

# Dover Beach

*Songs of the Night Wind Op. 42 No. 6*  
1996

Michael Waldenby  
(b. 1953)

SATB-SATB(divisi)



## *Dover Beach*

*Matthew Arnold 1822-1888*

*The sea is calm tonight.  
The tide is full, the moon lies fair  
Upon the straits; on the French coast the light  
Gleams and is gone; the cliffs of England stand;  
Glimmering and vast, out in the tranquil bay.  
Come to the window, sweet is the night-air!  
Only, from the long line of spray  
Where the sea meets the moon-blanch'd land,  
Listen! you hear the grating roar  
Of pebbles which the waves draw back, and fling,  
At their return, up the high strand,  
Begin, and cease, and then again begin,  
With tremulous cadence slow, and bring  
The eternal note of sadness in.*

*Sophocles long ago  
Heard it on the Aegæan, and it brought  
Into his mind the turbid ebb and flow  
Of human misery; we  
Find also in the sound a thought,  
Hearing it by this distant northern sea.*

*The Sea of Faith  
Was once, too, at the full, and round earth's shore  
Lay like the folds of a bright girdle furled.  
But now I only hear  
Its melancholy, long, withdrawing roar,  
Retreating, to the breath  
Of the night-wind, down the vast edges drear  
And naked shingles of the world.*

*Ah, love, let us be true  
To one another! for the world, which seems  
To lie before us like a land of dreams,  
So various, so beautiful, so new,  
Hath really neither joy, nor love, nor light,  
Nor certitude, nor peace, nor help for pain;  
And we are here as on a darkling plain  
Swept with confused alarms of struggle and flight,  
Where ignorant armies clash by night.*

# Dover Beach, Op. 42 No. 6

Matthew Arnold (1822 - 1888)

Michael Waldenby (b. 1953)

**Molto calmo** ♩=60

*mp*

Semi Choir  
The sea is calm, the tide is full,

Soprano  
*mp*  
The tide is full,

Alto  
*mp*  
The sea is calm to - night. *mp*  
The tide is full,

Tenor  
*mp*  
The sea is calm to - night *pp*  
Calm,

Bass  
*mp*  
The sea is calm to - night. *pp*  
Calm.

6

*p*  
full, the moon lies fair, lies fair u - pon the straits;

*p*  
the moon lies fair up - on the straits;

*mf* *p*  
the moon lies fair, lies fair up - on the straits;

*p*  
the moon lies fair, lies fair up - on the straits;

*p*  
on the

9

the light gleams,

on the French coast the light gleams and is gone; the

on the French coast the light gleams and is gone; the

on the French coast the light gleams and is gone; the

French coast the light gleams and is gone; the



13

the cliffs stand glim - me - ring,

cliffs of Eng - land stand; glim - me - ring and

cliffs of Eng - land stand; glim - me - ring and

cliffs of Eng - land stand; glim - me - ring and

cliffs of Eng - land stand;

15

Ritardando

Più tranquillo

out in the

Musical notation for measures 15-16. The vocal line begins with a rest in measure 15 and then enters in measure 16 with the lyrics "out in the". The piano accompaniment consists of rests in both measures.

Musical notation for measures 17-20. The vocal line continues with lyrics: "vast, out in the tran- quil bay." (measures 17-18), "vast, out, out in the tran- quil" (measures 19-20). The piano accompaniment features a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand, with dynamics *p* and *pp*.



Dolcissimo

18

Musical notation for measures 18-21. The vocal line continues with lyrics: "tran- quil bay. Come, sweet" (measures 18-19), "out in the tran- quil bay. Come to the win- dow, sweet is the" (measures 20-21), and "Come, come, come, sweet is the" (measures 22-23). The piano accompaniment features a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand, with dynamics *pp* and *mp*.

