

Evan Meier

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The Heretic's Tragedy

A Middle-Age Interlude

For Mixed Chamber Ensemble and Singers

Text by Robert Browning

ROSA MUNDI; SEU, FULCITE ME FLORIBUS. A CONCEIT OF MASTER GYSBRECHT,
CANON-REGULAR OF SAINT JODOCUS-BY-THE-BAR, YPRES CITY. CANTUQUE,
Virgilius. AND HATH OFTEN BEEN SUNG AT HOCK-TIDE AND FESTIVALS. GAVISUS
ERAM, *Jessides*.

(It would seem to be a glimpse from the burning of Jacques du Bourg-Molay, at Paris, A.D.
1314; as distorted by the refraction from Flemish brain to brain, during the course of a couple
of centuries.)

DRAMATIS PERSONAE:

Clarinet in Bb/Bass Clarinet in Bb
Percussion - Glockenspiel, Vibraphone, Tom-toms (4)s
Violin
Cello
Mezzo-soprano solo
SSA singers
Tenor solo
Piano

The Heretic's Tragedy

Evan Meier

Maestoso ♩ = 48

rit. **A tempo** ♩ = 48

Clarinet in B♭ *p* *mp* *p*

Glockenspiel *sempre l.v.* *p*

Vibraphone *sempre l.v.*

Violin *p* *mp* *p*

Violoncello *p*

Mezzo-soprano Solo

Soprano I

Soprano II

Alto

Tenor Solo

Piano *p* *8va* *8vb* *Ped.*

Poco piu mosso ♩ = 52

7

Cl. *mf p f p f pp*

Glock. *mf p f p pp*

Vib. *f*

Vln. *pp f pp mf f p pp con sord.*

Vc. *p f p f pp pp con sord.*

Pno. *mf p f f p pp 8^{va} 8^{va} Ped. 8^{va} pp*

Poco piu mosso ♩ = 52

17 *rit.* *Tempo I* ♩ = 48

Cl. *p* *p* *pp* *p*

Glock. *p*

Vib.

Vln. *p* *pp* *p*

Vc. *p* *pp* *p*

T. *rit.* *Tempo I* ♩ = 48
Preadmonisheth the Abbot Deodaet.
 The Lord, we look to once for all, Is the Lord we should look at

Pno. *pp*

rit. A tempo ♩ = 48

24

Cl.

Glock.

Vib.

Vln.

Vc.

T.

Pno.

all at once: He knows not to var-y Sa-ith Saint Paul, Nor the sha-dow of turn-ing, for the nonce. See him no o-ther than as he is!

p *pp* *p* *mf* *mf* *mf*

8^{va} 8^{vb} 8^{ed}

31

Cl. *mf* *f*

Glock. *mf* *f*

Vib.

Vln. *f*

Vc. *mf* *f* *p* *f* *p*

T. *f*

Pno. *mf* *f*

Ed.

Ed.

Give both the in - fi - ni - tudes their due; In - fi - nite mer - cy, In - fi - nite mer - cy,

(8)

35

Cl. *mp* *f*

Glock.

Vib.

Vln. *mp* *f*

Vc. *mf* *mp* *f*

M. Solo *One singeth.*

S. I *f* *p*
As in-fin-ite a jus - tice too.

S. II *f* *p*
As in-fin-ite a jus - tice too.

A. *f* *p*
As in-fin-ite a jus - tice too.

T. *mp* *f* *Organ: plagal-cadence*
But, I wis, As in-fi-nite a jus - tice too.

Pno. *mp* *f* *pp*

42 **Con moto** ♩=108

Cl. *p* *ppp* *p* *ppp* *fp*

Glock. *p*

Vib. *p* *sfz* *mf*

Vln. *mp* *ppp* *p* *ppp*

Vc. *p* *ppp* *p* *ppp*

M. Solo **Con moto** ♩=108 *mf*
 John, Mas-ter of the Tem-ple of God, Fall-ing to sin the Un-known sin, What he bought of Em-per-or

S. I *p*
 John, John

S. II *p*
 John, John

A. *p*
 John, John

Pno. *p* *sfz* *sfz* *mf*

Red. *p*

51

Cl. *f* *p* *p* *pp* *p*

Vib. *p* *sfz* *p*

Vln. *fp* *p* *pp* *p*

Vc. *fp* *p* *pp* *p*

M. Solo
 Alda brod, He sold to Sul-tan Sa-la din. Till, caught by Pope Cle-ment, a buzz - ing there,

S. I *f* *p* *f* *p* *f*

S. II *f* *p* *f* *p* *f*

A. *f* *p* *f* *p* *f*

Pno. *f* *p* *sfz* *p* *pp*

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rit.

