

two scenes from
annunciation
an opera in two acts

Opera Etudes (workshop)
2021

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music by David Carlton Adams

annunciation

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Act I Scene II

thick, heavy, and slow $\text{♩} = 50$

The musical score is written for five vocal parts and piano accompaniment in 4/4 time. The tempo is marked 'thick, heavy, and slow' with a quarter note equal to 50 beats. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The vocal parts are:

- Vox Angeli I (S): Treble clef, starting with a whole note G4, followed by a half note A4, and a whole note G4. Dynamics range from *p* to *f*.
- Vox Angeli II (S): Treble clef, starting with a whole note G4, followed by a half note A4, and a whole note G4. Dynamics range from *p* to *f*.
- Vox Angeli III (Mz): Treble clef, starting with a whole note G4, followed by a half note A4, and a whole note G4. Dynamics range from *p* to *f*.
- Lily (S): Treble clef, starting with a whole note G4, followed by a half note A4, and a whole note G4. Dynamics range from *p* to *f*. A triplet of eighth notes (G4, A4, B4) is marked *p* at the end of the phrase.
- Luc (Bar.): Bass clef, starting with a whole note G3, followed by a half note A3, and a whole note G3. Dynamics range from *p* to *f*.

The piano accompaniment is shown in a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The first system is marked *pp*, the second *ff*, and the third *f*. The piano part consists of sustained chords and arpeggiated figures.

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VxAn.I
Musical staff with dynamics *p* and *f*. A hairpin crescendo is shown above the staff.

VxAn.II
Musical staff with dynamics *p* and *f*. A hairpin crescendo is shown above the staff.

VxAn.III
Musical staff with dynamics *p* and *f*. A hairpin crescendo is shown above the staff. A dynamic marking *mp* is shown below the staff.

Lily
Musical staff with lyrics "a - l - one (n)". A dynamic marking *mp* is shown below the staff. A fingering "5" is indicated above the staff.

Luc
Musical staff (bass clef) with rests.

R. Pno
Musical staff (grand staff) with rests. Chord diagrams are shown below the staff with dynamics *pp*, *mp*, and *p*.

12

VxAn.I *p* *pp* breathing in
 1 ss ya hath

VxAn.II *p* *pp* breathing in
 1 ha sh al feth

VxAn.III *p* *pp* breathing in
 1 ha s f l tha

Lily *mf* *pp* breathing in
 5 al - ways a - lone but to - night be - hold me spi - rits i am a -
 3 3 3
disbelieving, almost sarcastic

Luc *p*
 m

R. Pno guitar scord
 C#G#C#EBE

20 ♩ = 80

rit.....

17 *p*

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

Luc

R. Pno

mf

lone the moon is black and face - less

reg tuned guitar

22 $\text{♩} = 70$ accel.

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

Luc

R. Pno

almost sarcastic

just like the book says ___ it should be ev' - ry new moon

Act I Scene II

♩ = 50

rit.....

rit.....

accel

25

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

Luc

R. Pno

is a strange____ man_____ hi - ding in the sha - dows of the sky____

30

..... = 66

29

VxAn.I *p* noisy inhales and exhales

VxAn.II *p* noisy inhales and exhales

VxAn.III *p* noisy inhales and exhales

Lily
 wind on - ly wind

Luc

R. Pno
low rumble

34 ♩ = 80

rit.....

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

see my heart still works beats like a drum why was i e - ver so

Luc

R. Pno

40 **breathless** ♩ = 115

38

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

Luc

R. Pno

spoken, parlando rubato

please if you

whispered

stu - pid

f

ev' - ry bo - dy warned me

ev' - ry bo - dy warned me

41

spoken, parlando rubato

VxAn.I
i think i too much to drink such an ho -

VxAn.II
don't mind it has been such an ho - nor

spoken, parlando rubato

VxAn.III
let me call a car such an

Lily
told me not to go but i

Luc

R. Pno

43

VxAn.I
- nor

VxAn.II
honor

VxAn.III
ho - nor i have to go

Lily
e - ver the ad - ven - tu - res al - ways

Luc

R. Pno

rit.....