## Piu ritardando

## Subito poco mosso

23

air, sweet is the night - air!

night - - - air!

night - air!

sweet is the night - air!

sweet is the air!

sweet. *p* On - ly, from the long line of spray where the sea meets the

sweet is the air! *p* from the line where the sea meets the



26

*p* On - ly, from the long line of spray where the

*p* On - ly, from the long line of spray where the

*p* moon - blanched land,

moon - blanched land,

29

sea meets the moon - - - - - blached land,  
 sea meets the moon - blached land,  
 where the sea meets the moon - blached land,  
 where the sea meets the moon - blached land,  
 lis -

31

lis - ten! you hear the gra - - - - - ting roar, the  
 listen! you hear the gra - ting roar, the gra -  
 lis - ten! you hear the gra - ting roar, the gra - ting roar, the  
 - ten! you hear the gra - ting,

33

roar which the waves draw back, and fling  
 - ting roar of pebb - les which the waves draw back, and fling,  
 gra - ting roar of pebb - les which the waves draw back, and fling,  
 gra - ting roar of pebb - les which the waves draw back, and fling,

35 *mf* *ff*

at their re - turn up the high strand, be -

*mf* *ff*

at their re - turn up the high strand, be -

*mf* *ff*

at their re - turn up the high strand, be -

*mf* *ff*

at their re - turn up the high strand, be -

37 *ff*

gin, and cease, and then a - gain be - gin, with tre - mu - lous

*ff* *ff*

gin, and cease, and then a - gain be - gin, with tre - mu - lous

*ff* *ff*

be - gin, and cease, and then a - gain be - gin, with tre - mu - lous

*ff*

gin, and cease, and then a - gain be - gin, with tre - mu - lous

39 *ff Stentando* *mf*

ca - dence slow, and bring the e - ter - nal note of

*ff* *mf*

ca - dence slow, and bring the e - ter - nal note of

*ff* *mf*

ca - dence slow, and bring the e - ter - nal note of

*ff* *mf*

- mu - lous ca - dence slow, and bring the e - ter - nal note of



## Calmo

42

sad - ness in. So - pho - cles long a - go

sad - ness in. So - pho - cles long a -

sad - ness in.

sad - ness in.

46

heard it on the Ae - gae - an, and it brought in - to his

go heard it on the Ae - gae - an, and it brought in - to his

and it brought in - to his

it brought in - to his

49

mind the tur - bid ebb and flow of

mind the tur - bid ebb and flow of

mind the tur - bid ebb and flow of

mind the tur - bid ebb and flow of

Ritardando

A tempo

51

hu - man mi - - - se - ry we find al - so in the

hu - man mi - - - se - ry; we find in the

hu - man mi - - - se - ry;

hu - man mi - - - se - ry;



54

sound a thought, hear - - -

sound, we find al - so in the sound, the

we find a thought, hea - - - hea - - -

hea - - -



56

ring it by this dis - - - tant north - ern sea

sound a thought, by this dis - tant north - ern sea, by this dis - tant

- ring it by this dis - - - tant north - ern sea, by this dis - tant

- ring it by this dis - - - tant north - ern sea, by this dis - tant

by this dis - tant

58 **Largamente**

*mf* The sea

*mf* sea. The Sea of Faith, the Sea of Faith was

*mf* north - ern sea. The Sea of Faith was

*mf* north - ern sea. *mf* The Sea of Faith was

60 **A tempo**

*f* was, too, at the full, and round earth's

*f* once, too, at the full, and round earth's

*f* once, too, at the full, and round earth's

*f* once, too, at the full,

62

*ff* shore lay like the folds of a *mp*

*ff* shore lay like tha folds of a *mp*

*ff* shore lay like the folds of a *mp*

*ff* round earth's shore lay like the folds of a *mp*

64

bright gird - le furl'd, but now I on - ly hear it's

bright gird - - - le furl'd But now I hear it's

bright gird - - - le furl'd. But now I hear it's

bright gird - - - le furl'd. But now I hear it's



66

Semi Choir

*f* I hear its

Semi Choir

*f*

*mf*

me - lan - cho - ly, long with - draw - ing roar, re -

*mf*

me - lan - cho - ly, long, with - draw - ing roar, re -

*mf*

me - lan - cho - ly, long, with - draw - ing roar, re -

*mf*

me - lan - cho - ly, long, with - draw - ing roar, re -

68

re - treat - ing, to the breath of the night

roar,

re - treat - ing, to the breath of the night

treat - ing, to the breath of the night -

treat - ing, to the breath of the night -

treat - ing, to the breath of the night -

treat - ing, to the breath of the night -



**Piu Lento**

70

wind, down the vast ed - ges drear.

wind,

wind,

wind, down the vast ed - ges drear and

wind, down the vast ed - ges drear and

wind, down the vast ed - ges drear and

wind, down the vast ed - ges, vast ed - ges drear and

72

na - ked shing - les of the world. Ah, love, let us be

na - ked shing - les of the world. Ah, love, let - us be

na - ked shing - les of the world. Ah, love, let us be

na - ked shing - les of the world.

