

Bente Leiknes Thorsen
Who do you
want to be?

version for
solo guitar (and narration)



2019

Commisioned by Susanne Kessel
and "250 piano pieces for Beethoven"

with support from TONO

version for guitar written for Eva Beneke



TEXT AND NARRATION

- The text in this piece can be performed by the guitarist or a separate narrator.
- It is to be narrated in a casual way, not theatrical.
- Feel free to translate the text to the performer's native tongue.

THE TEXT

You know
we don't know who she was

*Men...
vi vet ikke hvem hun var*

was she a woman he proposed to?
was she the recipient of his affection?
or the pupil of a beloved one?

*var hun en han fridde til?
var hun en han beundret?
eller var hun eleven til en han hadde kjær?*

Does it really matter?

har det egentlig noe å si?

In a world that forgets its Barbaras and
Claras and Agathas and Fannys
we remember this woman
even when we don't know who she was
because she was in his memory

*I en verden som glemmer sine Barbaraer og
Claraer og Agather og Fannyer
så blir vi minnet om denne kvinnen
selv om vi ikke vet hvem hun var
fordi hun hadde en plass i hans minne -*

who do you want to be, Elise?

hvem vil du være, Elise?

DURATA: approx. 2 min.

NOTATION



extra long fermata



the material in the box is to be repeated
for as long as the line indicates



Who do you want to be?

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mf /v. narration ③
You know we don't know who she was

pp *acc* *mf* *mf* *p*

was she a woman he proposed to?

irregluar ritardando was she the recipient of his affection? *p*

or the pupil of a beloved one? *mp* *p*

Does it really matter?

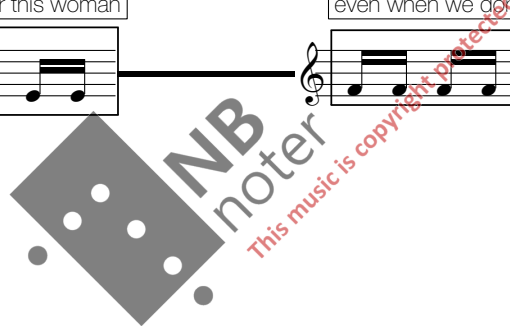
mp /v.

rhythmically steady (guitar), change pitch with text

In a world that forgets its Barbaras and Claras and Agathas and Fannys

ppp *cresc. al. ...*

we do remember this woman even when we don't know who she was



because she was in his memory

mf *allegro con brio*

who do you want to be - Elise?

mf *p*