

In memory of Hiram Foster Lepley, Lois Benford Lepley and A. Thomas Board

I live my life in growing orbits

as sung by The New York Voices with Amy London on
the recording "Visions Within", MSR Classics MS1215**

Lyrics: Rainer Maria Rilke (1875-1926)
Translation: Robert Bly*

Robert Benford Lepley

Very slowly, rubato

Sopran
I live my life in grow - ing or - bits, I live my life in

Alt
I live my life in grow - ing or - bits, I live my life in

Tenor
I live my life in grow - ing or - bits, I live my life in

Bass
I live my life in grow - ing or - bits, I live my life in

chant like rubato

6
grow - ing or - bits, I live my life in grow ing or-bits, which move_out

grow - ing or - bits, I live my life in grow ing or-bits, which move_out

grow - ing or - bits, I live my life in grow ing or-bits, which move_out

grow - ing or - bits, I live my life in grow ing or-bits, which move_out



11 *ritardando* *a tempo* *ritardando*

o - ver the things of the world. Per- haps I can ne-ver a-chieve the last,

o - ver the things of the world. Per- haps I can ne-ver a-chieve the last,

o - ver the things of the world. Per- haps I can ne-ver a-chieve the last,

o - ver the things of the world. Per- haps I can ne-ver a-chieve the last,

19 *mf accelerando* *ritardando* *rit.*

but this will be my at - tempt. I am circl-ing a-round

but this will be my at - tempt. I am circl-ing a-round

but this will be my at - tempt. I am circl-ing a-round

but this will be my at - tempt. I am circl-ing a-round

24 *f* *p* *ritardando* *slower*

God, a - round the an - cient to - wer, and I have been circl - ing

God, a - round the an - cient to - wer, and I have been circl - ing

God, a - round the an - cient to - wer, and I have been circl - ing

God, a - round the an - cient to - wer, and I have been circl - ing

29 *ritardando* *a tempo*

for a thou-sand years, and I still don't know if I am a

for a thou-sand years, and I still don't know if I am a

for a thou-sand years, and I still don't know if I am a

for a thou-sand years, and I still don't know if I am a

36 *molto rit.* *(molto rit.)*

fal- con, or a storm or a great song.

fal- con, or a storm, or a great song.

fal- con, or a storm, or a great song.

fal- con, or a storm, or a great song.

41 *in a steady tempo* *mf*

I live my life in grow - ing or-bits, which move out o - ver the things

I live my life in grow - ing or-bits, which move out o - ver the things

I live my life in grow - ing or-bits, which move out o - ver the things

I live my life in grow - ing or-bits, which move out o - ver the things

46 *ritardando* (rit.)

of the world. Per- haps I can ne-ver a-chieve the last,

of the world. Per- haps I can ne-ver a-chieve the last,

of the world. Per- haps I can ne-ver a-chieve the last,

of the world. Per- haps I can ne-ver a-chieve the last,

52 *accelerando* *ritardando* (rit.) *slower* *ff* *p*

but this will be my at- tempt. I am circl-ing a-round God, a-

but this will be my at- tempt. I am circl-ing a-round God, a-

but this will be my at- tempt. I am circl-ing a-round God, a-

but this will be my at- tempt. I am circl-ing a-round God, a-

58 *ritardando* (rit.) *slower* *ritardando*

round the an-cient tow- er, and I have beencircl-ing for a thou-sand years,

round the an-cient tow- er, and I have beencircl-ing for a thou-sand years,

round the an- cient tow- er, and I have beencircl-ing for a thou-sand years,

round the an-cient tow-er, and I have beencircl-ing for a thou-sand years,

64 (rit.) *a tempo*

and I still don't know if I am a fal-con, or a storm, or a

and I still don't know if I am fal-con, or a storm, or a

and I still don't know if I am fal-con, or a storm, or a

and I still don't know if I am a fal-con, or a storm, or a

70 *molto ritardando* *very slowly*

great song. I live my life in grow - ing or - bits,

great song. I live my life in grow - ing or - bits,

great song. I live my life in grow - ing or - bits,

great song. I live my life in grow - ing or - bits,

slow steady tempo

76 *mf* *f*

I live my life in gro - wing or - bits, which move out o - ver the

mf *f*

I live my life in gro - wing or - bits, which move out o - ver the

mf *f*

I live my life in gro - wing or - bits, which move out o - ver the

mf *f*

I live my life in gro - wing or - bits, which move out o - ver the

80 *accelerando* *ritardando* *much slower* *pp* //

things of the world. Per- haps. I can

pp //

things of the world. Per- haps. I can

pp //

things of the world. Per- haps. I can

pp //

things of the world. Per- haps. I can

85 *ritardando* *gradual accelerando*

mf be _____

ne - ver a-chieve the last, but this will be

ne - ver a-chieve the last, but this will be

ne - ver a - chieve the last, but this will be

ne - ver chieve the last, but this will be

mf

Probepartitur

89 *ritardando* *f* *slowly, boldly* *fff*

my at - tempt. I am circl - ing a-round God, a -

my at - tempt. I am circl - ing a-round God, a -

my at - tempt. I am circl - ing a-round God, a -

my at - tempt. I am circl - ing a-round God, a -

f *fff* *pp*

Probepartitur

slowly, hushed *ritardando* *very gradual accelerando and crescendo*

93

pp *mf* *f*

round the an - cient tow - er, and I have been circl - ing, I have been circl - ing, I have been

round the an - cient tow - er, and I have been circl - ing, I have been circl - ing, I have been

round the an - cient tow - er, and I have been circl - ing, I have been circl - ing, I have been

round the an - cient tow - er, and I have been circl - ing, I have been circl - ing, I have been

(accel. and cresc.) *ff* *molto ritardando* *fff* *ritardando*

98

ff *fff* *ff*

circl - ing, I have been circl - ing, I have been circl - ing for a thou - sand

circl - ing, I have been circl - ing, I have been circl - ing for a thou - sand

circl - ing, I have been circl - ing, I have been circl - ing for a thou - sand

circl - ing, I have been circl - ing, I have been circl - ing for a thou - sand

103

p *ff* *ff*

years, _____ and I still don't know _____ if I am a _____

years, _____ and I still don't _____ if _____

years, _____ and I still don't _____ if I am a _____

years, _____ I don't _____ if I am a _____

108

molto rit.

con, _____ or a storm, or a great _____

fal - con, _____ or a storm, or a great _____

_____ or a storm, or a great _____

fal - con, _____ or a storm, or a great _____