Mingus Live In The Underworld

for Solo Double Bass and Narrator

Music: Frank Proto

Text: John Chenault



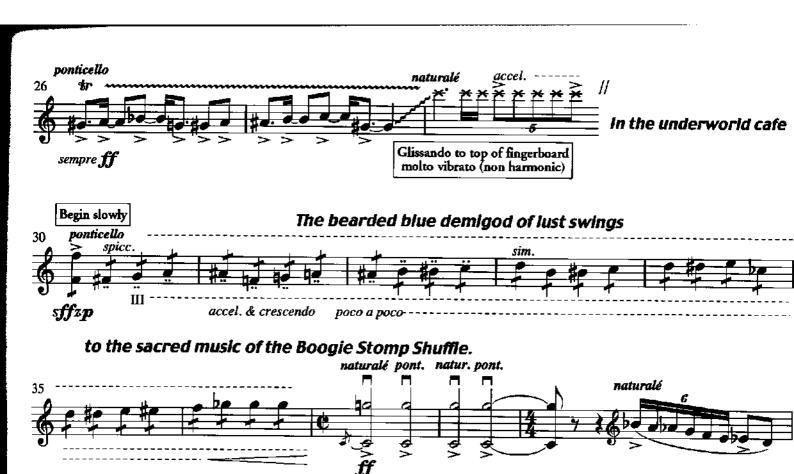
Liben Music Publishers Cincinneti, Ohio

Mingus

Live In The Underworld for Solo Double Bass and Namator

Music: Frank Proto Text: John Chenault





He has stolen the fire of heaven, carried it naked in his cleft hands, composed and conducted it in wood and



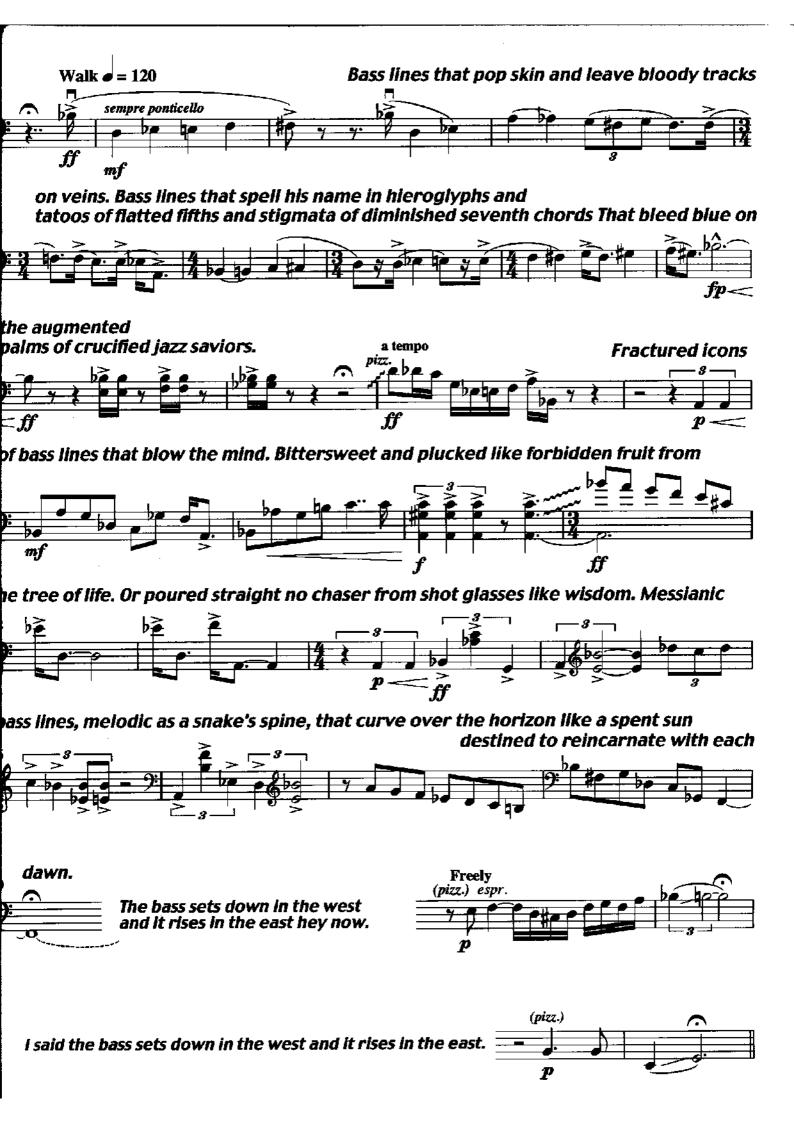
metal, until the blue flames leapt and flew phoenix-like from his fingers to be reborn as saints and sinners in a netherworld symphony.

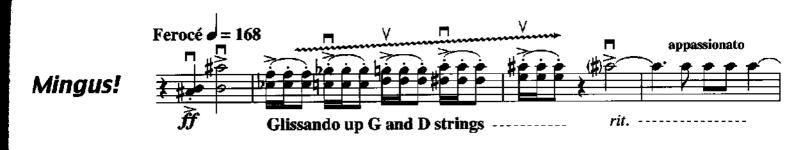






The boogie man god walks bass lines sharp as needles.





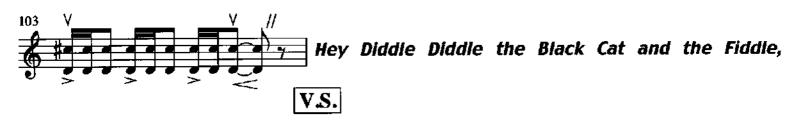




wooden box and horse hair bow playing serious until Carnegie Hall falls down







Walk = 120 The cow jumped over the moon. He swings his axe and heads



roll from the bandstand. He swings his axe and the mad hearts weep and moan.

