



*DA Print Edition*  
#20815

# MAVES

## Three Songs of Affirmation

Voice & Piano

text  
Kay Maves

# Three Songs Program Notes

**These three short songs were written in in 1965 while I was Composer-in-Residence for the Ford Foundation in Raleigh, North Carolina, and premiered at Shaw University in Raleigh the following year after I accepted a position as Music Coordinator. The text was written by my (then) wife Kay.**

**The opening text about symmetry leads to a symmetric accompaniment where upward reaching notes are balanced by notes moving downward at the same interval, ending with the voice in the exact middle.**

**The second song, with its Zen-like simplicity, inspired an un-Zen-like rippling texture; and the third text lead me to a dreamy romantic exploration of widely spaced ranges and textures in the voice and piano.**



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*THIS PROJECT IS FUNDED IN PART BY THE SOUTH CAROLINA ARTS COMMISSION WHICH RECEIVES SUPPORT FROM THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS*

*THIS PROJECT IS FUNDED IN PART BY A GRANT FROM THE COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON'S RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE*

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# I

Here

green-blue  
sky, earth,

Rolls

away  
from me.

Arcs

above, below,  
matchless

Symmetry.

# I I

Understand  
this:

Ordered, not  
Immoral, Right  
or Wrong,

Death for Life

is

Must.

# I I I

I accept,

I will bathe  
in the  
waters  
as they flow,

The darkness  
ended,  
I will rise  
I will cleave  
to the stars —  
And their shining  
and  
my shining  
now  
are one.