

I once beheld
on earth
celestial
graces

for voice & piano

Justin Lapierre

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Part One: Medicine

I.	On Breathing	piano solo	
II.	The Master	<p>The Master has said: Isn't it a pleasure to study and practice what you have learned? Isn't it also great when friends visit from distant places? If one remains not annoyed when he is not understood by people around him, isn't he a sage?</p> <p>- <i>Confucius, Analects: Chapter 1 (ca. 500 BCE)</i></p>	voice, piano
III.	Admonishment Letter	<p>We are now filing an official warning and admonishment to you on the illegal issue of sharing untrue statements on the Internet according to the Law. Your behavior severely disrupted social order. Your behavior had exceeded the scope permitted by the law and violates the relevant provisions of the Public Security Administration Punishment Law of the Republic of China, which was an illegal act!</p> <p>The Public Security organ hopes that you can cooperate with our work, listen to the admonishment by the police officers and stop conducting illegal activities. Do you understand?</p> <p>- <i>Wuhan Police Bureau's letter of admonition to Dr. Li Wenliang written by Hu Guifang (January 3, 2020)</i></p>	voice, piano

Part Two: Ancestors

IV.	Stars	<p>The high tower is a hundred feet tall, from here one could reach out with their hand and pluck the stars out of the sky. I do not dare to speak in a loud voice, I fear to disturb the people in heaven.</p> <p>- <i>Li Bai, Spending the Night in a Mountain Temple (8th century CE)</i></p>	voice, piano
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- V. **Berceuse** They've turned off the lights, I'm tired; I thought bedtime was three hours ago, but I'm still in my wheelchair, I don't understand. Bedtime was three hours ago; everyone's just walking around us. Have the nurses gone home without us? I don't mind sleeping here again, the smell in my room, it keeps me awake at night.
-written by the composer, based on the abandonment of the Résidence CHSLD Herron in Montréal in 2020
- voice, piano

Part Three: Selfishness

- VI. **Business** Business, in every age of the world, has been the chief pioneer in the march of man's civilization. Blessings everywhere follow its advancing footsteps. It travels over no blood-stained fields to secure its noble ends.
- We love our energetic businessmen; pull them that way, then this way, they only bend but never break. Never yawning away existence, they build our cities, they whiten the ocean with their sails, they blacken the heavens with their smoke of their steam vessels and furnace fires.
- J. E. Hansford, from the Preface of 'The Business Guide, or, Safe Methods of Business' (published 1892, Toronto, ON)*
- voice, piano
- VII. **Freedom** This is mine, that is his, say the small minded. The wise believe that the entire world is but one family.
Be detached from arrogance,
be high-minded, lift up your spirit,
and enjoy the fruit of universal freedom.
- Maha Upanishad: Hymn 6, Lines 71-5 (ca. 2000 BCE)*
- voice, piano

I.

On Breathing

Slow, meditative

Justin Lapierre (b. 1998)

Piano

RH

LH

pp ghostly simile

(pedal & una corda ad lib. throughout)

④

simile

p express.

pp sempre

⑦

*) **Growing and shrinking feathered beams:** speed up and slow down separate from the established tempo.

Do not bother counting the exact number of repetitions of each chord as long as the chord changes somewhat line up with the other voices (the repeated headless notes only display the overall gesture - they are not an exact representation).

(10)

PERUUSAL SCORE DO NOT PRINT

(12)

PERUUSAL SCORE DO NOT PRINT

(15)

PERUUSAL SCORE DO NOT PRINT

(17)

PERUUSAL SCORE DO NOT PRINT

(19) 8 (top staff only)

p

pp

rit. -

ppp

(22) a tempo (loco)

pp

pochiss. cresc.

simile

(25)

p

express.

(28)

mf

f

mf

f

8 (bottom staff only)

f express.

(31) 8

simile

(33) 8

più *f*

(35) 8

rit.

f *pp*

f *pp*

(37) a tempo

(top two staves = RH)

pp

(bottom staff = LH)

pp pochiss. cresc. *pp* simile as before

(40)

p dolce

(43)

pp *mp espr.* (loco)

(45)

PERUSAL SCORE DO NOT PRINT

(48)

rit.

pp

ppp

8

PERUSAL SCORE DO NOT PRINT

II.

