

**THE LAST INVOCATION**  
*for tenor, flute, oboe viola, cello*

**PROGRAMME NOTES**

A beautiful text by Whitman describing the soul's release from earthly bonds. This setting is available in two versions both for tenor; the original accompaniment is scored for flute, oboe, viola and cello accompaniment, and the second version offers an alternative piano reduction.

***The Last Invocation***

*At the last, tenderly,  
From the walls of the powerful fortress'd house,  
From the clasp of the knitted locks, from the keep of the  
well-closed doors,  
Let me be wafted.*

*Let me glide noiselessly forth;  
With the key of softness unlock the locks – with a whisper,  
Set ope the doors O soul.*

*Tenderly – be not impatient,  
(Strong is your hold O mortal flesh,  
Strong is your hold O love.)*

*Walt Whitman*