



*Stanley Grill*  
**Composer & Pianist**

# thinking of you

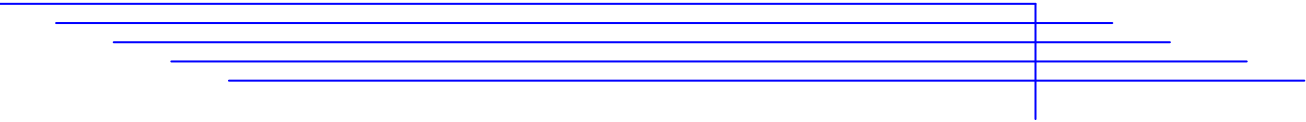
poems by John MacKenzie

soprano, viola, harp

thinking of you  
no matter how wide  
if you were Braille  
I have spoken little, tonight

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the words by John MacKenzie are set to music by permission of the author



## MUSIC BY STAN GRILL

### VOCAL MUSIC

The Snow Begins (W.C. Williams)	1975	soprano, piano	3 min
Earth and Sea (Eskimo texts)	1975	soprano, piano	3 min
Preludes (T.S. Eliot)	1978	soprano, violin, cello	10 min
6 Songs (W.B. Yeats)	1983	soprano, piano	15 min
To a Child (W.B. Yeats)	1987	soprano, string quartet	20 min
Crazy Jane Sings (W.B. Yeats)	1999	soprano, fl, vn, va, vc, pn	25 min
Vignettes/Flowers (W.C. Williams)	2002	SATB, cello	18 min
Love Poems (W.C. Williams)	2003	SSAA	10 min
Vignettes/Trees (W.C. Williams)	2004	2 voices, 2 cellos	15 min
Thinking of You (John MacKenzie)	2005	soprano, vc, harp	7 min
Ariettas without words	2005	soprano, vc, harp	9 min
Scetate (Ferdinando Russo)	2005	SSATTBB	6 min
In Their Flight (Mark Doty)	2006	soprano, mezzo soprano, vn, vc	6 min
Rilke Songs	2009	soprano, va d'amore, vc	15 min
4 Songs to Poems by Hart Crane	2010	tenor, piano	12 min
Sonnets to Orpheus (Rilke)	2012	tenor, piano	35 min

### MUSIC FOR STRINGS ALONE

6 Contrapuntal Pieces	1986	string quartet	20 min
For Laura	1987	string quartet	25 min
As Easy as 1,2,3	1987	string trio	10 min
The Beckoning Stars	2001	string quartet	13 min
Imaginary Dances	2001	violin solo	18 min
Short Stories	2003	vn, va, vc, db	18 min
Passion (a love duet)	2003	va, vc	9 min
Pavanne (for a world without war)	2005	string orchestra	8 min
Meditations for String Orchestra	2006	string orchestra	8 min
American Landscapes	2007	string quartet	24 min
Motet for String Orchestra	2008	string orchestra	7 min
Ecstasy	2009	viola solo	9 min
Transformations	2009	viola da gamba solo	12 min
Sonatine	2010	3 violins	9 min

### CHAMBER MUSIC

Three for Three	1992	vn, vc, pn	16 min
Civil War Songs	1992	va, pn	18 min
Take Five	1993	2 vns, va, vc, pn	25 min
Serenade	1999	fl, vn, va, vc	11 min
Distant Music	2000	cl, vn/va, vc, pn	20 min
Driven by the Wind	2001	fl, vc, pn	25 min
Nonet (for New York)	2002	fl, ob, cl, hn, bn, 2vns, va, vc	35 min
A Little Sweet	2003	fl, vc	10 min
On the edge of sleep & dreaming	2003	hn, vc, harp	31 min
5 Pastoral Scenes	2004	ob, bn, vn, va, vc	30 min
I was dreaming of the sea...	2004	vn (or fl), vc, pn	7 min
Little Tales of Mirth & Woe	2004	vn (or fl), vc, pn	6 min
An Ode to the Possibility of Peace	2005	cl, vn, vc	15 min
Elements	2006	fl, ob, cl, hn, bn	11 min
Motet for Brass Instruments	2006	2 trp, hn, trb, tu	7 min