The Master

Pensive, mysterious ($\text{J} = 52$)

Voice

Piano

pp

pp

ped. ad lib.

The

*)

(5)

Mas - ter has said,

loco

loco

(11)

The Mas - ter has said,

The Mas - ter has said,

(16)

PERUSAL SCORE DO NOT PRINT

has said:

p

Is it not a pleasure to

(24)

stu - dy and prac - tice what you have

poco espr.

(27)

learned? Is it not al - so

(31) 3 *f*

great when friends when friends

(35) 3 *poco rit.* *pp*

vi-sit from dis-tant pla - ces, from dis - tant pla - ces *poco rit.* *pp*

(42) *a tempo* *p dolce*

If one re - mains not an - noyed *a tempo* *p*

PERUSAL SCORE DO NOT PRINT PERUSAL SCORE DO NOT PRINT PERUSAL SCORE DO NOT PRINT

(48)

when they are not un - der - stood, are they

mp

(54)

not a sage?

pp

(58)

ppp

1

Admonishment Letter

senza misura, agitato

p secco, parlando

A musical staff for a single voice, starting with a treble clef and a common time signature. The melody consists of ten measures, each containing a quarter note followed by a eighth note. Measures 1 through 9 are in common time, while measure 10 is in 6/8 time, indicated by a '6' over an '8'. The notes are black dots on the staff, with stems extending downwards.

We are now filling an of - official war - ning and admission

Piano {
 p m.d.
 m.s.
 tremolo simile

hold ped. through single note tremolo

2

A musical score page featuring two staves. The top staff is for voice (soprano) and the bottom staff is for piano. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The vocal line continues from the previous measure, ending on a half note. The piano accompaniment consists of eighth-note chords. The lyrics "to you on the il - le-gal is-ue of sharing un-true state - ments" are written below the vocal line.

5

Piano part: The right hand plays eighth-note chords in G major (B, D, G, B) and A major (C, E, G, B). The left hand provides harmonic support with sustained notes and eighth-note chords.

Voice part: The vocal line continues with eighth-note patterns. The lyrics "ac - cor - ding to the Law." are followed by a piano dynamic instruction "poco rit." and the vocal line "Your be - ha - viour".

Performance instructions: "senza ped." (no pedal) is indicated under the piano part, and "ped. ad lib." (pedal at liberty) is indicated under the piano part for the final measure.

10

A musical score for piano and voice. The top staff shows the vocal line with lyrics: "se - ver - ely dis -rup - ted so -cial ord - der." The bottom staff shows the piano accompaniment. The score is in common time, with a key signature of one sharp. Measure 11 ends with a repeat sign and a double bar line. Measure 12 begins with a bass clef and a key signature of two sharps.

(17) senza misura like before

p as before

Your beha - viour has ex - ceed - ed the scope per - mit - ted by law,

senza ped.

(18)

NB: Accidentals carry through dotted barlines.

and violates the re - levant pro-visionsof the Public Se-cu - ri - ty Administra - tion

(19)

a bit slower than Tempo II, accel.

f

of the Re - pub - lic of Chi - na which was an il - le - gal

(23) Tempo II

act! The Pub - lic Se - cu - ri - ty or - gan hopes

(29)

hopes you can co - op - er - ate with our work.

(35)

(♩=♩)

p deciso

Lis - ten to the ad - mon - ishment by the police of - fi - cers and

(41)

stop con - ducting il - le - gal ac - ti - vi - ties!

(47)

The pub - lic se - cu - ri - ty or - gan hopes you can co - op - er - ate with our work, lis - ten to the

pp legato subito

(52)

ad - mon - ishment by the of - fi - cers, do - you un - der - stand?

IV. Stars

Serene ($\text{J} = 60$)

Voice

Piano

pp legato sempre
con ped.

