

# 3. The Bat

For Two Solo Voices and Piano

Theodore Roethke

from *Open House* (1941)\*

Bruce Trinkley

**'Swooping' allegro** ♩ = 132 *mf*

Voice: By day the bat is cous-in to the

Piano: *ff* *mf* *con pedale*

4 mouse. He likes the at-tic of an ag-ing house. His fin-gers make a hat a-bout his

4 *f* *mf* *f* *mf*

8 head. His pulse beat is so slow we think him dead. He

8 *dim.* *mp* *f* *dim.* *p*

\*Used with permission of Doubleday

12 loops in cra-zy fig-ures half the night A - mong the trees that face the cor-ner light. But

16 when he brush-es up a-gainst a screen, We are a-fraid of what our eyes have seen: For

20 some-thing is a - miss or out of place When mice with wings can wear a hu - man

23 face.

*f*

*mf*

*mp*

*mp*

*morendo*

*poco rit.*

*8vb*