

Zog Nit Keyn Mol
Az Du Geyst Dem Letstn Veg

for high voice, clarinet, violin, cello and piano

words by
Hirsh Glick

music by
David Jason Snow

*Zog nit keyn mol, az du geyst dem letstn veg,
khotsh himlen blayene farshteln bloye teg.
kumen vet nokh undzer oysgebenkte sho,
s'vet a poyk ton undzer trot: mir zaynen do!*

*Fun grinem palmenland biz vaysn land fun shney,
mir kumen on mit undzer payn, mit undzer vey,
un vu gefaln iz a shprits fun undzer blut,
shprotsn vet dort undzer gvure, undzer mut!*

*S'vet di morgnzun bagildn undz dem haynt,
un der nekht vet farshvindn mit dem faynt,
nor oyb farzamen vet di zun in der kayor –
vi a parol zol geyn dos lid fun dor tsu dor.*

*Dos lid geshribn iz mit blut, un nit mit blay,
s'iz nit keyn lidl fun a foygl oyf der fray,
dos hot a folk tsvishn falndike vent
dos lid gezungen mit naganes in di hent.*

Never say that you have reached the end of the road
Even though darkness obscures the blue sky.
The hour we yearn for will yet come
And our footsteps will thunder: We are here.

From the green land of palm trees to the white land of snow
We are here with our pain, our agony.
And wherever a drop of our blood is shed
There blooms our courage, our strength.

The morning sun will gild the day
And the darkness of yesterday will vanish.
But if the dawning sun shall be delayed
Let this song be a watchword from generation to generation.

This song is written in blood, not lead.
It is not the call of a bird dying free
But of people trapped between crumbling walls
Who sang it with guns in their hands.

(English translation by Helen Kieval)

Hirsh Glick penned the words to the famous partisan song *Zog nit keynmol az du geyst dem letstn veg* in May of 1943 as reports of the Warsaw ghetto uprising spread throughout Europe. Despite their desperate situation, news of the revolt heartened the fighters of the Jewish resistance, and the defiant hymn became their de facto anthem. Yet the liquidation of the ghetto was never in doubt, and the song was literally one of “people trapped between crumbling walls/who sang it with guns in their hands.” In the aftermath of the twentieth century, these words echo the damnable chronic failure of civilization and humanity in the present era. They indict us all.

Duration: ca. 3:45

Zog nit keynmol az du geyst dem letstn veg

words
Hirsh Glick

music
David Jason Snow

$\text{♩} = 78$

soprano

B \flat clarinet

violin

violoncello

piano

espressivo e rubato

f

tr

4

vln.

vlc.

mp

mf

7

vln.

vlc.

f

mf

10

cl. *mp*

vln. *mf* *mp*

vlc. *mp* *tr* *3*

14

cl. *f* *mf*

vln. *f* *p*

vlc. *f* *mf*

18 *poco piu mosso*

cl.

vln. *mf* *f*

vlc. *f*

22

cl. *mf*

vln. *p*

vlc. *mp*

26 Tempo I°

cl. *mf* *mp* *p*

vln. *mf* *mp* *p*

vlc. *mp* *p*

piano *mf* *mp* *p*

30

cl. *mf*

vln.

vlc. *p*

piano *p*

Red.

34

mp

sop. Zog nit keyn - mol az du geyst dem lets - tn

cl. *p*

vln.

vlc.

piano

* *Red.*

36

sop. veg Chotsh him - len bla - ye - ne far shte - ln blo-ye

cl. *p*

vln.

vlc.

piano

* *Red.*

38

sop. teg Ku - men vet noch und - zer

cl. *p*

vln. *mf*

vlc. *mf* pizz arco

piano *mf*

40

sop. oys - ge - benk - te sho s'veta a poyk ton und - zer trot mir zay - nen

cl. *mp*

vln. *mp*

vlc. *mp* pizz arco

piano *mp*

42 *molto rit.*.....

sop. do S'vet a poyk ton — und-zer trot mir — zay-nen

cl.

vln.

vlc. *pizz* *arco*

piano

8^b.....

44 ♩ = 96 *tempo giusto alla marcia*

sop. do

cl.

vln. *f* *mp* *f* *mp*

vlc. *f* *mp* *f* *mp*

piano *f* *mp* *f* *mp*

8^b.....

