

Full Score

for Birmingham Opera Company and BCMG

Yfat Soul Zisso

Hi Sam

a mini-opera for soprano,
violin, and tenor trombone

Programme notes:

Written for the 2017 Birmingham Weekender festival as part of the *Second Chance* project
with Birmingham Opera Company and Birmingham Contemporary Music Group,
this mini opera captures a chance conversation between a woman and her ex
as she tries to put on a calm and confident facade while going through the different reactions
seeing him is causing - who is doing better post-breakup? Have the problems leading to it disappeared?
Maybe running into him is a sign they should get back together?

Y.S.Z.

Performance notes:

Rehearsal mark A - see separate sheet for materials to be randomly played / sung while the singer walks in.

Tremolos - Apart from the 1-line notes in the violin (e.g. in b. 32) which are measured,
all violin and trombone tremolos with multiple lines are unmeasured,
to be played as fast as possible to dramatic effect.

Fermatas with short or long breaths - These are used as a way for the singer's character to 'prepare'
for each outward interaction - i.e. putting on a confident and calm facade.
Each of the fermatas will end with an inhale that leads the instrumentalists into the next bar.

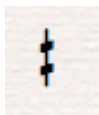
All unison melodies (e.g. b. 16) are led by the soprano
and are of a slightly less strict nature tempo-wise,
almost being quasi recit.

d.e. - diaphragm emphasis. Should be grow organically throughout each note.

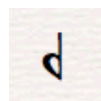
Ritardandi leading to a fermata are cancelled out by the next metronome mark (e.g. b. 13 and b. 44)

Spoken bars - The spoken words should be acted out, fitting into the time-frame of the bar they're in.
If a trombone plays at the start of the bar, start talking only after it starts playing, using it as a trigger to speak.

Quarter-tones:



quarter sharp



quarter flat

Instrumentation:

solo soprano

violin

tenor trombone

Please note this is an easier to read version of the score, with the trombone using bass and treble clefs instead of tenor clef.

Duration - c. 5 mins

Hi Sam - A Section (while walking in)

Duration of section = c. 10-20"

Alternate randomly between the materials.
each should be completed before moving to the next,
but can be repeated as many times as the singer chooses, in whatever tempo.

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A

Soprano

<i>mp</i> to herself, almost mumbling <spoken>	<i>mf</i> to herself, as if suddenly remembering something important <spoken>
Must remember to buy milk..	Gotta call Sarah back!

S.

romantic <i>mp</i> <i>mf</i> Mmm	<i>mf</i> like a mantra <spoken>
	Milk, milk, milk. Must not forget the milk.

S.

<i>f</i> as if winning an imaginary argument <spoken>	c. 5-10" X
Shut up Judy, you have no idea what you're talking about!	Alternate between the last 2 songs you remember getting stuck in your head (alternating 3 pitches from each one)

S.

as if trying to memorise speech for work, mumbling most words, with only some words and syllables (randomly) jumping out through the texture (louder and clearer), some very high and some very low in range. Each repetition differing from the last <spoken>	c. 5-10"
Ladies and gentleman, good afternoon and thank you for joining me here today	

Hi Sam - A Section (as soprano walks in)

Duration of section = c. 10-20"

Yfat Soul Zisso

Alternate randomly between the materials.
each should be completed before moving to the next,
but can be repeated as many times as the player chooses, in whatever tempo.

A

Violin

mp
romantic

sul pont.
mf ————— *f*

Vln.

3

sul tasto
mf

sul tasto
p

Hi Sam - A Section (as soprano walks in)

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Duration of section = c. 10-20"

Alternate randomly between the materials.
each should be completed before moving to the next,
but can be repeated as many times as the player chooses, in whatever tempo.

A

Tenor Trombone

romantic
mp ————— *mf*

d.e.
mf

Tbn.

³ lip trill
mf

lip trill
mf

Hi Sam

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a mini-opera for soprano, violin, and tenor trombone

c. ♩ = 112

A walk-in* **B** long breath *mf* confident, calm short breath

Soprano

Hi Sam How are you?

c. ♩ = 112

A sop's walk-in* **B** sul pont.

Violin

mp — *mf* — *f*

Tenor Trombone

sop's walk-in* d.e.

mp — *mf*

7 c. ♩ = 138 *f* anxious, panicked **C** c. ♩ = 56 *mp* nostalgic, romantic

S.

Oh God What's he do - ing here?! It's been so long..

c. ♩ = 138 **C** c. ♩ = 56

Vln.

Tbn.

d.e.

mp — *mf* — *p* — *mp*

romantic

*See separate A section

11 *c. ♩ = 60* short breath *mf* confident, calm

c. ♩ = 56 rit. nostalgic, romantic *mp* *p*

S. Fan - cy mee - ting you here So long..

Vln. *c. ♩ = 60* *mf* *f* *c. ♩ = 56* rit. norm. *mp* *mf* *p* romantic

Tbn. d.e.