44

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

Luc

R. Pno

at first i did - n't know i did - n't but i have the hos - pi - tal

try - - - ing some - thing new

46

VxAn.I

hos - pi - tal re - cords

hos - pi - tal

VxAn.II

re - cords

from the next day

hos - pi - tal re - cords

from the

VxAn.III

hos - pi - tal

re - cords from the next day

Lily

Luc

R. Pno

pp sub.

whispered

whispered

51

.....♩ = 60

48

VxAn.I *spoken*
hos - pi - tal

VxAn.II *3*
next day

VxAn.III *whispered*
hos - pi - tal

Lily
and now____ Inhale Exhale In Ex *eyes open inhale p*
i will

Luc

R. Pno

54 *slow, deliberate* ♩ = 50

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

Luc

R. Pno

cast the cir - cle just like the old book said i will fill it with ro - ses_

57

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

Luc

R. Pno

and sym - bols of the dead i will shake the bell i will make the call

60

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

Luc

R. Pno

i will burn the can - dles to their nubs

61 $\text{♩} = 20$

whisper and repeat

VxAn.I

se - ven - ty se - ven times

whisper and repeat

VxAn.II

se - ven - ty se - ven times

whisper and repeat

VxAn.III

se - ven - ty se - ven times

Lily

walk se - ven - ty se - ven times with salt spil - ling from my hands

Luc

R. Pno

62 **thick, heavy** ♩ = 60 63 *whisper names*

VxAn.I *whisper names*

VxAn.II *whisper names*

VxAn.III *whisper names*

Lily *f* *fast and imprecise*
there! i speak the name i ne - ver want to hear_ a - gain

Luc

R. Pno

64

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

Luc

R. Pno

m

m

n

5

3

3

inhale

there! i make my - self a - sh - amed my heart flies

67 ♩ = 75

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

Luc

R. Pno

there! i am at the edge of things no more room the edge of things

spent, ragged

12.

3

3

5

ritardando

74 ♩. = 50

71

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

Luc

R. Pno

wind on - ly wind and so to -

p

75 $\text{♩} = 49$ $\text{♩} = 45$

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

- night the moon is _____ black to - night the stars are hid - den my—

Luc

R. Pno

81 ♩ = 60

78

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

Luc

R. Pno

(h) hands are full of tears i can - not cry _____ and i cast the cir - cle

83

accelerando.....♩ = 70

82

VxAn.I
oo ng ah m

VxAn.II
ng ah m

VxAn.III
ng ah m *f*

Lily
i speak the words bring back my po - wer to me

Luc

R. Pno

rit.

♩ = 70

♩ = 120

85

VxAn.I

Musical staff for VxAn.I, treble clef, 3/4 time signature, notes for 'oh' and 'n'.

oh

n

VxAn.II

Musical staff for VxAn.II, treble clef, 3/4 time signature, notes for 'oh' and 'n'.

oh

n

VxAn.III

Musical staff for VxAn.III, treble clef, 3/4 time signature, notes for 'oh' and 'n'.

oh

n

Musical staff for Lily, treble clef, notes for 'sto - len_ as it_ was_'. Includes a fermata over the first measure.

sto - len_ as it_ was_

Lily

Musical staff for Lily, treble clef, notes for 'take a - way the_ fear_'. Includes a triplet of eighth notes.

sto - len as it_ was_ take a - way the_ fear_

Luc

Musical staff for Luc, bass clef, 3/4 time signature, mostly rests.

R. Pno

Musical staff for R. Pno, grand staff, accompaniment for the vocal lines.

92 **rall.**..... **94** $\text{♩} = 130$
p still and reverent

VxAn.I
m
p still and reverent

VxAn.II
m
p still and reverent

VxAn.III
m

Lily
i - pe - ti - tion - for mer - - - cy -

Luc

R. Pno

104 ♩ = 120

103

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

Luc

R. Pno

i pe - ti - tion al - so for re - - - venge

rit. $\text{♩} = 130$
pp

VxAn.I *113*

n

VxAn.II

n

VxAn.III

n

Lily

the dawn is near - ly (h) here

Luc

R. Pno

Red.

129

122

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

Luc

R. Pno

n

n

n

some - one's pain - - ted the ho - ri - zon i have

(And.)