(5) *pp* sotto voce
The high to -

(9) wer is a hun - dred feet

(13) *p* tall, *pp* from here one could reach
espress. *p*

(16)

out with their hand and pluck the stars

a tempo
allarg.
pp

(19)

out of the sky, 3 the stars 3

f
sforzando

(21)

out of the sky.

ritenuto
a tempo
loco
p

(26) *p dolce*

I do not dare to speak in a loud voice,

(31) *p* *mp*

I fear to dis - turb the

(35) *smorz.* *3* *short* *pp* *a tempo*

peo - ple in hea rit. ven.

smorz. *short* *a tempo* *pp*

(39) *rit. poco a poco sin' al fine*

rit. poco a poco sin' al fine

poco espress. *3* *3* *ppp*

V.

Berceuse

Floating (♩ = 52)

Voice

Piano

con ped. ad lib. pp

(4)

poco rit.

poco rit.

(7)

a tempo *p* *mf*

They've turned off the lights

a tempo

pp out of nowhere *mf*

*) etc.

*) etc.

(11)

poco rit.
pp

portamento

poco rit.

pp

mp

(13)

poco rit.

a tempo

pp

poco rit.

a tempo

pp

out of nowhere

I'm

pp

(18)

p

pp

ti

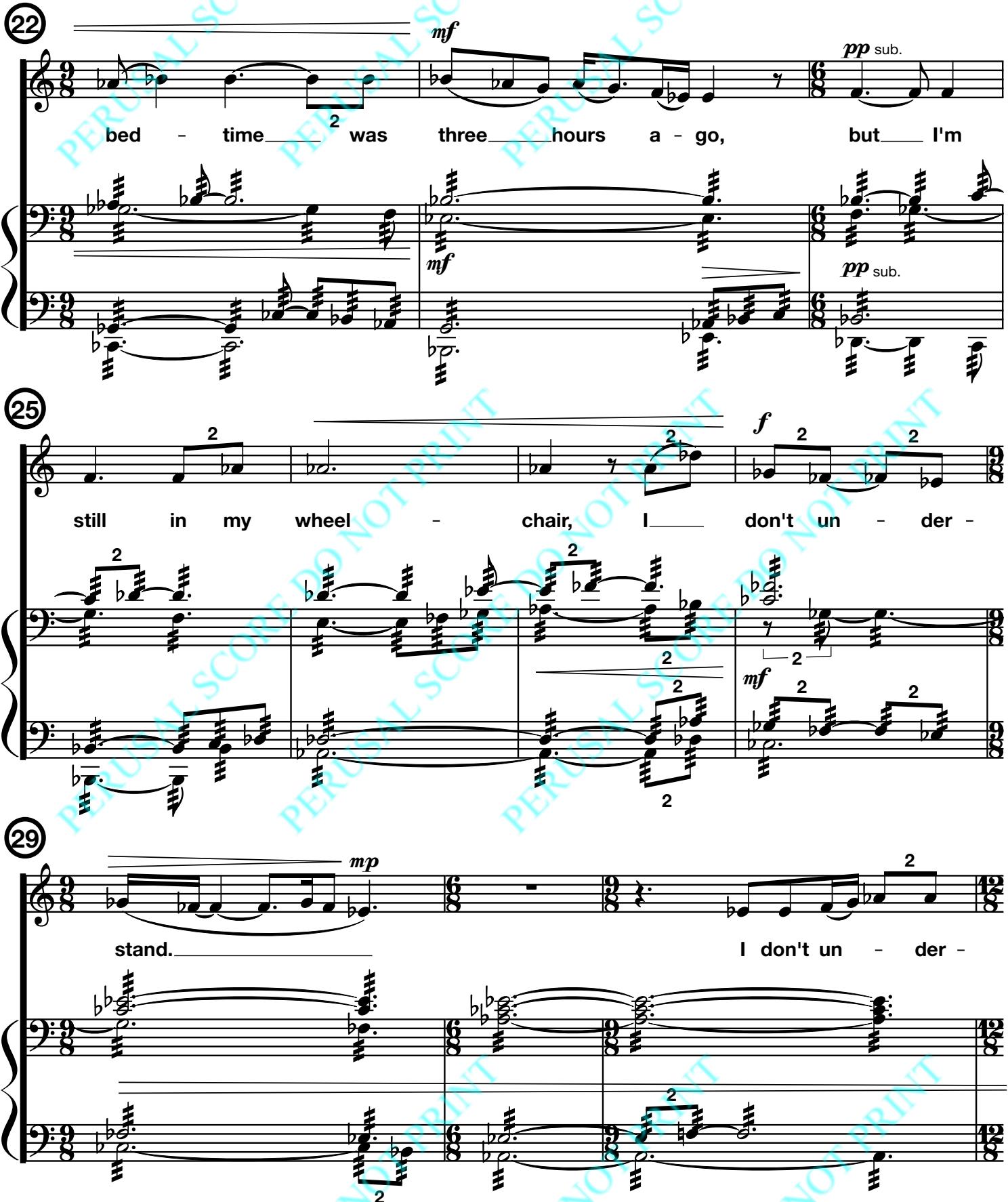
red;