75

true to one a - noth - er! for the world,

true to one a - no - ther! for the world,

true to one a - noth - er!

let us be true to one a - noth - er!

78

for the world, which for the world, which seems to lie be - fore us like a

the world, which seems to lie be - fore us like a

The world which seems to lie be - fore us like a

like a

rit.

80

land of dreams, like a land, a land of dreams, so  
 land of dreams, like a land of dreams so  
 land of dreams, so va - ri - ous, so beau - ti - ful, so  
 so va - ri - ous, so beau - ti - ful, so  
 land of dreams,

rit.

molto accel.

82

beau - ti - ful, so new hath real - ly neith - er joy, nor  
 beau - ti - ful, so new hath real - ly neith - er joy, nor  
 new, new, so new, neith - er joy, nor love,  
 so new,

molto accel.

Stentando

84

love, nor light, nor light, nor peace, nor  
 love, nor light, nor light, nor peace, nor  
 nor love, nor light, nor light, nor peace, nor  
 nor peace, nor

86 *rit.*

love, nor light, nor cer - ti - tude, nor peace, nor

love, nor light, nor cer - ti - tude, nor peace, nor

love, nor light, nor cer - ti - tude, nor cer - ti - tude, nor

love, nor light, nor cer - ti - tude, nor peace, nor

88 *rit.* *A tempo* *p*

help for pain and we are here as on a

help for pain, no help for pain;

help for pain; and we are here as on a

nor help for pain;

help for pain;

90 *Ritardando*

dark - - ling plain, swept with con - fused a - larms of strug - gle and

as on a dark - ling plain, swept with con - fused a - larms of strug - le and

dark - - ling plain, swept with con - fused a - larms of strug - le and

as on a dark - ling plain, swept with con - fused a - larms of strug - le and



## Alla Marcia

92

flight, *p* where

flight, where *p* ig - no - rant ar - mies

flight, where ar - mies clash,

flight, where ar - mies clash,

94

where

ig - no - rant ar - mies clash, where ig - no - rant ar - mies clash by

clash by night, clash by night, by

ar - mies clash by night, clash by night, by

ar - mies clash by night, clash by night, where

96 *f*

ig - no - rant ar - mies clash by night, where

night, where ar - mies clash by night, where ig - no - rant ar - mies

night, ar - mies clash by night, where *f* ig - no - rant ar - mies

night, ar - mies clash by night, where *f* ig - no - rant, where ar - mies

ig - no - rant ar - mies clash by night, where *f* ig - no - rant

night, where ig - no - rant ar - mies

Semi Choir

98 *mf*  
 where ig - no - rant ar - mies clash by night,  
*mf*

*f*  
 clash where ig - no - rant, where ar - mies  
*f*  
 clash, where ig - no - rant ar - mies  
*f*  
 clash, where ig - no - rant ar - - - mies  
*f*  
 clash, where ig - no - rant ar - - - mies



100 *più ff*  
 where ig - no - rant ar - mies clash by night,  
*più ff*

*p* *f* *ff*  
 clash where ar - mies clash, where ig - no - rant ar - mies  
*p* *f* *ff*  
 clash, where ar - mies clash, where ig - no - rant ar - mies  
*p* *ff*  
 clash, where ar - mies clash where ig - no - rant ar - mies  
*f* *ff*  
 clash, where ig - no - rant ar - mies

103 *ff*

clash by night, where ar - mies clash by night, where

clash by night, where ar - mies clash where ar - mies

clash by night, where ar - - mies clash, where ar - mies

clash by night, where ar - mies clash by night, where ar - mies

clash by night, where ar - mies clash by night, where ar - mies

105 *mf* **Calando**

ar - mies clash by night, *mf* where

clash by night, clash by night

clash by night, clash by night,

clash by night, clash by night,

clash by night, clash by night,

107

*mf* where ig - no - rant ar - mies, *p*

ig - no - rant ar - mies clash, clash, where

*mf* where ig - no - rant ar - mies, *p*

*pp* where ig - no - rant ar - mies

*pp* where ig - no - rant ar - mies

*pp* where ig - no - rant ar - mies

*pp* where ig - no - rant ar - mies



110

ig - no - rant ar - mies clash, by night

clash, clash, clash, by night.

clash, clash, clash, by night.

clash, clash, clash, by night.

clash, clash, clash, by night.