

HAMM

A theater piece for Violin and Piano
from Samuel Beckett's "Endgame"

William Osborne

Performance Notes

1. The work should be performed theatrically and from memory.
2. The rhythmically notated text should be accurately followed but with a natural and sometimes quasi-musical quality. Texts enclosed within a box should be spoken freely.
3. Stage directions are always enclosed in parentheses.
4. Every note is preceded by an accidental except for repeated notes and patterns.

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(Bare interior.)
(Grey light.)
(Centre, in an armchair on castors, covered with an old sheet, Hamm.
Motionless, front right, his eyes fixed on Hamm, the pianist. He goes to Hamm removes the sheet covering him, folds it over his arm. In a dressing-gown, a stiff toque on his head, a large blood-stained handkerchief over his face, a whistle hanging from his neck, a rug over his knees, thick socks on his feet, Hamm seems to be asleep. Pianist looks him over. Brief laugh. He goes to piano, plays. Hamm stirs.)

Violento e ritmico (♩:ca. 76)

8VA
8VA
8VA
8VA

tr
tr
tr

Piano

cadente (♩:ca. 54)

8va both hands
8VA
8VA

(He yawns under the handkerchief.)

=d.

Meno mosso e molto più
quieto (♩:ca. 76-88)

14 (E)
6 (F)
14 (E)

ca legare allo stesso tempo)
poco s/z

f molto rall. e atm.

(He removes the handkerchief from his face. Very red face. Black glasses.)

(He holds the handkerchief spread out before him.)

(He takes off his glasses, wipes his eyes, his face, the glasses, puts them on again, folds the handkerchief and puts it neatly in the breast-pocket of his dressing-gown.)

Quasi Fantastico

Me-the yawns)-to play.
f sfz

Old stancher!
mf

ancora cadente
meno mosso (f=ca. 48)

Musical score for the first system. The vocal line is in G major, 4/4 time. It begins with a fermata on a whole note G4. The piano accompaniment features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. Performance markings include *sfz*, *mf*, *molto rall. e dim.*, and *sva*. The system concludes with a fermata on a whole note G4.

(He clears his throat, joins the tips of his fingers.)

Rubato e declamato (f=ca. 48)
(f=ca. 48)

(clears throat) Can
mf

there be miser — y

of-the yawns)-tier —

than nine? No doubt. Formerly. But how? My

Father? My mother?

My

Musical score for the second system. The vocal line continues with a series of eighth notes and quarter notes. The piano accompaniment consists of a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Performance markings include *mf*, *mp*, *sva*, *poco rall.*, and *rall. e dim.*. The system ends with a fermata on a whole note G4.

... dog?

Oh I am willing to believe they suffer as much as such creatures can suffer. But does that mean their suffering equals mine?

No

ava. *poco rall.*

mf

mp

(proudy)

(sprechstimme)

Pause. Gleomily.

He plays violin.

Scorrevole; presto (subito più mosso)

doubt: No, all is an ab- (the yawns) - solve, the bigger a man is the fuller he is. And the emptier.

mp

mf

rall.

mf

mf

mf

mf