

Act Without Words I

A piano accompaniment to Samuel Beckett's work.

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Scene: Desert. Dazzling light.

Ephemeral and rubato ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 40$)

s/z *mp* *8va* *8va* *15ma* *8va* (5) (p)
* (hold)

Tempo II; più mosso ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 50$)

A man is flung backwards on stage from right wing.

+ He falls, gets up immediately, +

3=♩ *12=♩* *8va* *6=♩* *5=♩* *5=♩* (4) (p) *rallantando*
* (p)

Tempo I

dusts himself, turns aside, reflects.

+ Whistle from right wing

+ He reflects, ||

Tempo II

goes out right.

sva
sfz mp
p poco accel.
3

Immediately flung back on stage, + he falls, gets up immediately,

Tempo III (F=ca. 120)

($\frac{5}{2}F = F$)

mp
sfz
6=d
3=d
12=d
5=d
sva

dusts himself, reflects.
sempre poco rubato

+ Whistle from left wing

+ He reflects, ||

Tempo I

goes out left,

($F = \frac{5}{2}F$)

mp
sfz
poco rubato

Immediately flung back on stage

+ he falls, gets up immediately,

Grazioso

+ dusts himself, turns

mf
mp
6=d
3=d
18=d
5=d
sva

aside, reflects. + Whistle from above + He reflects,

Musical score for the first system. The piano part features a complex rhythmic pattern with triplets and sixteenth notes. The vocal line includes a whistle from above and a reflection. Dynamics include *mp* and *f*. Ornaments include *3rd*, *4th*, and *5th*.

goes toward left wing, hesitates, thinks better of it, halts, turns aside, reflects. + A little tree descends from the flies, lands. It has a single bough some three yards from ground and at its summit a meager tuft of palms casting at its foot a circle of shadow. + He continues to reflect. Whistle from above + He turns, sees tree, *Tempo III*

Musical score for the second system. The piano part continues with similar rhythmic patterns. The vocal line includes a whistle from above and a reflection. Dynamics include *mp* and *f*. Ornaments include *3rd*, *4th*, and *5th*. The instruction *poco rallantando* is present. *Tempo III* is indicated. The piano part ends with a *rit.* marking.

reflects, goes to it, sits down in its shadow, looks at hands. + A pair of tailor's scissors descends from flies, comes to rest before tree, a yard from ground. He continues to look at his hands, whistle from above

Musical score for the third system. The piano part continues with similar rhythmic patterns. The vocal line includes a whistle from above and a reflection. Dynamics include *mp* and *f*. Ornaments include *3rd*, *4th*, and *5th*. The instruction *ava.* is present.

He looks up, sees scissors, takes them and starts to trim his nails. + The palms close like a parasol, the shadow disappears. He drops the scissors, reflects.

Musical score for the fourth system. The piano part continues with similar rhythmic patterns. The vocal line includes a reflection. Dynamics include *mp* and *f*. Ornaments include *3rd*, *4th*, and *5th*.