

david adams

lunar aspects

four songs for soprano and guitar
from the Japanese

for Peter and Margaret Lynch

lunar aspects

texts

1

someone passes
and while I wonder
if it is he
the midnight moon
is covered with clouds

lady murasaki shikibu (974-1031)

2

i go out of darkness
onto a road of darkness
lit only by the far off moon
on the edge of the mountains

lady izumi shikibu (ca. c10-11)

3

the purity of moonlight
falling out of the immense sky
is so great it freezes
the water touched by its rays

anonymous

4

i should not have waited
it would have been better
to have slept and dreamed
than to have watched night pass
and this slow moon sink

lady akazome emon (ca. early c11)

translated by Kenneth Rexroth

¹ clouded

lady murasaki shikibu

david adams

walking fretfully ♩ = 130

soprano

guitar

a tempo *mp*
some - one

8

s pass - es | c - and while I won 3 - -
g

13

s - der if it is he 3 - -
g cantabile 4

1

21

s

g

the mid - - - - -

mf

f

sf

mf

mf

26

s

g

night moon_____

p

is_____

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf

31

s

g

cov - ered with_____ clouds

pp

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf

² on the edge of the mountains

lady izumi shikibu

david adams

walking contemplatively = 60

soprano

guitar

mf

I - go - out - of - dark - ness - - On to

a road of dark - ness

Lit on - ly lit

6

10

C

C

14

mp sotto voce **p** (*subito*)

by a far _____ off _____ moon. _____ on - the -

pp

21

- edge _____ of the moun - - - - - tains _____

26

³ purity

anon.

david adams

insistent $\text{♩} = 90$

soprano

f

The pur - i - ty of moon - - - light

guitar

f

7

fall - - - - - ing

11

from the imm - ense sky is so

16

great it freez - - es

f ff f

21

p the wat - er touched

p mf p

27

by its rays

f ff

4
slowly sinking

lady akazome emon

david adams

reproachfully immobile $\text{♩} = 49$

soprano

guitar p

I should not have wait ed _____

it. _____ would have been bet - - -

6

8

ter to have slept and dreamed than to have watched night

12

pass and this slow moon

15

sink