

A Collection of Art Songs for Soprano or Mezzo Soprano
Original music by Peter Bloesch

Shall I Compare Thee to a Summer's Day?

(Shakespeare's Sonnet 18)

version for medium voice

Duration: 2:15

Words: William Shakespeare, Sonnet 18, slightly altered by Peter Bloesch

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Smoothly and caressingly ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 66$)
mp molto cantabile

SOP. Shall I com-pare thee to a sum-mer's day? — Thou art more

PIANO

Smoothly and caressingly ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 66$)

Sop. *poco*
love - ly and more tem - per - ate.

Pno.

Sop. *mp* — Rough winds do shake the dar - ling buds of May, And *poco*

Pno. *p* *pp*

The image displays a musical score for the song 'Shall I Compare Thee to a Summer's Day?' based on Shakespeare's Sonnet 18. It is arranged for Soprano (SOP.) and Piano (PIANO). The score is divided into three systems. The first system covers the first line of the sonnet: 'Shall I compare thee to a summer's day? — Thou art more'. The second system covers the second line: 'lovely and more temperate.' The third system covers the third line: '— Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May, And'. The music is in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps) and 4/4 time. Performance instructions include 'Smoothly and caressingly' with a tempo of approximately 66 beats per minute, and dynamics such as *mp molto cantabile*, *p*, *poco*, *mp*, and *pp*. The piano part features a flowing accompaniment with some chords and melodic lines. A large watermark 'FOR PUPILS ONLY' is visible across the score.

8 *["lease" = allotted time]* *poco*

Sop. *p*
 sum - mer's lease hath all too short a date.

Pno. *p* *poco*

10 *["eye of heaven" = the sun]*

Sop. *p*
 — Some-times too hot the eye of heav - en shines, And of - ten

Pno. *p*

13 *mp*

Sop. *mp*
 is his gold com - plex - ion dimm'd, And

Pno. *mp*

15 *["fair from fair" = beautiful thing from beauty]*

Sop. *p*
 ev' - ry fair from fair some - times de - clines, By

Pno. *p*