A tempo ♩=108

58 To B. Cl.

Bass Clarinet
in B \flat

Cl. *mf* *ppp*

Vib. *f* *sfz*

Vln. *mf* *fp* *fp*

Vc. *mf* *f* *mf* *fp* *fp*

M. Solo *f* *mp* **spoken* A tempo ♩=108

Hor-net-prince of the mad wasps' hive, And clipt his wings in Par - is square, *They bring him now to be burned alive.

And wanteth there grace of lute or
clavicithern, ye shall say to confirm
him who singeth -

S. I *p*

John

S. II *p*

John

A. *p*

John

Pno. *f* *sfz* *p* *sfz* *pp* *fp* *pp*

65

B. Cl.

Vib.

Vln.

Vc.

M. Solo

S. I

S. II

A.

Pno.

mf

f

fp

pp

f

f

f

pp

We bring John now to be burned a - live.

We bring John now to be burned a - live.

We bring John now to be burned a - live.

70

B. Cl.

Vib.

Vln.

Vc.

M. Solo

Pno.

fp *ppp* *fp* *ppp* *mp* *fp* *fp*

f *mf* *p*

fp *ppp* *fp* *ppp* *mp* *fp* *fp*

mf

mf

In the midst a good-ly gal - lows built; 'Twixt fork and fork, a

76

B. Cl. *p* *mp* *fp*

Vib. *mp*

Vln. *mp* *fp*

Vc. *p* *mp* *fp* *mf*

M. Solo
stake is stuck;— But first they set div - ers tum-brils a - tilt; Make a trench all a-round in the ci - ty muck;—

Pno. *mp* *fp*

8^{vb}

83

B. Cl.

Vib.

Vln.

Vc.

M. Solo
 But first they pi - le log u-pon log, good store; Fag-gots no few, blocks great and small, Reach a man's

Pno.

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90

B. Cl. *Colla voce* *Giusto* *Colla voce*

Vib.

Vln.

Vc. *pizz.* *arco*

M. Solo *Colla voce* *Giusto* *Colla voce*

S. I

S. II

A.

Pno.

p *f* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p*

mid - thigh, no less, no more, For they mean he should roast in the sight of all.

We mean he should roast in the

We mean he should roast in the

We mean he should roast in the

rit. Meno mosso ♩ = 88

poco rit.

B. Cl. *f* *p* *fp*

Vib. *f* To Tom-t.

Vln. *f* *p* *fp*

Vc. *f* *p* *fp*

rit. Meno mosso ♩ = 88

poco rit.

S. I *f* sight of all.

S. II *f* sight of all.

A. *f* sight of all.

Pno. *f* *p* *f*

102 $\text{♩} = 76$ $\text{♩} = \text{♩} (\text{♩} = 114)$ To Cl.

B. Cl. *ppp*

Tom-toms *pppp* *ff*

Vln. *ff*

Vc. *ppp* *ff*

S. I $\text{♩} = 76$ $\text{♩} = \text{♩} (\text{♩} = 114)$ *ff* *p*
 John of the tem-ple whose fame is so brag-ged is burn-ing a - live in Pa - ris square! How can he curse if his

S. II *ff* *p*
 John of the tem-ple whose fame is so brag-ged is burn-ing a - live in Pa - ris square! How can he curse if his

A. *ff* *p*
 John of the tem-ple whose fame is so brag-ged is burn-ing a - live in Pa - ris square! How can he curse if his

T. *f* *p*
 John of the tem-ple whose fame is so brag-ged is burn-ing a - live in Pa - ris square! How can he curse if his