2

thought

p

pp

(22) 
 bed - time ² was three hours a - go, but I'm
 still in my wheel - chair, I don't un - der - stand.
 I don't un - der -

mf *pp sub.*

f *2* *2*

mp *2*

(32)

portamento

p poco rit.

stand. // **p**

p poco rit.

p piano tacet
sin' al fine

(35)

pp

was three hours a - go; eve - ry - one's just walk - ing a -

(40)

mp

pp

round us. Have the nur - ses gone home with - out us?

(44)

Musical score for voice and piano. The vocal line starts with two eighth-note pairs at *p*, followed by a sixteenth-note pattern at *mp*. The piano accompaniment consists of sustained notes. The lyrics are: "I, I, I don't mind sleeping here again, the smell,".

(50)

Musical score for voice and piano. The vocal line begins with eighth-note pairs at *p*, followed by a melodic line with a *poco rit.* and a dynamic *ppp*. The piano accompaniment consists of sustained notes. The lyrics are: "in my room, it keeps me awake at night."

VI. Business

Maestoso ($\text{♩} = 80$)

senza misura; free, moving forward

mf parlando e molto espress.

Voice

mf parlando e molto espress.

Piano

Musical score for piano, page 10, measures 11-12. The score consists of two staves. The top staff is treble clef, B-flat major (two sharps), common time. The bottom staff is bass clef, B-flat major (two sharps), common time. Measure 11 starts with a rest followed by a forte dynamic (f). Measure 12 begins with a bass note followed by a treble note. The right hand has a sixteenth-note pattern in parentheses, dynamic *mp*. The left hand has a sixteenth-note pattern in parentheses, dynamic *pp*. The score is marked *Reed*.

4

a tempo

senza misura, simile

has been the chief pio - neer in the march of man's sci - vi - li - za -

7

a tempo

tion.

