

*Commissioned by Micah Patt*

# Contempt, Farewell!

*for Soprano and Piano*

Text by William Shakespeare

Music by Jaclyn Breeze

2023

Beatrice's Monologue, *Much Ado About Nothing*  
by William Shakespeare

What fire is in mine ears?

Can this be true?

Stand I condemn'd for pride and scorn so much?

Contempt, farewell! and maiden pride, adieu!  
No glory lives behind the back of such.

And, Benedick, love on: I will requite the,  
Taming my wild heart to thy loving hand:

If thou dost love, my kindness shall incite thee  
To bind our loves up in a holy band;

For others say thou dost deserve, and I  
Believe it better than reportingly.

Program Notes

After a few mutual friends concoct a plan to match-make between Beatrice and Benedick, who have formerly been averse to each other, Benedick overhears a conversation where "Beatrice" confesses her love for him. After this, Beatrice overhears Benedick reciprocate the feelings. This text takes place after Benedick's conversation when Beatrice now believes she is the object of unrequited love and resolves to declare her feelings.

Commissioned by Micah Patt for a lecture recital on the musical settings of Shakespeare's texts. Premiered by Micah Patt, soprano, and Laura Freeman, piano.

Score

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# Contempt, Farewell!

Jaclyn Breeze (BMI)

Bursting, gossip ♩ = 115

Soprano

Piano

*p* *mf* *pp*

A little slower (♩ = 102)

S

*pp*

What fire is in mine ears?

Pno.

*f* *pp*

S

*mp* *mf*

What fire is in mine ears? Could this be true?

Pno.

*mp*

Contempt, Farewell!

S  
9  
Stand I con-demn'd for pride and scorn so much?

Pno.  
mf f

S  
12  
Con -

Pno.  
p

S  
15  
tempt, fare - well! And mai - den pride, a -

Pno.  
mf f