Red.



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