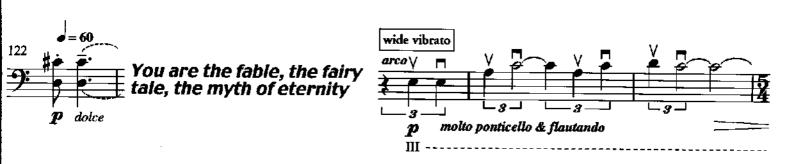


He swings his axe and the celestial virgins impale themselves on his microphone stand. While all the King's horses and all the kings men are dancing



on Humpty's grave. Fie Fi Fo Fum I smell the blood of the underdog.



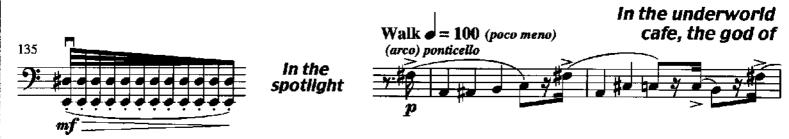


The legend legends are made of. Without you there is no mythology, no theology, no guts, no giory.









boogie dances on the throne. His smile, a pizzicato grimace, cuts to the bone as shards of stone fall from his lips to become pyramids



Jazz licks the sweat on his forehead like a halo. His Faubus fabled eyes pierce the smoke



as demons dance on the head of the tune and death in a porkpie hat strolls through the door in triplets just in time for







Mingus

Live In The Underworld

Long Solo Bass Introduction

for Solo Double Bass and Narrator

Music: Frank Proto Text: John Chenault



Short 2 bar bass exclamation

Excitedly

In the spotlight,

Short 3 bar bass exclamation

In the underworld cafe.

Bass begins slowly. Wait about 3 or 4 seconds. Then read the next 6 lines in a moderate tempo.

The bearded blue demigod of lust swings to the sacred music Of the Boogie Stomp Shuffle.

You should finish anywhere from 4 to 10 seconds before the bass comes to a long note.

He has stolen the fire of heaven, carried it naked in his cleft hands, Composed and conducted it in wood and metal, Until the blue flames leapt and flew phoenix-like from his fingers

To be reborn as saints and sinners in a netherworld symphony.

Right after the bass finishes the long note....

Excitedly

MINGUS!

Short 1 bar exclamation (like the beginning)

The boogie man god walks bass lines sharp as needles.

Wait for the bass to play about I measure of (quasi) walking bass. Then continue.

Bass lines that pop skin and leave bloody tracks on veins.

Bass lines that spell his name in hieroglyphs and

tatoos of flatted fifths

And stigmata of diminished seventh chords

That bleed blue on the augmented palms of crucified jazz saviors.

Fractured icons of bass lines that blow the mind.

Bittersweet and plucked like forbidden fruit from the tree of life Or poured straight no chaser from shot glasses like wisdom.

Messianic bass lines, melodic as a snake's spine, that curve over The horizon like a spent sun destined to reincarnate with each dawn.

Wait for bass to end note before going on.

The bass sets down in the west and it rises in the east hey now.

Bass plays 1 slow, soft phrase.

I said the bass sets down in the west and it rises in the east.

Bass plays another short, soft phrase (just 4 notes).

Excitedly

MINGUS!

Loud, pasionate phrase. Go on as bass holds note with crescendo.

God Mingus must be

short silence.

Must God be Mingus

Bass plays quietly about 3 bars.

Read these lines as bass gets more and more agitated. Finish just before bass reaches the high point. A Boogie Woogie Man with his wooden box and horse hair bow Playing serious until Carnegie Hall falls down like London Bridge.

(High point into silence.)

Excitedly.

MINGUS!

Short 1 bar exclamation (like the beginning)

Hey Diddle Diddle the Black Cat and the Fiddle,

Bass begins moderate walking bass line.

Read these lines in a moderate tempo. You should finish around the same time the bass comes to a held note. The Cow jumped over the moon.

He swings his axe and heads roll from the bandstand He swings his axe and the mad hearts weep and moan He swings his axe and the celestial virgins impale themselves On his microphone stand.

While all the King's horses and all the King's men are dancing on Humpty's grave.

Fie Fi Fo Fum

I smell the blood of the underdog.

Softly, but with tension.

Mingus

Bass plays 2 notes softly.

You are the fable, the fairy tale, the myth of eternity,

Wait for bass to play I slow phrase. Shortly after the start of the next phrase continue.

Read these lines slowly. The bass plays quietly. You should finish as the bass comes to a silence. The legend legends are made of. Without you there is no mythology, no theology, no guts, no glory. Without you God is a naked string Stretched between heaven and earth Without a song to sing

Leave a couple of seconds of silence. Then....

Softly.

Mingus

In the spotlight,

Bass begins moderately slow walking bass line (arco). Wait about 2 measures before going on.

Read these lines in a slower tempo than before. When you come to the word "Pyramids" the bass stops. In the spotlight,
In the underworld cafe,
The god of boogie dances on his throne.
His smile, a pizzicato grimace, cuts to the bone
As shards of stone fall from his lips to become pyramids,

Read these lines in silence.

obelisks, avenues of sphinxes that stretch from horizon to horizon.

Bass begins a still slower walking bass line (pizzicato). Wait 2 or 3 measures before going on.

Read these lines in a moderate tempo. You should finish about ten measures before the bass. Jazz licks the sweat on his forehead like a halo. His Faubus fabled eyes pierce the smoke As demons dance on the head of the tune And death in a pork pie hat strolls through the door in triplets Just in time for the last set.