Pno. *pp* *ff* *p*

8^{vb} *Led.*

116

Cl. *fp* *fp* *f* *f* *Colla voce* *Giusto*

Tom-t. *fp* *f* 3 3 *f*

Vln. *fp* *fp* *f* 3 *f*

Vc. *fp* *fp* *f* 3 *f*

M. Solo *f* *Colla voce* *Giusto*
Here one crosseth himself.
 Thinks John, _____ I will call u-pon Jes - us Christ. Jes - us Christ, _____

S. I since his arms are spliced? Or kick with his feet now his legs are bound? John, John, Jes - us Christ, _____

S. II since his arms are spliced? Or kick with his feet now his legs are bound? John, John, Jes - us Christ, _____

A. since his arms are spliced? Or kick with his feet now his legs are bound? John, John, Jes - us Christ, _____

T. since his arms are spliced? Or kick with his feet now his legs are bound? John, John, Jes - us Christ, _____

Pno. 3 3 3 *f*

124

Cl. *Colla voce* *Giusto* *Colla voce* *Giusto*

Tom-t. *To Vib.*

Vln. *f*

Vc. *f*

M. Solo *Colla voce* *Giusto* *Colla voce* *Giusto*

S. I *p* *f* *p* *p sub.*

S. II *p* *f* *p* *p*

A. *p* *f* *p* *p*

T. *p* *f* *p*

Pno. *f* *p*

John had bought and sold, Jes - us Christ, John had eat-en and drunk; To him, the Flesh

Jes - us Christ, Sal - via re - ve

Jes - us Christ, Sal - via re - ve

Jes - us Christ, Sal - via re - ve

Jes - us Christ,

133 **Colla voce** **Giusto**

Cl. *p* *f* *p* *f*

Vib. *mf*

Vln. *pizz.* *mf* *f* *mf*

Vc. *pizz.* *mf* *arco*

M. Solo **Colla voce** **Giusto**
meant sil-ver and gold... Now it was,

S. I *mf*
ren - tia. Sal - via re - ve-ren - tia. 'Tis John

S. II *mf*
ren - tia. Sal - via re - ve-ren - tia. 'Tis John

A. *mf*
ren - tia. Sal - via re - ve-ren - tia. 'Tis John

T. *f*
Sa - vior, boun - ti-ful lamb, I have roast-ed thee Turks, though men roast

Pno. *mf* *f* *mf*

141

Cl. *fp* *f* *p* *fp* *p*

Vib. *f* *p*

Vln. *arco* *p*

Vc. *fp* *f* *p*

M. Solo

S. I 'Tis John the mock - er cries, John the mock - er cries,

S. II 'Tis John the mock - er cries, John the mock - er cries,

A. 'Tis John the mock - er cries, John the mock - er cries,

T. me! See thy ser - vant the fate were - in I am!

Pno. *f* *p*

146

Cl. *f* *mf* *fp* *pp* *p* *poco rit.*

Vib. *f* *mf* *p*

Vln. *f* *f* *pp*

Vc. *fp* *f* *p sub.*

M. Solo *poco rit.* *p* "Save thou me!"

S. I *mf* *p* John the mock - er cries, "Save thou me!"

S. II *mf* *p* John the mock - er cries, "Save thou me!"

A. *mf* *p* John the mock - er cries, "Save thou me!"

T. *f* *f* *p* Art thou a sav - iour? Art thou a sav - iour? Save thou me!

Pno. *f* *mf* *f* *p sub.*

154 **Poco meno mosso** ♩ = 108

Cl.

Vib.

Vln.

Vc.

Poco meno mosso ♩ = 108

M. Solo
Saith, he knoweth but one thing, What he knows? That God is good and the rest is breath; Why else is the same styled Sha-ron's rose?.

Pno.

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164 rit. A tempo ♩ = 108

Cl. *fp* *f* *p* *sfz* *fp* *fp*

Glock. *p* *sfz* *f* *secco* *sempre l.v.*

Vib. *f* *sfz* *f* *secco* *sempre l.v.*

Vln. *fp* *f* *p* *sfz* *pizz.* *arco* *8va* *fp*

Vc. *fp* *f* *p* *ppp* *sfz* *pizz.* *arco* *fp*

M. Solo *f* *mp* *f*
 Once a rose, ev-er a rose, he saith. John pluck-eth now at his rose To rid him

S. I *p* *f* *p* *f*
 O, John shall yet find a rose! John John

S. II *p* *f* *p* *f*
 O, John shall yet find a rose! John John

A. *p* *f* *p* *f*
 O, John shall yet find a rose! John John

Pno. *f* *p* *sfz* *f*

174

Cl. *> ppp* *p* *mf* *f*

Glock.

