

Cello

DENNIS KAM

OPERA 101

Opera 'spoofa' in one act
(2009)

Opera 101 is comprised of lighthearted and simple abstractions of operatic rituals and gestures. I intend it to be a happy jaunt (postmodern romp, if you wish) to the operatic genre, running the gamut from the silly to the serious (sentimentality or sublimity, if so perceived). With no storyline in mind, I decided to create the 'libretto' myself. It was partly conceived during the composing of the music - essentially evolving and integrating with musical elements: nothing profound – just fun.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

OCTAVIO	Baritone
QUESTA	Mezzo-Soprano
ARIETTA	Soprano
ARIATU	Tenor

Synopsis

On stage off to a side - only **Arietta** (not in the spotlight) sitting.

Octavio walks on stage 'listening' to the music. He sings, respects, and adores the octave (*The Lovely Octave*)

Questa wanders onto stage puzzled and seeking answers (*Where Am I?*). **Octavio** answers her questions.

Arietta (in spotlight) stands facing the audience and sings (*This is the Aria*) with sincerity and passion.

Ariatu hurries onto stage and sings (*Only Love*). Everyone happily joins in to conclude the opera.

Violoncello

Prelude

With a bit of mystery ♩ = ca. 88

Dennis Kam

pizz.

f

6 pizz.

f

6

14 pizz.

f

mf

arco

pp

20

mf

pizz.

25

pizz.

30

arco

ppp

f attacca

The Lovely Octave

♩ = ca. 88

The musical score is written in bass clef with a 4/4 time signature. It consists of six staves of music, each starting with a measure number in a box. The first staff begins with a dynamic of *f* and includes markings for *arco* and *pizz.*. The second staff starts at measure 5 and includes *arco* and *pizz.* markings. The third staff starts at measure 10 and includes *pizz.* and *arco* markings. The fourth staff starts at measure 15 and includes the tempo marking *a tempo* and the word *Tenderly*. The fifth staff starts at measure 20 and includes *a tempo*, *arco*, *pizz.*, and *f* markings. The sixth staff starts at measure 26 and includes *arco* and *pizz.* markings. The music features a variety of note values, rests, and articulation marks such as slurs and accents.

Where Am I ?

 $\text{♩} = 110$ 

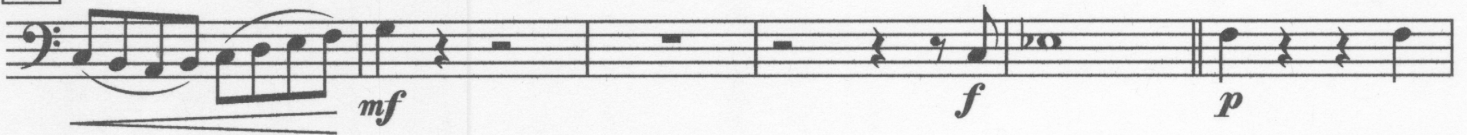
7



13



20



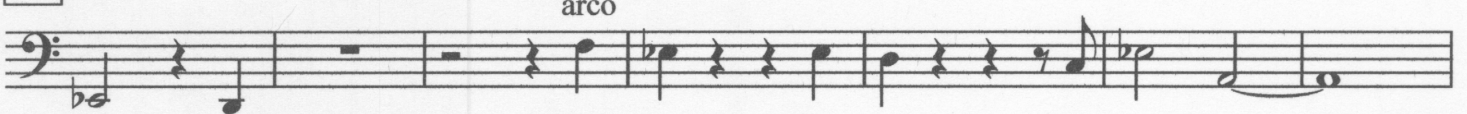
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32



38

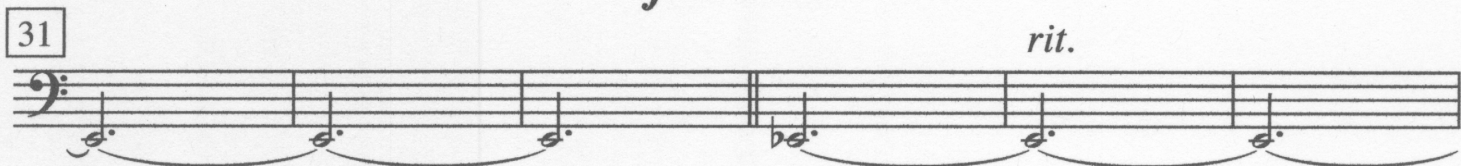
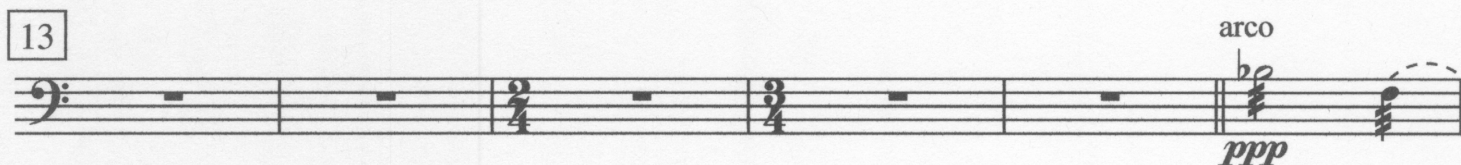
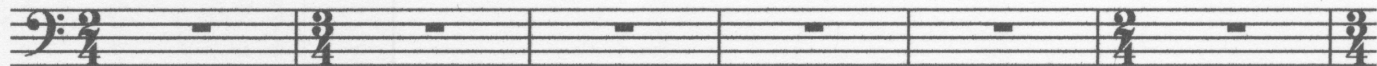


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This is the Aria

Andante cantabile ♩ = 96-100



Only Love

♩ = ca. 88

The musical score for 'Only Love' is written for a single bass line in 4/4 time. It consists of seven staves of music, each starting with a measure number in a box. The score includes various articulations such as *arco* (bowed) and *pizz.* (pizzicato), and dynamic markings including *f* (forte), *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *p* (piano). The piece features several changes in time signature: 4/4, 2/4, 3/4, and 2/4. The first staff begins with a *f* dynamic and includes *arco* and *pizz.* markings. The second staff (measure 5) continues with *f* and includes *arco* and *pizz.* markings. The third staff (measure 10) starts with *pizz.* and *f*, then changes to 2/4 and 3/4 time signatures, ending with a *p* dynamic. The fourth staff (measure 15) returns to 4/4 time, starting with *f* and *arco*, then *pizz.*, and ending with *mf* and *f*. The fifth staff (measure 20) changes to 2/4 time, starting with a *f* dynamic. The sixth staff (measure 25) changes to 3/4 time. The seventh staff (measure 31) changes to 2/4 time, starting with a *f* dynamic.

arco pizz. arco pizz. arco pizz. arco pizz.

5

10

15

20

25

31

f *f* *p* *f* *mf* *f* *f*

37

rit. -----



43

