

Ric Graebner

In a Portuguese Park

for Soprano and Piano

2007

In a Portuguese Park - Performance Notes

Soprano

The general style of delivery should be like accompanied recitative, more French than German or Italian, and English vowels are preferred to the more conventional Italian sounds where the text is 'exposed'. More florid or sustained passages can be performed according to conventional training.

The parlando passages are notated in two different ways. Triangular note-heads mean half-sung and approximately at the pitch shown - more or less like *parlando* in late 19thc. Italian opera.

X-shaped note-heads are more spoken and percussive.

Dynamics are only shown in the voice part where some not immediately obvious nuance is intended. Generally, they are open to interpretation, given the sense of the words, and physical constraints of register. Sometimes, too, the piano writing suggests the dynamic level and atmosphere.

Letters in square brackets as e.g. in 'du[cks]' are not sung, but show how the preceding vowel is pronounced.

'None' - p.11, l.3 to rhyme with 'bone' - i.e. the canonical hour - though nuns may well be involved.

Piano

Tremolandi are shown with a *trem.* indication and lines across note-stems as normal, but presented as chords to show the duration more clearly, though they are to be performed in the usual way - with rapidly alternating pitches. Start with whichever note is more convenient. Written out passages resembling tremolando, but without *trem.* marking should be performed precisely.

Trills go one semitone or tone above the main note depending on the small accidental unless a trill to below the main note is shown with a small headless auxiliary. Trills without other indication go to the next natural pitch above the main note.

Grace notes always come before the beat, and are as short as possible.

Where pedalling is shown it should be observed carefully, as the harmonies in question are intended to overlap. Discreet pedalling may be used elsewhere to facilitate legato - particularly trills and tremos. - except where expressly contra-indicated.

General

Strictly speaking, accidentals apply only per bar, part and register, according to convention. Many extra guide accidentals have been included, but their presence in every potentially ambiguous situation should not be relied on.

IN A PORTUGUESE PARK

Ric Graebner

Soprano

Andantino ♩ = 65

Piano

poco esitando *p* *pp* *mp* *mf* *mp* *p* *mf*

con moto *mp* *mf* *mp* *p* *mf*

sonore *p* *mf*

Led. * *Led.* *

Pf.

mp *p sub.* *pp* *mf*

Led. * *Led.* * *Led.* * *Led.* * *Led.* *

cédez *a tempo*

S.

Ri- vu- lets of trem- bling air Per- spire and melt in

Pf.

f *p* *mp*

Led. *

S.

ri- ver rip- ples.

Pf.

f *p*

S. Haze of heat, dust of discs That heed- less tod-

Pf. *mp* *p* *mp* *mf* *p* *pp*

3 3

tr

S. dlers throw at pegs Ob- li- vious of the rules, Or

Pf. *cresc.* *mf* *dim.*

tr

S. in- no- cent or bored. What what what what (percussive, expressionless)

Pf. *p* *mf* *f*

3 3 3 6

S. what What rules? Crea- tures, drained

Pf. *f* *p*

norm. (cantando) *cresc. senza vibrato* *f* *mp*

3

S. *dead- beat stag- ger spas- mic one step, one*

Pf. *mf p*

S. *half, Ex- haus- tion set in*

Pf. *mf f mf p f*

poco port.

S. *mar- bled brains, At backs*

Pf. *mp mf p*

Led. *

S. *of mo- tors, gaw- ping hours*

Pf. *f*

Led. *

S. *to park.*

Pf. *p mf*

*ped. * ped. * ped. * ped.*

S.

Pf. *p pp trem. p mp*

** ped. * ped. * ped. **

S. *The wor[ld] [w]orld*

Pf. *LH mf p RH*

*ped. * ped. * ped. * ped. **

S. *just stopped. Sole buzz of sweat- drunk flies from drains,*

Pf. *pp p mf f*

*ped. * trem. 1/2 pedal*

S. *In in- tri- ca- ted mi- mi- cry of fu- ry,*

Pf.

