Triptych of Gossips

Linda Dusman, composer
Serena Hilsinger, poet

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♩ = 40 relaxed, contemplative

note: accidentals carry through the measure

Contralto

Violin

gently, espressivo

faster

rit.

♩ = 50

lee po po po pe!

sub. pont.

repeat as needed, rapid to slow tempi

faster, freely (c. ♩ = 60)

ti! tro! lo te lo th

repeat as needed

Al - lec - to

m le

(nasal)

N lo!

Sh guh!

♩ = 50 freely

emphasize high partials

Pem - phre - do! Sh (air)

III.

II.

II.

8vb subharmonic

♩ = 69

pizz.

po po po po po pe!

fo!

Ce - la - no!

8vb subharmonic

one bow

con sord. (practice mute)

A - - tro - - - pos!

I. Incantation

Think of them, Those tri - os

simile

Sis - ter - ly Their se - cret, con - spi - rant

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♩ = 69
a la Broadway
mf
le-ga-cy
Those
an - cient in - tri-cate tri - pli-cates
Those
grand dames with fine names!
a la Broadway
senza sordino
p dim.
f
♩ =80
mp normale
Those
wit-ches,
Those
con sord.
mp
bit-ches,
Those charm - less
spell - - - - bind - ers
mf
Those
spon - sors,
Those
hag - gard step-mo- thers,
Those
grue some ch - tho - nic re - min - der
Those
vic tims of pa-nic and
molto rit.
molto rit.
p
mp

II. Invocation

primal, conjuring
ad libitum (c. ♩ = 80)

bad press.
f growling
Me - gae - ra!
sing/growl
The dire ones,
mf spit
strict time
si! ne!
Ti! pho!
ad libitum
sustain "s"
Fu - ri - ous s!
spit
f
irregular 1/4-tone vibrato
lec - to
improv sub. pont.
pizz
ff
pizz
improv on bridge
ff
f
Al
irregular sul and sub. pont.
ff

mf chant
who became the fa - tal closed un - ion of
mp
pizz. (like a mandolin)
as fast as possible
mf
♩ = 60
molto vib.
wea - vers the
p
con sord.
molto vib.
spin - sters,
normal vib.
Clo - tho, La -
cresc.
molto vib.
che - sis,
mf
A - tro - pos
normal vib.
accel.
accel.
Faster (♩ = 92)
molto sul pont.
ff
enormous exhale (E)
audible ingressive (I) or approximate sound
Th - o - se
sn - a - ky
st - o - ne
m - a - sons
Me - du - sa, Eu - ry - al - e
Sthen - no!
spoken vocal-fry
Their sisters
Dino
l.h. pizz.
pizz.
The aged, the grey ones
Pemphredo
pizz.
Eye-and-tooth sharing crones.
Enyo
♩ = 60
♩ = 60 with rubato
molto legato, with rubato
mp
Those wing - ed kid - nap - pers A - e - lo, O cy - pe te, Ce - la - no
f

rub. a tempo

mf

Those song-ster se-du-cers Li- ge-ia, Leu kosi-a, Parthe-no-pe

rub.

mp

f

Those gāl-lant queen war-riors Pen-the-ski-a, Hip-po-ly-te, An-ti-

mf

7:4 7:6 7:4

chant

o-pe And later, the wayward and weird ones In nameless covenants Like those shy, clever cooks in Macbeth.

spoken, matter of fact

Witch 1, Witch 2, Witch 3.

sul G *sul tasto* ⟷ *sul pont.* *intermittent tremolos*

Fast and *ff*

growl, bark, spit x = 100-120

Pos sis-tha-che-la tro clo-ne-to A lec-ti-pho ra si-che-Al-tho-clo gae tro-lec-ne me

slower

mf *intone as if dead: straight tone, thin and breathless*

Af-ter the Trans-for-mings, Ba-nish-ments,

Violent tremolos, moving from sul tasto to molto sul pont., vary bow pressure from heavy to extremely heavy (emphasize noise)

f

Che! si! ne! to!

repeat as needed, notes in any order

so much pressure that the bow barely moves

approximate pitches

vocal fry *mp*

En-sa-du, Di-phre-me, No-sa-sthe.

mf *intone as if dead*

Be-head-ings, The-theft-of Vi-tal-parts-

so much pressure that the bow barely moves

breathless

p

Leu-ko-no-pe, Cy-pe-ge-ia, Par-the-lae-no.

harmonic gliss.

R 1/2 col legno R 1/2 R R R 1/2 R

mf

mf *intone as if dead*

The - de - feats, At - the - hands, Of - the - Greeks.

so much pressure that the bow barely moves

shout

Tch! Wi! 3!

extreme bow pressure (mostly noise)

mf *intone as if dead*

The - hang - ings, The - ston - ings, The - burn - ings.

mp *cresc.*

Re col lect, Re mem - ber, Re count them:

col sop.

mp

mf *with exhaustion* *dim.*

A case of mu - tu - al sur - vi - val.

rit.

rit.

III. Convocation

♩ = 72

mp – *sotto voce*

open strings

p

You know them They are here, with-in you When it's the tur-bu-lent sea-son At quirk o' clock, On weak day of bad month.

mf

They are your quo - ti-di an vex - a - tion, the an - ger that makes you think toward joy your wrath in the cruel or pal - lid bed.

rit.

mp

In

rit.

a tempo

dis- armed, be - reft time with-out tooth to bite or eye to cry or look to freeze a stone. *sub.* **f** They are your will-ful- ness. In use - less list-less place

a tempo- legato

p

mp par-lor of the pet - ty po-li- tic, Fog

rit. **p** fo- rum, Ba-nal hall

a tempo **ff** They are your cla ri ty.

rit.

a tempo

mf

♩ = 69 **mp** from is - lands of

ex - ile their wings churn just cur - ses in the eye of your pain **mf** They spin the bold gau-dy un - fray - ing thread for your in-ti-mate

ta - pes - try. **mp** Their fell songs rise from the de - fi - ant im - per - vi-ous rocks of your in - ner

p *cresc.*

sea At ends of lands you know the re - fuge of their shields Those brave arms give you heart.

Just be yond your safe ground In the 3-limbed blast - ed kin-ship tree whose gnarled roots claw be-neath cal-low clay They shel - ter The deepones The wild ones The dear ones

Those lo - yal guar - di-an old-mo- thers Bless them with your fierce free sa - ni - ty Bring them forth. Give them leave

give them voice give them voice