14 *c. ♩ = 72* short breath *mf* confident, calm

D *c. ♩ = 60* *mp* nostalgic, romantic *mf* judgemental

S. You seem well We were hap - py once, but he was a lazy arse who wouldn't get off the sofa

Vln. *c. ♩ = 72* sul pont. *mf* *f* **D** *c. ♩ = 60* norm. with sop *mp* romantic

Tbn. d.e.

18 *mf* nostalgic, romantic *mp* *mf* judgemental *c. ♩ = 69* nostalgic, romantic *mp* *mf*

S. Oh, so hap - py once, He was never going anywhere with that awful job of his! May - be this is fate?

Vln. *c. ♩ = 69* *mf*

Tbn.

22 **E** *mf* judgemental *f* *c. ♩ = 144* anxious, panicked *ff*

S. *<spoken>*
or maybe just a chance to kick him to the curb again! God I hope I look al-right!

Vln. *sul pont.* *mf* *f* *mf* *ff* *c. ♩ = 144*

Tbn. *d.e.* *mf* *romantic*

28 **F** *c. ♩ = 60* pause + breath *mf* confident, calm *getting gradually more agitated and attempting to hide it*

S. How are you do-ing? Oh, wow, that's fan-tas - tic(!) A -

Vln. **F** *c. ♩ = 60* *sul tasto* *mf*

Tbn. *a la 'Snoopy', with plunger mute* *mf* *gliss.* *3* *3* *3*

31 *f*

S. no-ther pro-mo- tion(!) So glad that you're do-ing well(!)

Vln. *f* *ff* *f*

Tbn. *norm. lip trill* *3*

33

f judgemental

* *mp* listening to reason

S. *<spoken>* *<spoken>*

How can HE be doing better than I am?!!

Perhaps I underestimated him..

Vln. *fmp*

Tbn. *fmp*

35

c. ♩ = 92 excitedly pushing forwards

G *mp* nostalgic, romantic

mf judgemental

mp nostalgic, romantic *mp*

S. *<spoken>* *<spoken>*

We were hap-py once, Oh, so hap-py once, and then I went and threw it all away! May-be this is fate He's finally the man I always wanted him to be!

G c. ♩ = 92 excitedly pushing forwards

norm. with sop
mp romantic

Vln. *mp* romantic

Tbn. *mp* *fmp*

40

mp nostalgic, romantic

H

rit. . . .

S. *<spoken>* *<spoken>*

We were hap-py once, Oh, so hap-py once, May-be this is fate

with sop

H

rit. . . .

Vln. *f*

with sop

Tbn. *mp* romantic *f*

*Wait for Trombone to reach mp before speaking

46 **I** c. ♩ = 104 *mf* nervous *ff* suddenly devastated

pause + breath

S. May-be we could, some-time, meet up, for a cup of cof-

Vln.

Tbn.

53 **J** c. ♩ = 66 *mp* *mf* *f* *ff*
trying very hard to retain calm and confident facade *surprised and angry*

Oh, — is this your girl- friend? She seems nice. He's got a girl- friend??!

Vln. **J** c. ♩ = 66 *pp* *mf* *f*
sul tasto *sul pont.* *lip trill*

Tbn. *pp* *mp* *mf*
d.e.

59 **K** *calming down, changing into a delusional romantic* *mf* romantic, delusional

Though if it's fate: us mee-ting here to- day —

Vln. **K** *mf*
sul tasto with sop

Tbn. *mp* *sim.*

64 *f judgemental and delusional* *mf romantic, delusional*

S. *<spoken>*
He'll leave her and we'll be happy together again! And if it's fate, then I'm the one for him_____

Vln.

Tbn.

69 *f judgemental and delusional* *mf romantic, delusional*

S. *<spoken>*
There's no way she could even compare to me! If this is

Vln.

Tbn.

71 *ff* *mf* *f* notices ring, shocked

S. fate_____ Here be - gins our fae - rie t

Vln. *f*

Tbn. norm. with sop

74 *sturggling to retain calm and confident cascade* *mp* *mf*

S. *M* What's that on her fin- ger? Oh, so you're en- gaged?(!) Oh,

Vln. *M* *mp* *mf*

Tbn. a la 'Snoopy', with plunger mute *mp*

77

S. *wow, that's a - ma - zing(!)* *Con-gra-tu - la- tions(!)* *Wow,*

Vln.

Tbn.

79

S. *that's ve - ry soon(!!!)* *He's got a fi - an - ce??!!*

Vln. *surprised and furious* *f* *fff* *frozen in spot, on verge of a panic attack*

Tbn. *norm.* *lip trill* *sim.* *mf*

sul pont. *ff*

83

S. **N** *panicked, knows she should leave but struggling to get the words out*
Well.. *Well I should be..* *Well I should be*

Vln. *sul tasto* *mf*

Tbn. *alternate quickly, unmeasured (and not with violin)*

85

S. *go - ing.. Well I should be go - ing now..*

Vln.

Tbn. *lip trill*



87

S. *big breath gathers all possible emotional strength* *mf confident, calm* *starts walking out*
Bye Sam.

Vln. *pp*

Tbn. *pp*