### ORCHESTRAL MUSIC

Appalachian Songs	1988	chamber orchestra	25 min
Morning Music	2001	cl, string orchestra	22 min
Two Sad Songs (W.B. Yeats)	2002	soprano, string orchestra	15 min
Invisible Ballet	2003	strings & diverse instruments	33 min
Pluto	2005	orchestra	15 min
Ophelia Songs (Shakespeare)	2005	soprano, harp, string orchestra	12 min
Love's Little Pleasures	2008	soprano, string orchestra	15 min
The Four Elements	2009	va, string orchestra	22 min
Mystical Songs	2009	soprano, va, string orchestra	18 min

# Thinking of You

poems of love & obsession

1

music by Stanley Grill  
poems by John MacKenzie

Allegro

Soprano

Cello

Harp

*f*

*f*

D♯C♯B♯ | E♯F♯G♯A♯

6

6

6

*mp*

*f*

*mp*

*f*

2  
11

*f*

Think - ing of you, Think - ing of you,

F# C#

15

*mp*

I can't slow the lines ham - mer - ing through me.

C#

*mp*

19

*p*

The poem, caught be-tween thought and word, shat - ters a-against the an-vil

F# G#

*p*

*pizz.*

23

of it-self.

arco *f*

*f*

C# G# C# C#

29

The shards the shards rust on the

*f*

*f*

F#

34

page.

*p*

*f*

*f*

Andantino

*p*

Musical score for measures 39-45. The system includes a vocal line, a bass line, and a grand staff. The vocal line starts with a whole rest, followed by the lyrics "No mat - ter". The bass line features a triplet of eighth notes and a dynamic marking of *pp*. The grand staff provides harmonic accompaniment with a dynamic marking of *mp*. A chord symbol **F#** is indicated at the end of the system.

Musical score for measures 46-51. The system includes a vocal line, a bass line, and a grand staff. The vocal line contains the lyrics "how wide — I o - pen my eyes to light". The bass line has a dynamic marking of *pp*. The grand staff provides harmonic accompaniment with a chord symbol **C#** at the beginning.

*pp*

Musical score for measures 52-57. The system includes a vocal line, a bass line, and a grand staff. The vocal line contains the lyrics "You do — not ap - pear." The bass line features a triplet of eighth notes and a dynamic marking of *pp*. The grand staff provides harmonic accompaniment with chord symbols **C#** at the beginning and middle.

57 *f* 3  
 I see you most

57 *f*

57 *f*  
 C# F#

61 *p*  
 clear - ly, Now, in dark - ness.

61

61

66  
 Now, in dark - ness.

66 *p* *pp*

66 *p*

6  
73

Allegretto

Musical score for measures 73-79. The system includes a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment (grand staff). The piano part features a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. Dynamics include *ppp* and *f*. A *pizz.* marking is present in the bass line at measure 76.

80

Musical score for measures 80-85. The system includes a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment (grand staff). The piano part features a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

86

Musical score for measures 86-91. The system includes a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment (grand staff). The vocal line contains the lyrics: "If you were". The piano part features a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.



92

Braille, And my tongue were My on - ly means of see - ing,

92

92

98

I would read you a - loud.

98

98

104

104

104

109

*f*

*f*

113

*mp*

*mp*

B $\flat$

118

*p*

*mp*

B $\flat$

121

121

121

124

I have spok - en

124

*f* *p*

124

*f* *mp*

E $\flat$  B $\flat$  E $\flat$

129

lit - tle, to - night. I have spok - en

129

129

E $\flat$  D $\flat$

lit - tle, to - night.

133

133

E $\flat$  D $\sharp$  B $\flat$

*pp*

137

I am as - tound - ed at

*p*

137

*pizz.*

*p*

137

B $\sharp$

141

how my teeth have formed the sounds of e - very word in - to

141

141

146 rit. *ppp* *a tempo*

scul- tures of you: \_\_\_\_\_ One has me curled a - gainst you;

146

146

D $\flat$  A $\flat$  D $\sharp$  F $\sharp$

151

In an - o - ther, you could be sing - ing, your

151

*arco*  
*p*

151

*mf*

B $\flat$  F $\sharp$  A $\sharp$

155

head \_\_\_\_\_ thrown back, your rais - ed hands hold the next

155

*pizz.*  
*mf*

155

12  
160

*rit.* *a tempo*

Musical score for measures 160-165. The score is written for three staves: a vocal line at the top, a bass line in the middle, and a grand piano (G-clef) system at the bottom. The vocal line contains the lyrics "few notes." with a long horizontal line underneath. The bass line begins with a rest, followed by a melodic line starting at measure 162 with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The piano accompaniment features chords in the right hand and bass notes in the left hand, with a forte (*f*) dynamic starting at measure 162. The tempo marking changes from *rit.* to *a tempo* at measure 162.

