Nigel Keay

The Swallows

A setting of the poem by Dunstan Ward

Song: **The Swallows**

The swallows are back: they swerve and glide
and flicker and soar, engrave the sky
with lines of shrill excited cries,
grace-notes, trills, embellishing
this morning's song to greet the spring:

effortlessly inscribe on the bright
new April blue, desire, delight,
a rapturous appetite for life,
careless of what mark they make,
what springs remain to celebrate.

The Swallows

Lyrics: Dunstan Ward

Nigel Keay

Adagietto ♩ = 64

Voix

Piano

The swal - lows. The swal - lows are

back: they swerve and glide and flic - ker and soar, en - grave the

sky with lines of shrill ex - ci ted cries,

grace - notes, trills, em - bel - lish - ing this mor - ning's song to

greet the spring:

Lyrics (measures 24–29):

ef - fort - less - ly____ in - scribe____ on the bright new

A - pril blue, de - sire,____ de - light, a rap - tu - rous ap - pe - tite

Lyrics:

for life, care-less of what mark they make,___

what springs re - main to___ ce - le - brate.___

rallentando   Lento ♩= 48   Più lento