ANDREW LOVETT

Jackieie K.

a mini-opera for voice with piano accompaniment.

Words by April de Angelis

Jackie K was written at the 1991 OperaLab under the auspices of the Performing Arts Lab with the ENO Opera Studio. It was a collaboration with the singer Jacqueline Horner (who suggested the subject), and the writer April de Angelis It was first performed by Jacqueline Horner with Henry Ward, piano.

Jackie Potter meditates on the mythology surrounding her namesake, Jackie Kennedy and the assassination of President Kennedy. She remembers that after the shooting, Jackie Kennedy climbed out of the car and tried to pick up the remains of her husband's brain, which had been blown to pieces.

The setting is simple: a chair facing the audience from which Jackie Potter confides her story.

The piece may be performed with piano accompaniment or with tape-accompaniment. The tape-part, which is an arrangement of the piano part, is available in two formats; DAT or CD, which may be obtained from the composer.

Where no pitches are indicated in the voice-part, the words should be spoken.

Duration: about 7 minutes.

Jackie K.

She was an enigma. You never knew what was going on beneath. But you imagined she was happy. She often wore glasses - and suits. Her hair was much-admired; a lot of people wore their hair à la Jackie.

My name is Jackie too - Jackie Potter.

She was very popular and went places like Paris.

My interest is quite new. I'm not ashamed. Many people harbour a profound admiration for others.

It was a love match, although he fucked anything that stood still long enough. It was a love-match.

Wait, I've got some shoes, some perfect shoes. Jackie had most perfect legs, just like mine. They were useful at parties and other social functions, not like mine.

Some people's lives are special. Their lives are shining, their cars are shining.

In the car he is sitting next to her. You can not see it, but I think he is holding her hand secretly.

That's wonderful.

Imagine; the crowd is watching and thinking you are perfect and you are waving and smiling and waving.

Now, now, the crowd can see something has happened. They are not sitting in the car properly; things are twisting, his head is lolling and she is climbing.

I am on the car. I'm crawling, scrambling, climbing, reaching. My legs are twisting ugly. I am reaching.

Look, there are bits on my skirt, bits on my suit. I need to put them back in him; back in Jack.

How strange. I feel like Jackie. You were always picking up the pieces for him weren't you?

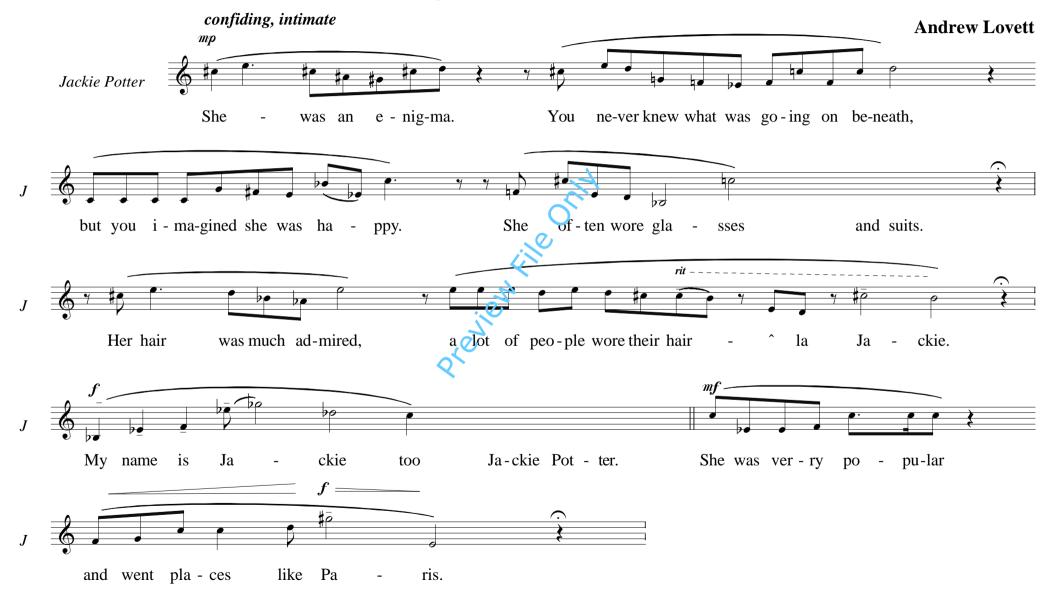
What a pity. How ordinary.

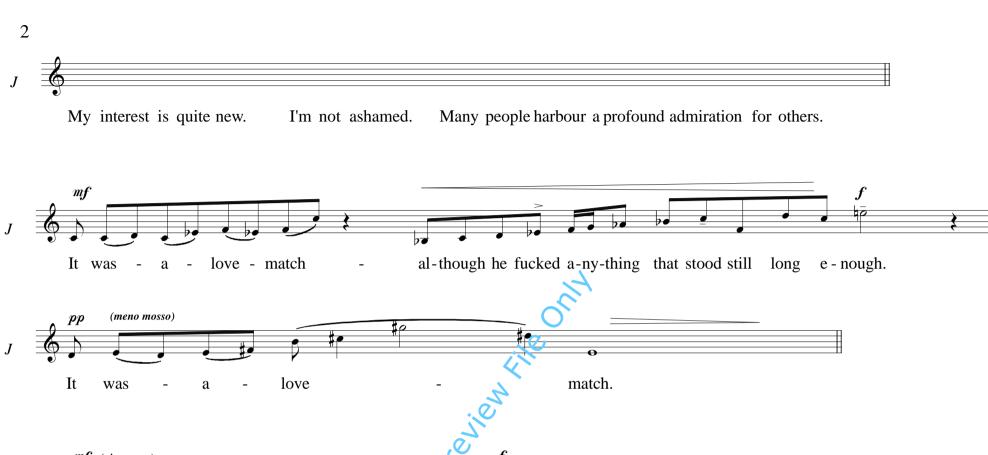
Two years later, she re-married.

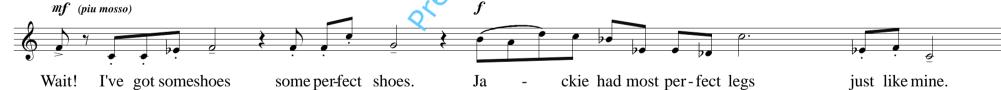
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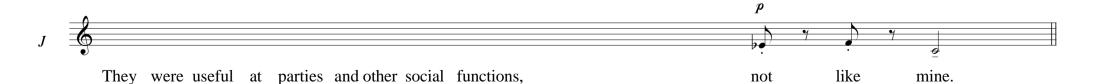
Dedicated to Jacqueline Horner.

Jackie K











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