166

Musical score for measures 166-170. The vocal line continues with rests. The bass line features a complex rhythmic pattern with sixteenth notes and a piano (*p*) dynamic starting at measure 168. The piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and bass notes in the left hand, with a piano (*p*) dynamic starting at measure 168.

171

Musical score for measures 171-175. The vocal line continues with rests. The bass line has a melodic line starting at measure 171 with a forte (*f*) dynamic, followed by a piano (*p*) dynamic at measure 173. The piano accompaniment features chords in the right hand and bass notes in the left hand, with a forte (*f*) dynamic starting at measure 171.

## A few words about (and by) the composer

Stan Grill was raised in the Bronx, studied at the Bronx House School of Music, and later graduated from the Manhattan School of Music with undergrad and graduate degrees in music theory. He studied piano with Robert Helps and Leon Kushner and composition with Ursula Mamlok and Joseph Probstakoff. Major works include music for string orchestra and voice, string orchestra and clarinet, a nonet for winds and strings, and several song cycles for mixed voices and chamber ensemble. Performances have been produced by the composer, as well as presented by the Composers Guild of New Jersey, the St. Paul's Church Festival of the Arts, the Leonia Chamber Players, the New York Composers Circle, the Northern New Jersey Camerata, the Bronx Arts Ensemble and the Duo + Ensemble. During the 2004-06 seasons, he was composer in residence of One World Symphony, a New York City based orchestra. One World Symphony has premiered several major works, including "Invisible Ballet" for orchestra, "Two Sad Songs" setting poems by W.B. Yeats for soprano & string orchestra, and a cycle of songs for two cellos and two mezzo sopranos setting poems by the New Jersey poet William Carlos Williams. In 2006, One World commissioned three works – a setting of the Ophelia songs from Shakespeare's "Hamlet" for soprano, harp and string orchestra, an orchestral work, "Pluto," for a program featuring Holst's "The Planets," and a setting of poetry for a concert honoring those who lost their lives on 9/11. Recent works include "The Four Elements" for viola and string orchestra commissioned by violist Brett Deubner and "Mystical Songs" for soprano, viola and string orchestra commissioned by the Universidad Tecnica Particular de Loja. In 2009, an entire program of music by Stan Grill was performed in Tokyo by the Duo + Ensemble. He currently works in Philadelphia, and lives happily in New Jersey with his wife, cats and piano.

*"As I see it, as much as we strive to find reason and purpose in our having been born into this amazing, mysterious and awe-inspiring universe, that attempt is largely futile. It is however, the best part of our nature that obliges us to make the attempt, though the most we can hope for is to gain some small degree of understanding of the world around us, and, more importantly, of ourselves. To achieve this, we each approach the problem in our own way, uniquely shaped by our cultural background, innate talents and abilities, education and so on. For some, science may be the window through which they best perceive and interpret the world, for others, religion. For those to whom the world seems to express itself most clearly and beautifully through sound, music is the voice that speaks to us and through which we, in turn, best express ourselves. Now, I can write notes that will make pretty music because I've been trained to do so – but the best of my music has arrived, rather inexplicably, as part of a personal effort to understand the world and myself. It is, in a way, an act of translation. The world says something, I try to understand it, and then translate it into musical language. The particular musical language which I speak, is, of course, a product of my conservatory training and personal musical tastes, but hopefully, the outcome, imperfect a translation as it may be, will convey to others something of its original intent."*

Stan's music is melodic, modal, contrapuntal, characterized by extended, interweaving lines. His musical influences span the centuries, and include Machaut, Josquin, Palestrina, Monteverdi, Lassus, Britten, Ives, Vaughn Williams and Shostakovich. Two main themes permeate many of the pieces - music intended to influence the minds and hearts of those who hear it in such a way as to encourage thoughts about the possibility of world peace - and music composed in an attempt to translate something about the nature of the physical world.

Complete scores are available in the American Music Center's on-line library. Please go to Stan's web page at [American Music Center](#).



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