

An Archive of the musical compositions by Herb Bielawa

Composition: **Four Miniatures** – soprano and guitar

To a Morning Rose

The Mobile

Love

Butterfly

Date: 1984

Duration: 9:20

Recording: by Anna Carol Dudley, soprano and Saul Gropman, guitar

Program Note:

Four Miniatures was performed on the composer's 60th birthday concert at San Francisco State University. Four Miniatures is a setting of poems by Tony Thomas, a San Francisco postman by profession. His poems vary in length and some are very short. They all have poignant messages, however. Their imagery is also vivid, making it possible to create a musical piece out of even the shortest poem. Most of Tony's writing has religious undertones. *The Mobile*, for instance, is about the time he donated blood at a blood bank. While lying on the cot his attention was seized by a nearby mobile, with which he felt strangely united as it calmly twisted in the gently breeze . . . of the Holy Spirit.

Texts by Tony Thomas:

To a Morning Rose

Were I the dew upon thee, rose,
awaiting warmth, I
would compose eternal song to melt thy heart,
Upon the instant, ere we part.

Love

How beautiful it is to be
In love with love in all I see;
To find a pearl in every heart,
Divinity, a meadowlark.

The Mobile

I watched a spinning mobile play
Upon a twisting thread unseen.
And I was one that moment seen as three in
harmony.
Calmed mind upon my soul did bind within,
the spinning ease
I watched a spinning mobile play
Upon a twisting thread unseen.

Butterfly

Hi, butterfly;
How is the morn?
How is the heather?
How sharp the thorn
Of yonder Blooming rose?
Yes, I would see the world as you,
And through your moment, be returned.