8

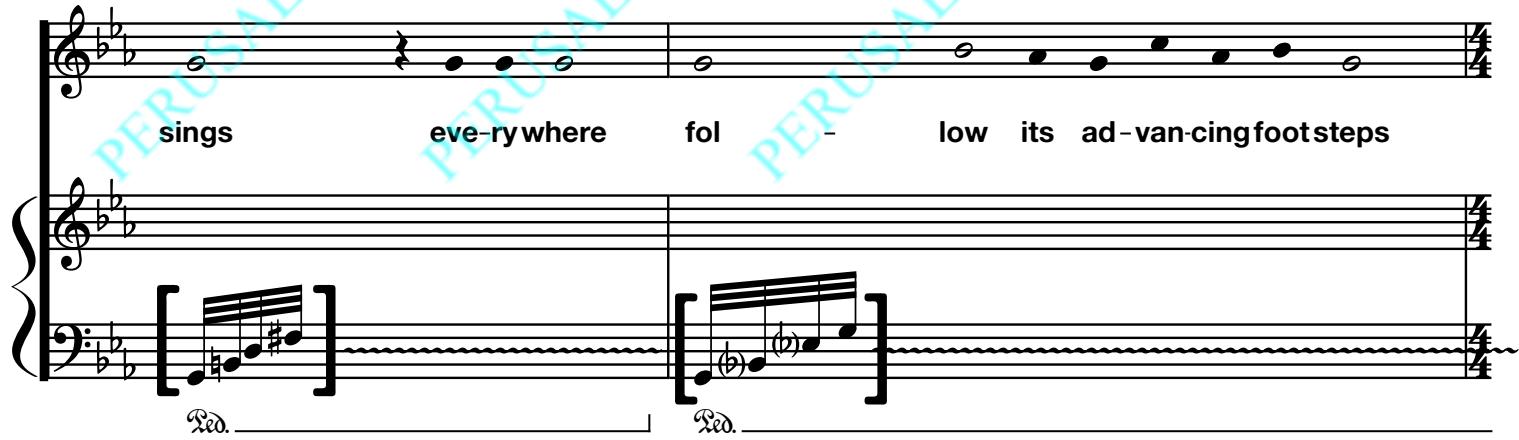
p alla écho

Bles - sings, bles -

(*Loco.*)

(11)

senza misura

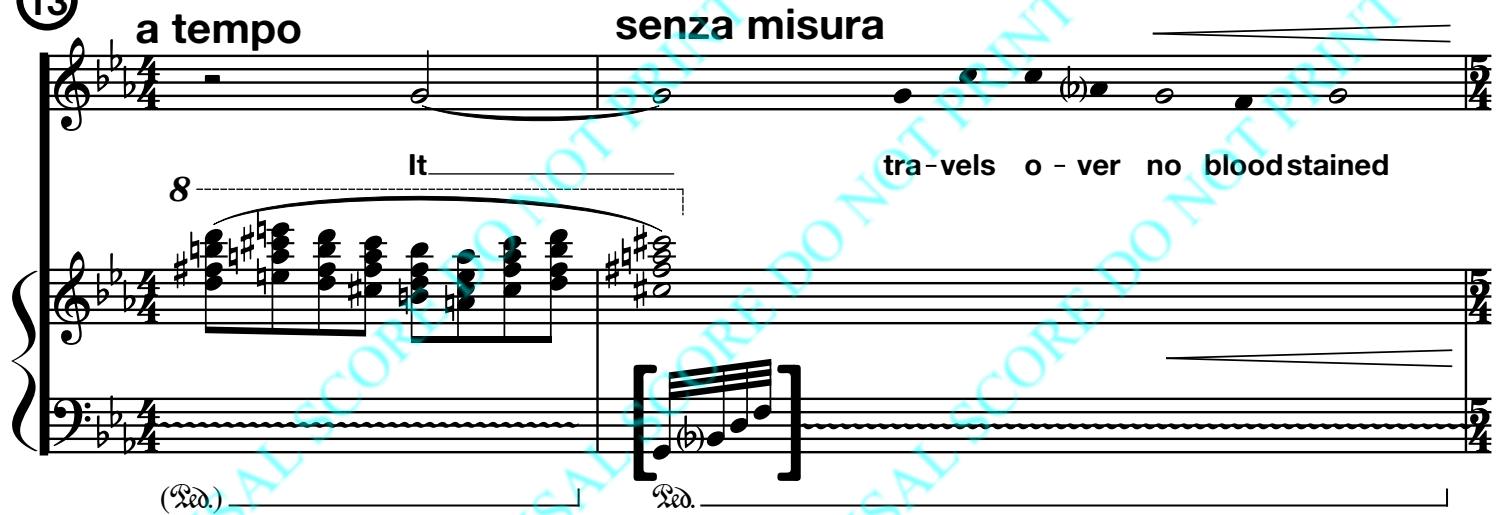


Musical score for measure 11. The vocal line consists of a soprano part (G clef) and a basso continuo part (C clef). The vocal line includes lyrics: "sings eve-rywhere fol - low its ad-van-cing foot steps". The basso continuo part features two groups of eighth-note chords, each enclosed in a bracket and followed by a fermata. The bassoon part is indicated below the basso continuo staff.

(13)

a tempo

senza misura



Musical score for measure 13. The vocal line starts with a short rest, followed by a single note, then continues with lyrics: "It tra-vels o - ver no bloodstained". The basso continuo part features a complex harmonic progression with many chords, some with added notes. The bassoon part is indicated below the basso continuo staff.

