

## Past Spring I Met You Program Information

### *Past Spring I Met You*

Anita M. Gram (stanzas 1, 3, and 4)  
and Author Unknown (stanza 2)

Past spring I  
met you  
and blossoms burst  
into song!

The heavens smiled,  
the moon danced in the sky  
and all the stars  
turned into diamonds . . .  
all because of you.

Valentine weekend  
in Provincetown  
happiness  
still hums in my heart.

Past spring I  
met you  
and blossoms burst  
into song!

### **Instrumentation**

Soprano  
Violin  
Piano

### **Performance Notes**

Performance time: approximately 3:10.

### **Program Notes**

*Past Spring I Met You* (2009) was commissioned by Anita Gram for the tenth anniversary of her union with Holly Humphreys. The text consists of three brief poems, two of which were written by Anita while the author of the third poem is unknown.

The harmonic scheme for this work was inspired by Beethoven's sixteenth piano sonata, which was innovative in his time. Both works emphasize tonal relationships that are a third removed from their home keys.

The violin was chosen to provide a second voice to accompany the soprano, in addition to the piano. The violin's melody for the soprano's opening stanza later becomes the soprano's melody for the third stanza while the violin sings the soprano's opening melody. The two melodies thus fit perfectly, as if they were always meant to be together.

John M. Tarrh