46

sop. *f* Fun gri - nen

cl. *mf* *f* 3

vln. *mp* *f* *molto*

vcl. *f* *molto*

piano *f*

rit. *rit.*

48

sop. pal-men - land biz vay - sn land fun shney mir ku - men

cl. *mp*

vln. *mp* *mp*

vcl. *mp*

piano *mp* *mp*

50

sop. on mit und-zer payn, mit und-zer vey Un vu ge-

cl.

vln. *mp*

vcl.

piano *mp*

52

sop. fa - ln s'iz ashprits fun und - zer blut Shrpot - sn

cl. *f mp f*

vln. *f mp f*

vcl.

piano *f mp*

54

sop. *vet dort und - zer g'vu - re mut. S'vet di*

cl.

vln. *mp* *f*

vlc.

piano

8^b.....

56

sop. *mor - gn zun bar - gil - dn undz dem haynt Un der*

cl. *mf*

vln. *mf*

vlc. *mf*

piano *mf*

8^b.....

58

sop. *nech - tn vet far - shvin - dn mit - n faynt nor oyb far -*

cl. *f mf*

vln. *f mf*

vlc. *f*

piano *f*

8^b.....

60

sop. *za - men vet di zun un der kay ner Vi a pa -*

cl.

vln.

vlc. *3*

piano *3*

8^b.....

62

sop. *rol zol gayn dos lid fun dor tsu dor*

cl. *ff*

vln. *ff*

vlc. *ff*

piano *ff*

Red.....*

64

Tempo I ♩ = 78

sop.

cl. *mf* *mp*

vln. *mf* *mp*

vlc. *mf* *mp*

piano *mf* *mp*

66

sop.

cl.

vln.

vlc.

piano

tr

mp

mp

Red.

68

sop.

cl.

vln.

vlc.

piano

p

Dos lid ge -

p

p

p

*

70

sop. shri-ben iz mit blut un nit mit blay S'iz nit kayn

cl. *p* 3

vln.

vlc.

piano *p* 3

Ad......*

72 *mp*

sop. li - dl fun a foy - gl oyf der frey dos

cl.

vln. *p* 3 3

vlc.

piano *p* 3 3 *mp*

Ad......*

74

mf

sop. *mf*

hot a folk tsvi - shn fa - ln di ke vent, dos lid ge -

cl.

vln.

vlc. *mp*

piano *mf* *mp*

76

sop. *p*

zun - gen mit na - ga - nes in di hent dos lid ge -

cl. *p*

vln. *mp*

vlc. *p*

piano *p*

78 *molto rit.* ♩ = 60

sop. *3* *3*
 zun-gen mit na - ga - nes in di hent

cl. *p*

vl. *p*

vlc. *3*

piano *p* *p*

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 Gaithersburg, Maryland
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 New York, New York

Composer David Jason Snow (b. 1954) received his professional musical training at the Eastman School of Music (1972-1976) where he studied with Joseph Schwantner, Warren Benson, and Samuel Adler, and at the Yale School of Music (1976-1978) where he was a student of Jacob Druckman. While at Eastman, he was awarded the Bernard and Rose Sernoffsky Prize in composition (1974), the McCurdy Prize (1975), and the Howard Hanson Prize (1976), and at Yale he received the Frances E. Osborne Kellogg Prize (1978). Other honors include BMI Student Composer Awards (1977, 1979), Annapolis Fine Arts Foundation Composition Prizes (1981, 1983, 1984, 1985), an ASCAP Foundation Grant (1981), a National Association of Composers/USA Composition Prize (1981), a National Federation of Music Clubs Composition Prize (1981), National Endowment for the Arts Composer Fellowships (1982, 1985), a Meet the Composer Grant (1983), and Maryland State Arts Council Grants (1992, 1997). Snow has been awarded artist residencies at Yaddo (1981, 2000) and Millay Arts (2004), and commissions from the College Band Directors National Association Commission (1982) and the Renee B. Fisher Foundation (1997).

Among the organizations that have presented Snow's work in concert are the Ensemble Intercontemporain (Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris), the New Juilliard Ensemble (Museum of Modern Art, New York), the American Brass Quintet (John F. Kennedy Center, Washington, DC), the Yale Contemporary Ensemble (Sprague Hall, New Haven), the Yale University Band (Woolsey Hall, New Haven), the Harvard Wind Ensemble (Sanders Theater, Cambridge), and the Banda Municipal de Bilbao (Euskalduna Palace, Bilbao).

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