



Sweeney, W. (2009) *The Old Year (John Clare)*. [Composition]

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THE OLD YEAR

Poem

JOHN CLARE

Music

WILLIAM SWEENEY

2009

The Old Year

The Old Year's gone away
To nothingness and night:
We cannot find him all the day
Nor hear him in the night:
He left no footstep, mark or place
In either shade or sun:
The last year he'd a neighbour's face,
In this he's known by none.

All nothing everywhere:
Mists we on mornings see
Have more of substance when they're here
And more of form than he.
He was a friend by every fire,
In every cot and hall--
A guest to every heart's desire,
And now he's nought at all.

Old papers thrown away,
Old garments cast aside,
The talk of yesterday,
Are things identified;
But time once torn away
No voices can recall:
The eve of New Year's Day
Left the Old Year lost to all.

John Clare

The Old Year

Sweeney

Lento con moto (♩) ♩ = 90

I

pp

Soprano

The Old Year _____ The Old Year _____ The Old Year _____ The Old Year _____

Alto

The Old Year _____ The Old Year _____ The Old Year _____ The Old Year _____

Tenor

The Old Year's gone a - way _____ To no - thing - ness and night: _____ We

Bass

The Old Year's gone a - way _____ To no - thing - ness and night: _____ We

Poco più mosso

Sop.

5 _____ The Old Year _____ The Old Year _____ The Old _____ He left no foot - step, mark or place In ei - ther shade or sun: The

Alt.

5 _____ The _____ Old Year _____ The Old Year _____ Old _____ Year left no foot - step, shade or sun:

Ten.

5 can - not find him all the day _____ Nor hear him in the night: _____ left no foot - step, shade or sun:

Bass

5 can - not find him all the day _____ Nor hear him in the night: _____ left no foot - step, shade or sun:

The Old Year

9

Sop. *rit.* **Tempo I** *mp* **II**
 last year he'd a neigh-bour's face, In this he's known by none. All no - thing ev' - ry - where: Mists

Alt. *rit.* *mp*
 last year a neigh - bour's face, this known by none. All no - thing All no - thing All no - thing no - thing no - thing

Ten. *rit.* *mp*
 last year neigh - bour's face, this known by none. All no - thing All no - All no - thing no - thing

Bass *rit.* *mp*
 last year neigh - bour's face, this known by none. All no - thing All no - thing All no - thing no - thing

13

Sop. **Tempo II** *subito p*
 we on morn-ings see Have more of sub - stance when they're here And more of form than he. He was a friend by ev' - ry fire, In

Alt. *subito p*
 morn-ings morn-ings morn-ings morn-ings sub-stance sub-stance when they're here here form than he. he. was a friend by ev'-ry fire,

Ten. *subito p*
 morn - ings morn - ings sub - stance when they're here form than he. was a friend by ev'-ry fire,

Bass *subito p*
 morn - ings morn - ings sub - stance when they're here form than he. was a friend by ev'-ry fire,

The Old Year

Tempo I

17 Sop. ev' - ry cot and hall - A guest to ev' - ry heart's de - sire, And now he's nought at all.

17 Alt. ev'-ry cot and hall - guest to ev'-ry heart's de - heart's de - sire, now he's nought at all. all. The

17 Ten. ev'-ry cot and hall - guest to ev'-ry heart's de - heart's de - sire, now he's nought at all. The Old Year The

17 Bass ev'-ry cot and hall - guest to ev'-ry heart's de - heart's de - sire, now he's nought at all. The Old Year The

17 ev'-ry cot and hall - guest to ev'-ry heart's de - heart's de - sire, now he's nought at all. The Old Year The

21 Sop. Old pa - pers thrown a - way, Old gar - ments cast a - side, The

21 Alt. Old Year Old pa - per pa - pers thrown a - way, way, gar - ments cast a - side, side,

21 Ten. Old Year Old pa - per pa - pers thrown a - way, gar - ments cast a - side,

21 Bass Old Year Old pa - per pa - pers thrown a - way, gar - ments cast a - side,

21 Old Year Old pa - per pa - pers thrown a - way, gar - ments cast a - side,

The Old Year

24 *mp* **Tempo II** *mp* *pp* *cresc.*

Sop. talk of yes - ter - day, Are things — Are things i - den - ti - fied; — But time once torn a - way — No voic - es can re - call: The

24 *mp* *mp* *pp*

Alt. talk of yes - ter - day, — day, — day, — things i - den - ti - fied; — But time once torn a - way — No voic - es can re - call: The

24 *mp* *mp* *pp* *cresc.*

Ten. talk of yes - ter - day, day, — things i - den - ti - fied; — But time once torn a - way — No voic - es can re - call: The

24 *mp* *mp* *pp*

Bass talk of yes - ter - day, day, — things i - den - ti - fied; — But time once torn a - way — No voic - es can re - call: The

24 *mp* *mp* *pp* *cresc.*

talk of yes - ter - day, day, — things i - den - ti - fied; — time once time once time once time once re - call: re - call: re - call:

The Old Year

28
Sop. *cresc.*
eve of New Year's New Year's Day _____ Left the Old Year lost _____ to all. _____
New Year's New Year's New Year's Day _____ Left the Old Year lost _____ to all. _____

28
Alt. *cresc.*
eve of New Year's New Year's Day _____ Old Year Old Year lost _____ to all. all. all.
New Year's New Year's New Year's New Year's New Year's Old Year Old Year lost _____ to all. all. all.

28
Ten. *cresc.*
eve of New Year's New Year's Day _____ Left the Old Year lost _____ to all. _____
New Year's New Year's New Year's New Year's New Year's Old Year lost _____ to all. _____

28
Bass *cresc.*
eve of New Year's New Year's Day _____ Old Year Old Year lost _____ to all. _____
New Year's New Year's New Year's New Year's New Year's Old Year Old Year lost _____ to all. _____

The Old Year

31 *pp*

Sop. lost _____ to all. _____

31 *pp*

Alt. lost _____ to all. _____ all. _____ all. _____

31 *pp*

lost _____ to all. all. all. all.

31 *pp*

Ten. lost _____ to all. _____

31 *pp*

Bass lost _____ to all. _____