S. *A- spi- ring in spir'- ling wal- tzes To spires of trees*

Pf.

*

S. *and knees, The lu- scious tick- le of thigh A feast*

Pf.

S. *se- cre- ted heat of calf un- de- ters*

Pf.

Led.

*

Led.

*

S. Round and o- ver grand, ri- di- cu- lous, im- ma- cu- late- ly laid

Pf. *mp cresc.* *f* *p* *tr*

Red.

S. Pic- nic cloths by round- a- bouts a swing, And two- di- men- sio- nal

Pf. *mf*

*Red. Red. Red. **

S. boun- cy hard- board dogs Sim- pe- ring

Pf. *f* *mf*

*Red. * Red. * Red. **

S. fake or- ga- sms of e- ner- gy at sec- saw

Pf. *ff*

*Red. *Red. **

S. *fi- ni- als. The si- lence*

Pf. *f p*

S. *(parlando, percussive, expressionless)*
swerves and ducks, discs click, ducks, discs, click, duck, dis,

Pf. *sonore f*

Red.

S. *(normal)*
cli, In rhy- thm dif- fe- rent with each

Pf. *p (Bbs - mechanical strikes) mf*

no pedal - Bbs must be dry and staccatiss. carefully sustain everything else

Red.

S. *parlando* *normal*
throw du[cks], di[scs], cli[ck] cli cli todd- lers,

Pf. *f mp trem.*

Red.

S. ob- li- vious to the rules di[scs] re- lent- du[cks]

Pf. trem. trem. mf

x-notes spoken

S. -less- ly di cli[ck] in- vent. What di what du what

Pf. sf sf p mf f

S. what cli what rules?

Pf. mf

Led. * Led. * Led. *

S. The dis- tant Throb, the thump, Dull

Pf. mp p pp mp

3 3 6 6 6 3

* Led. * 1/2 pedal * Led. * 1/2 pedal Led. * Led. *

S. croak of Cra- zy Frog Floats on a

Pf. *mp*
sempre 8va bassa
f

S. creak- y clank Of pe- da- los

Pf. *mp* *sf* *f* *subp*
loco 6 3

S. pro- ces- sing or be- calmed, State- ly

Pf. *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *p*
Red. * *Red.* *6 6 3 3 3

S. or sta- tic un- der pa- ra- sols In gra- cious limp

Pf. *cresc.* *f*
3 6 3 3 6 3

S. ar- ma- das, Or- der to the li-

Pf. *mp* *cresc.*

S. (breathe but continue phrase) ssst- less day,

Pf.

S. Emp- ty of in- ten- tion.

Pf. *ff* *dim.*

S. We thrill and smile

Pf. *p* *pp* *mf*

S. *at* the ab- surd Flu- ent pain- ter-

Pf. *pp* *mp*

Led. *Led.* *Led.* *Led.* *Led.* *

S. ly cor- tege. The pas- sa- ca- glia boom Bass of bells

Pf. *f*

Led.

S. Pro- noun- ces cloi- stered None.

Pf. *mf* *mp* *ppp*

**Led.* * *Led.* *

S. Sud- den scat- tered di- vers splash In- to

Pf. *f* *pp* *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr*

Led. * *Led.* * *Led.* * *Led.* *

S. *a* *dir-ty* *ri-ver.* *Tor-por,* *ex-* *haus-tion*

Pf. *tr* *mf* *p* *mf*

S. *All* *spent.* *Sum-* *mer* *days*

Pf. *mp* *pp muffled*

Red.

S. *on* *a* *bank* *of* *dried* *mud.*

Pf. *mp* *pp* *mf* *mp* *p*

** Red.* ** Red.*

S.

Pf. *pp* *mf* *pp* *3* *ppp* *sonore* *mp* *p*

** Red.* ** Red.* ** Red.* ***