(15)

a tempo



Musical score for measure 15. The vocal line consists of a soprano part (G clef) and a basso continuo part (C clef). The vocal line includes lyrics: "fields to se - cure its no - ble end". The basso continuo part features a harmonic progression with various chords, some with grace notes or slurs. The bassoon part is indicated below the basso continuo staff.

(21) **senza misura** *p energico*

We love our e - ner - ge - tic businessmen; pull him

senza ped. as much as possible, secco

(23)

that way, then this way; they on - ly

(26)

bend but ne - ver break Ne - ver yawn - ing

(29)

a way ex - is - tence, they build our

(31)

ci - ties, they whi-ten the o - cean with their sails,

(33)

poco esp.
f

$\text{♩} = 120$, without feeling rushed
p più dolce

they black-en the hea-vens with the smoke, the

p quasi legato

pedal harmonically

(35) *mf* *p* 3
 smoke, the smoke, of their steam
 8

(38)
 ves - sels and fur - nace
 8

(41) *pp* rit. senza misura
 fi - res
 rit. 3
pp *mp* poco espr.
 8

(45) **Tempo I**

f

vocal

rit.

ppp legato, alla écho

VIII.

Freedom

Dryly ($\text{J} = 72$)

Voice

p secco

"That is mine, and this is

Piano

f

pp

ped. ad lib.
unless marked otherwise

ped. ad lib.
unless marked otherwise

(10)

yours": this is what the small min ded say

f

pp

(18)

"This is mine and that is yours":

f

(27)

27

this, this is how small - minded peo - ple live.

(♩ = ♩ semper)

(34)

34

but the wise, the wise they be - lieve, they be - lieve

mf *p* 2

*) $\begin{smallmatrix} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{smallmatrix}$ = $\begin{smallmatrix} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{smallmatrix}$ etc.

(38)

38

all the world is one fa - mi - ly fa - mi - ly

pp alla écho

pp sempre

(43) Begin slow,
accel. - - - - - Brisk ($\text{♩} = 150$)

Musical score for measures 43-47. The score consists of three staves: Treble, Bass, and Bass (continuation). Measure 43 starts with a rest followed by eighth-note pairs in 16th-note time. Measure 44 begins with a bass note, followed by eighth-note pairs. Measure 45 starts with a bass note, followed by eighth-note pairs. Measure 46 starts with a bass note, followed by eighth-note pairs. Measure 47 starts with a bass note, followed by eighth-note pairs.

(48)

Musical score for measures 48-52. The score consists of three staves: Treble, Bass, and Bass (continuation). Measure 48 starts with a bass note, followed by eighth-note pairs. Measure 49 starts with a bass note, followed by eighth-note pairs. Measure 50 starts with a bass note, followed by eighth-note pairs. Measure 51 starts with a bass note, followed by eighth-note pairs. Measure 52 starts with a bass note, followed by eighth-note pairs.

(53)

Musical score for measures 53-57. The score consists of three staves: Treble, Bass, and Bass (continuation). Measure 53 starts with a bass note, followed by eighth-note pairs. Measure 54 starts with a bass note, followed by eighth-note pairs. Measure 55 starts with a bass note, followed by eighth-note pairs. Measure 56 starts with a bass note, followed by eighth-note pairs. Measure 57 starts with a bass note, followed by eighth-note pairs.

(59)

Musical score for measures 59-63. The score consists of three staves: Treble, Bass, and Bass (continuation). Measure 59 starts with a bass note, followed by eighth-note pairs. Measure 60 starts with a bass note, followed by eighth-note pairs. Measure 61 starts with a bass note, followed by eighth-note pairs. Measure 62 starts with a bass note, followed by eighth-note pairs. Measure 63 starts with a bass note, followed by eighth-note pairs. The vocal line includes lyrics: Be de - tached from ar -

(65)

ro - gance Be high

(71)

mind ded lift up your spi - rit

(77)

go and en - joy, en - joy, en - joy

(82)

the fruits, the fruits of u - ni -

88

ver - 2 sal free - 2 dom,

f

m.d.

f

m.s.

v.d. laissez vibrer

89

99

105

pp dolce

free - dom!

pp alla écho

ppp quasi lontano

hold pedal sin' al fine, laissez tout vibrer