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Singing Serpent

Thomas Lanese

Composer

Theodore Roethke

Lyricist

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SINGING SERPENT

Thomas Kanese

MOLTO ALLEGRO $\text{♩} = 116-120$

(THEODORE ROOSTAKE)

The first system of the musical score consists of two staves. The upper staff is a single treble clef line, and the lower staff is a grand staff with a treble clef on top and a bass clef on the bottom. The music is in a key with one flat (B-flat major or D minor) and a 4/4 time signature. The tempo is marked 'MOLTO ALLEGRO' with a quarter note equal to 116-120 beats per minute. The first measure of the lower staff has a '3' above it, indicating a triplet. The piece concludes with a fermata over a whole note in the upper staff, with the word 'THERE' written below it. The word 'Musc...' is written above the final few measures of the lower staff.

MODERATO $\text{♩} = 88$

The second system of the musical score consists of two staves. The upper staff is a single treble clef line with lyrics underneath. The lower staff is a grand staff with a treble clef on top and a bass clef on the bottom. The tempo is marked 'MODERATO' with a quarter note equal to 88 beats per minute. The lyrics are: 'WAS A SERPENT WHO HAD TO SING THERE WAS THERE WAS THERE WAS THERE WAS'. The music is in a key with one flat and a 4/4 time signature. The first measure of the upper staff has a 'mf' dynamic marking. The piece concludes with a fermata over a whole note in the upper staff, with the word 'bed.' written below it.

The third system of the musical score consists of two staves. The upper staff is a single treble clef line with lyrics underneath. The lower staff is a grand staff with a treble clef on top and a bass clef on the bottom. The tempo is marked 'MODERATO' with a quarter note equal to 88 beats per minute. The lyrics are: 'HE SIMPLY GAVE UP SERPENTING BE-CAUSE BE-CAUSE'. The music is in a key with one flat and a 4/4 time signature. The piece concludes with a fermata over a whole note in the upper staff.

HE DIDN'T LIKE HIS KIND OF LIFE HE COULDN'T FIND A PROPER WIFE HE WAS A SERPENT

f

poco rit. *poco meno*

WITH A SOUL HE GOT NO PLEASURE IN HIS HOLE AND SO OF COURSE HE HAD TO SING AND

f

SING HE DID LIKE ANY-THING ANY-THING

rit.

(FREELY SPOKEN - BUT NOT TOO FAST)

THE BIRDS, THEY WERE ASTOUNDED, AND VARIOUS MEASURES PROPOUNDED

TO STOP THE SERPENTS AWFUL RACKET. THEY BOUGHT A DRUM. HE WOULDN'T WACK IT.

THEY SENT TO CUBA AND GOT A MOST COMMODIOUS TUBA,

THEY GOT A HORN, THEY GOT A FLUTE,
BUT NOTHING WOULD SUIT

HE SAID, "LOOK, BIRDS, ALL THIS IS FUTILE,
I DO NOT WISH TO BANG OR TOOTLE."

AND THEN HE CUT LOOSE

f

mecc.

BROADLY

WITH A HORRIBLE NOTE THAT PRACTICALLY SPLIT THE TOP OF HIS THROAT

SERIOSO & ANDANTE ♩ = 63

"YOU SEE", HE SAID, WITH A SERPENT'S LEER

Andante

"I'M SERIOUS A-BOU MY SINGING CA-REER"

(QUASI CADENZA)

TEMPO \downarrow

meac.

3

AND THE WOODS RE-SOUND-ED

f

WITH MANY A SHRIEK

ff

stacc.

stacc.

AS THE BIRDS FLEW OFF

Allegro f

TO THE END OF (rit) NEXT

WEEK

f

1 a tempo

f

Smile.