

# LOVELY OCTOBER

For Mezzo-soprano, Alto Saxophone and Piano

Poem by

**JOSEPH GRUCCI (1909-1982)**

Music by

**BRUCE TRINKLEY**

Lovely October

from *This Autumn Surely* (1935)

*Lovely October, red-gold and immortal,  
Like a spread wing at sunset in my brain!  
I have been waiting your outrageous coming,  
Leaf-footed, treading down the windslain!*

*I have been such a lover of autumn;  
Listened to bronze leaves make a fabulous sound  
As they sucked their last breath from nervous boughs,  
Then made a secret noise upon the ground.*

*I have watched boys plunge knee-deep into heaps  
Of leaves and fill their shoes with copper-gold,  
And heard their laughter mixed with joyous rage  
At having so much beauty here to hold.*

**Joseph Grucci** (1909-1982) was the founder and editor of the poetry magazine, *Pivot*, until his death in 1982. Born in Pittsburgh, he received his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Pittsburgh. He taught at the American University in Shrivenham, England, and at the University of Pittsburgh before becoming director of the poetry workshop at Penn State in 1950. He taught poetry workshops for twenty-five years. He was author of four volumes of poetry and was co-author of a volume of translations, *Three Spanish American Poets*.

*Seasons: Inside-Outside* was composed during residencies at The Hambidge Center for the Creative Arts and Sciences in Rabun Gap, Georgia; Ucross Foundation in Wyoming; and Dorland Mountain Arts Colony in Temecula, California.

# 3. Lovely October

For Mezzo-soprano, Alto Saxophone and Piano

Poem by Joseph Grucci (1909-1982)

Bruce Trinkley

from *This Autumn Surely* (1935)\*

**Andante grazioso**  $\text{♩} = 72$

Voice

Alto Sax *mp sempre legato*

Piano *p sempre legato*

*pochiss. rit. a tempo*

*con pedale*

Love-ly Oc-  
to - ber, red-gold and im - mor - tal, Like a spread wing at  
sun - set in my brain! I have been wait - ing your out - ra - geous

17 *mf* *f* *mp* *poco rit.*

com - ing, Leaf - foot - ed, tread - ing down the wind -

*mf* *f* *mp*

17 *cresc.* *simile* *f* *mp* *poco rit.*

22 *p* *a tempo* *mp*

slain! I have been such a lov - er of

*p* *mp*

22 *a tempo* *mf* *cresc.* *f* *mp*

27 *cresc.* *ff*

au - tumn; Lis - tened to bronze leaves make a fab - u - lous sound

*cresc.* *f*

27 *cresc.* *f*

32 *f* *dim.*

As they sucked their last breath \_\_\_\_\_ from nerv - ous boughs, Then made a se - cret noise \_\_\_\_\_

*f* *dim.*

32 *f* *dim.*

37 *pochiss. rit.* *a tempo*

up - on the ground.

*pochiss. rit.* *a tempo*

37 *mp*

42 *p* *mp cresc.* *mf*

I have watched boys plunge knee - deep in - to heaps Of leaves \_\_\_\_\_ and fill their

*p* *mp cresc.* *mf*

42 *p* *mp cresc.* *mf*

46 shoes with cop - per - gold, And heard their laugh - ter mixed with joy - ous

46

46

*f*

*f*

51 rage At hav - ing so much beau - ty here to hold.

51

51

*poco rit.* *a tempo*

*p*

*p*

*poco rit.* *a tempo*

*pp*

56 Love-ly Oc - to - ber, red-gold and im - mor - tal, Like a

56

56

*pp* *molto espressivo*

*pp* *molto espressivo*

*pp* *molto espressivo*

62 *mf con calore*  
 spread wing at sun - set in my brain! I have been wait - ing

62 *mf con calore*

62 *mf*

67 *f poco rit.*  
 your out - ra - geous com - ing, Leaf - foot - ed, tread - ing down the wind -

67 *f poco rit.*

72 *p a tempo*  
 slain!

72 *p a tempo rit. e dim.*