Vib. *mf* *f*

Vln. ⁽⁸⁾⁻⁻⁻ *> ppp* *p* *mf* *f*

Vc. *> ppp* *p* *mf* *f*

M. Solo *> p* *p* *mf* *f*

self of a sor-row at heart! Pet - al on pet-al, fierce rays un-close! An - ther on an-ther, sharp spikes out - start!

S. I *> p* *mf* *f*

John

S. II *> p* *mf* *f*

John

A. *> p* *mf* *f*

John

Pno. *fp* *f*

184

Cl. *mp* 3 3 3 3 3 5 3 3 3 3

Glock. *mf* *mf*

Vib. *mp* *mp* 3 3 3

Vln. *mp* *fp* 8^{va} 3 3 *fp*

Vc. *sfp* *fp* *pp* *fp*

M. Solo *mf* 3

Pno. *mp* 3 3 3

And with blood for dew, the bos - om boils; And a gust of sul - phur is all its

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190

Colla voce

Giusto

molto rit.

Cl.

Glock.

Vib.

Vln.

Vc.

M. Solo

Pno.

smell; And lo, he is ho ri - bly in the toils of a coal - black gi - ant flower of hell!

ff *pp* *p* *ff* *mp* *pp* *fp* *ppp* *fp* *ppp*

ff *mp* *pp* *pp*

8^{va}

8^{vb}

198 *Colla voce* ♩ = 52 *Maestoso* *rit.*

Cl. *ppp* *pp*

Glock. *pp*

Vib.

Vln. *con sord.* *pp* *con sord.*

Vc. *p* *ppp* *pp*

M. Solo *Colla voce* ♩ = 52 *Maestoso* *rit.*

S. I *mp*
 What make-eth hea - ven, That make - eth hell.

S. II *mp*
 What make-eth hea - ven, that make-eth hell.

A. *mp*
 What make-eth hea - ven, that make-eth hell.

Pno. *pp*

(8)

207 Poco meno mosso ♩ = 48

Cl. *p* *ppp* *ppp* *p*

Glock. *p*

Vib.

Vln. *p* *ppp* *ppp* *p*

Vc. *p* *ppp* *p*

M. Solo *p* *ppp* *ppp* *p*

S. I *pp* *pp*

S. II *pp* *pp*

A. *pp*

Pno. *pp*

So as John called now, through the fire, a-main. On the Name he had cursed with, all his life; To the Per - son, he bought and sold a gain;

John John John

213

Cl. *mp* *p* *mf*

Glock. *p* *mf* *mf*

Vib.

Vln. *p* *mf* *pp* *mf* *mf*

Vc. *mf*

M. Solo
 For the Face, with his dai ly buf-fets rife; Fea-ture by fea-ture Ittook its place: And his voice, like a

S. I

S. II

A.

Pno. *p* *mf* *mf*

8^{va}

8^{vb}

220

Cl. *pp* *p* *pp*

Glock. *p*

Vib.

Vln. *p* *pp*

Vc. *p* *pp*

M. Solo *p* *pp*

S. I

S. II

A.

Pno. *p* *pp*

rit. A tempo ♩ = 48

rit. A tempo ♩ = 48

mad dog's chok - ing bark, At the stea - dy whole of the Judg - e's face; Died. Forth John's soul

(8)-----|

224

rit.

Cl. *ppp* *p* *pp* *pp*

Glock.

Vib.

Vln. *pp*

Vc. *> ppp* *pp*

M. Solo *rit.*
flared in- to the dark.

S. I *pp* *p* *pp*
God help all poor souls lost in the dark!_

S. II *pp* *p* *pp*
God help all poor souls lost in the dark!

A. *pp* *p* *pp*
God help all poor souls_ lost in the dark!

T. *Subjoineth the Abbot Deodaet.* *p*
God help all poor souls lost in the dark!

Pno. *ppp*

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