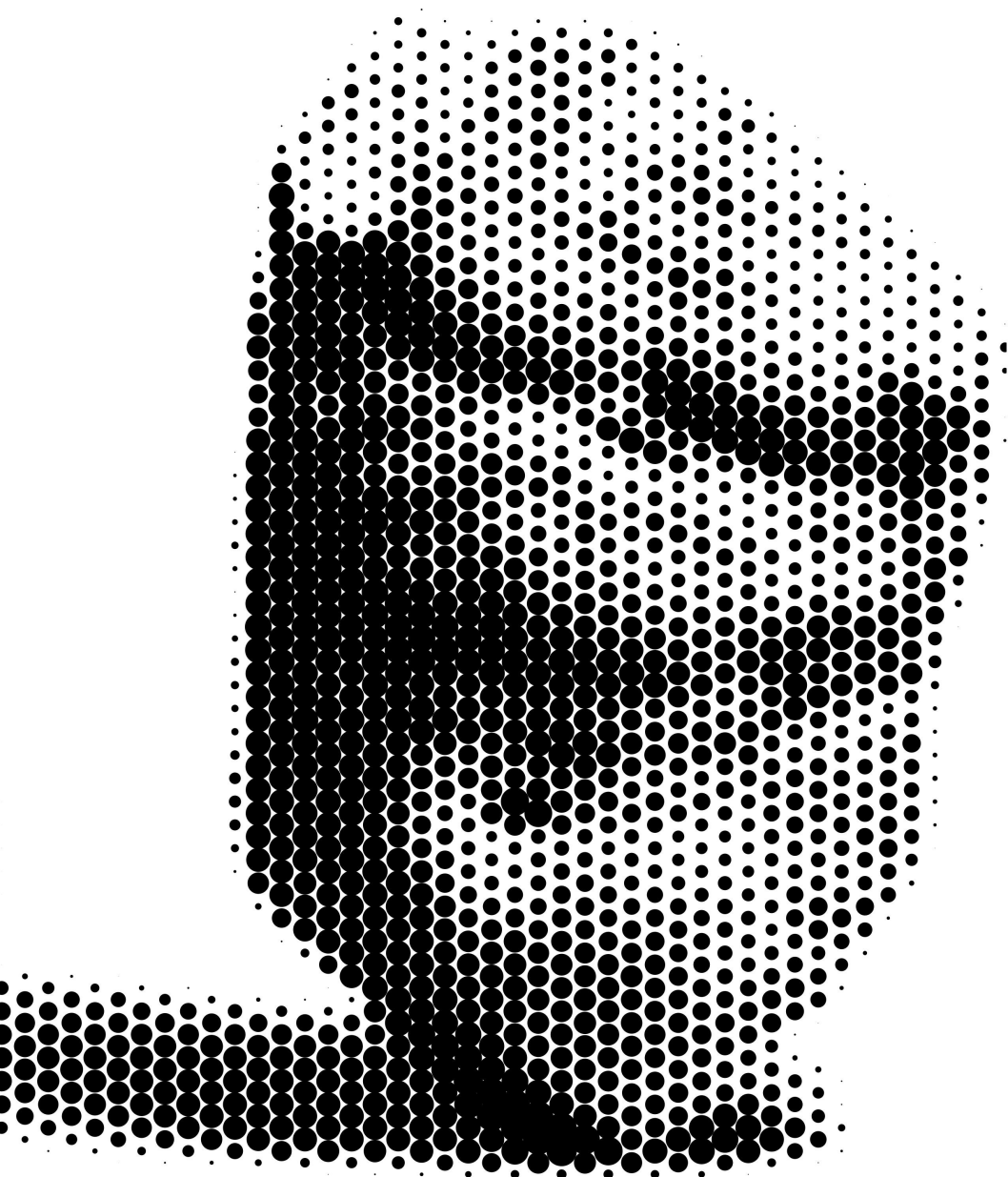


LIKE ALL MEN OF THE LIBRARY

ISAAC OTTO

for Baritone & Piano



PERFORMANCE INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Over the course of the piece, precise intonation in quick vocal runs is secondary to rhythm, dynamic, and "energy" of a gesture. This energy should evoke interminable stretches of stasis followed by a quick flurry of activity - a "relocation".
2. Sections of unaccompanied piano (m1-4 for example) should be treated as *rubato*. When the voice enters, transition to *poco meccanico*.
3. "Rolled" intervals (as in m40 - 43) should be nervous and inobtrusive - coloring the chords below, not rising above them in dynamic.

