

Mad Bess

(Bess of Bedlam)

Edited from Orpheus Britannicus Vol I
with realization of the figured bass
by Michael Tippett and Walter Bergmann

Henry Purcell

(Slow) *p* *pp*

From si - lent shades and the E - ly - sian groves where sad de - par - ted

p *pp*

spi - rits mourn ——— their loves from crystal streams and from — that — coun - try

p

7 6 5 6

where love crowns the fields with flo - wers all the year, poor sense - less

2

Bess, cloth'd in her rags and folly, is come to cure her love - sick me - lan - cho - ly.

6 b5 4 3

(Sprightly) *mf*
 "Bright Cyn - thia kept her re - vels late while

p

6

Mab, the Fai - ry Queen, did dance, and O - - ber -

6 6 6

on did sit in state when Mars at Ve - nus ran his

6 #

(Andantino)

p dolce

lance. In yon der cows - lip lies my dear, en - tomb'd in

pp dolce

6 6 6 6

li - quid gems _____ of dew; each day I'll wa - ter it with a

7 6 b5 6 6 b5

(Grave)

tear, its fa - ding blos - som to re - new. For since my love is

f

(Andantino)

p

dead and all my joys are gone, poor Bess for his sake a

p

b 6

gar - land will make, my mu - sic shall be a

f

p *sf*

6 b b

(Moderato)

groan. I'll lay me down and die with - in some hol - low tree, the

p

p

7 6 6 6 6 6 6 6

rav'n and cat, the owl and bat shall war - ble forth

6 6

(Quick)

my e - le - gy. Did you not see my love as he past by you? His two flam - ing

f

f

4 3

(Allegro)

eyes, if he comes nigh you, they will scorch up your hearts: *f* La - dies. be -

The first system of music features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are "eyes, if he comes nigh you, they will scorch up your hearts: La - dies. be -". The piano accompaniment consists of two staves, with the right hand playing chords and the left hand playing a simple bass line. The tempo is marked as (Allegro) and the dynamic is *f* (forte). The system ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

ware ye, lest he should dart a glance that may en -

The second system of music continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line lyrics are "ware ye, lest he should dart a glance that may en -". The piano accompaniment continues with chords and a bass line. The system ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

snare ye! Hark! Hark! I hear old Charon

The third system of music features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line lyrics are "snare ye! Hark! Hark! I hear old Charon". The piano accompaniment is more complex, featuring a *ff* (fortissimo) dynamic and a series of sixteenth-note passages in the right hand. The system ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

bawl, his boat he will not lon-ger stay, and fu ries lash their

The fourth system of music continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line lyrics are "bawl, his boat he will not lon-ger stay, and fu ries lash their". The piano accompaniment features a *ff* dynamic and a series of sixteenth-note passages in the right hand. The system ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.