DURATION: ca. 4 minutes

PROGRAM NOTE:

This piece illuminates a small text from Jorge Borges' evocative and terrifying short story *La biblioteca de Babel* from his 1941 collection *El jardín de senderos que se bifurcan*. The unnamed narrator stoically recounts his melancholy existence and inevitable end amidst the hexagons of the cursed library: forever seeking, but doomed never to find, universal truth.

LIKE ALL MEN OF THE LIBRARY

FOR JEREMY HUW WILLIAMS

Piano

$\text{♩} = 70$

15 *rit.* *accel.*

mp *pp* *mp*

Red. *

Pno.

3 15 *accel.* *rit.*

sub. pp *mp* *pp*

* *Red.* * *Red.* *

Bar.

like *ppp*

Pno.

5 8 $\text{♩} = 70$ 15 *rit.* *accel.*

mp *pp* *mp*

Red. * *Red.* *

Bar.

mf

all men of the li - bra *p*

$\text{♩} = 80$

7 (15) 8

Pno.

mp *pp* *mp*

Red. * *Red.* *

Bar.

ry *mp*

9 (8)

Pno.

pp

Red. * *Red.* *

Bar.

in *ppp* *mf* my *p* youn-ger days I tra-velled.

12 8 15

Pno.

mf *p*

Red. *

Bar.

mf

Pno. *ppp*

Bar. *p* have jour -

Pno. *mp* *rit.*

Bar. *mf* neyed in quest of a book, *p*

Pno. *ppp* *accel.* *atempo*

Bar. *ppp* per *mf* haps the cat-a-

19

Pno.

5

8

p

Bar.

log

of cat-a - logs.

(8)

23

Pno.

pp

Bar.

Now _____ that my eyes _____ can _____

ppp *mf*

26

Pno.

mf

3

gently roll

Bar.

hard-ly make out _____ what I my - self have writ - ten _____

29 $\text{♩} = 70$ una corda accel. 15 tre cordi 3

Pno.

Bar.

p *sottovoce, gravely* *plaintive* *ppp*

I am pre - par - ing to die a few

34 (15) rit. $\text{♩} = 70$

Pno.

Bar.

mf *ppp mp*

leagues from the hex a-gon where I was born.

36 (15) *somew hat flexibly*

Pno.

Bar.

pp

a tempo

Pno. 38 (15)

Bar. When I am dead

mp

ppp
pulsing, rapid

pp

Pno. 41

Bar. com. pass-ion-ate hands will throw me o-ver the rail-ing.

mp
Red.

ppp

f

3

5

Pno. 44 15

Bar. My

sub. pp

mp

pp

p

mf

Musical score for "The Lord's Prayer" by Franz Schubert, measures 46-48. The score includes piano (Pno.) and baritone (Bar.) parts. The piano part features a complex melodic line with triplets and a 5-measure rest. The baritone part has lyrics: "tomb will be the unfathomable air." The tempo is marked "And." and the key signature has one sharp (F#).

49 (15)⁻¹ 15⁻

Pno.

Bar.

My bo - dy will sink for_

haggard, weary
mp

f >

53 (15)

Pno.

Bar.

p a - ges. —

and *ppp* *mf*

57 (15)

Pno.

Bar.

will de-cay and dis-solve in the wind,
p

60

Pno.

Bar.

en-gen - dered by — my fall, which shall be
mf

66

Pno.

Bar.

in - - - fin - - - ite.

69 15 8

Pno.

ppp *f* *f*

Bar.

15 8

ISAAC OTTO 2021