And.

138 rit.....

130

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

Luc

R. Pno

wai - ted lis - tened heard not a th - i - ng but the wind

p. *pp.* *pp.* *p.* *p.* *p.*

144

139

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

Luc

R. Pno

and my h - eart lo - - - sing

b $\bar{2}$. b $\bar{3}$. d $\bar{2}$. # $\bar{2}$. $\bar{2}$. $\bar{2}$. $\bar{2}$. $\bar{2}$.

151 ♩ = 100

148

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

Luc

R. Pno

— it is emp - ty lost

breathy

Act I Scene II

156

The musical score consists of six staves. The top three staves are for three different woodwind instruments, labeled VxAn.I, VxAn.II, and VxAn.III. Each of these staves contains a whole rest in every measure, indicating that these instruments are silent during this passage. The fourth staff is for the vocal part of Lily, written in a soprano clef. It features a melodic line with a long slur spanning the entire phrase. The lyrics "i am a - - l - one" are written below the notes. The fifth staff is for the vocal part of Luc, written in a bass clef, and contains whole rests in every measure. The bottom two staves are for the Right Piano (R. Pno), with a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The piano accompaniment features a complex texture with many beamed sixteenth notes and slurs, providing a rhythmic and harmonic foundation for the vocal line.

165

171

163

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

Luc

R. Pno

(n)

ppp

pppp

Act II Scene X

slow

poco rit.....

Vox Angeli I (S)

Musical staff for Vox Angeli I (S) in treble clef, 4/4 time signature. The staff contains rests for the first three measures, followed by a 2/4 time signature change in the fourth measure, and a 4/4 time signature change in the fifth measure.

Vox Angeli II (S)

Musical staff for Vox Angeli II (S) in treble clef, 4/4 time signature. The staff contains rests for the first three measures, followed by a 2/4 time signature change in the fourth measure, and a 4/4 time signature change in the fifth measure.

Vox Angeli III (Mz)

Musical staff for Vox Angeli III (Mz) in treble clef, 4/4 time signature. The staff contains rests for the first three measures, followed by a 2/4 time signature change in the fourth measure, and a 4/4 time signature change in the fifth measure.

Lily (S.)

suspicious

Musical staff for Lily (S.) in treble clef, 4/4 time signature. The staff contains a melodic line with lyrics. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 5 and 3. The time signature changes to 2/4 in the fourth measure and back to 4/4 in the fifth measure.

if what you say _____ is true what of bro - ken pro - mi - ses _____ i

Luc (Bar.)

Musical staff for Luc (Bar.) in bass clef, 4/4 time signature. The staff contains rests for the first three measures, followed by a 2/4 time signature change in the fourth measure, and a 4/4 time signature change in the fifth measure.

Piano (Reference)

Musical staff for Piano (Reference) in grand staff (treble and bass clefs), 4/4 time signature. The staff contains rests for the first three measures, followed by a 2/4 time signature change in the fourth measure, and a 4/4 time signature change in the fifth measure.

6 ♩ = 54

5

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

Luc

R. Pno

knew

slick, coercive

there's no such place as (z) trust you know that by now___

5

5

3

5

5

#

#

10 quick ♩ ≈ 110-125

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

Luc

R. Pno

fiery, pissed
f

your words are emp - - ty

you on - ly spea -

you on - ly spea -

rit.....

*ingressive
phonation*

VxAn.I

throat
*ingressive
phonation*

VxAn.II

throat
*ingressive
phonation*

VxAn.III

throat

- k free - ly___ be - cause you've hand___ on your___ throat!

Lily

- k free - ly___ be - cause you've ne - ver_ had a hand___ on your___ throat!

Luc

R. Pno

21

Bitter and fierce ♩ = 67
cough

VxAn.I

16

cough cough cough

VxAn.II

cough cough cough cough

VxAn.III

cough cough cough cough

Lily

this pu - nish - ment goes

Luc

impressed with Lily, with her fury, with her anger... and with the fact that she would attack an eternal being

R. Pno

p

p

Red.

22 **rit.**.....

VxAn.I

VxAn.II *cough*

VxAn.III

Lily
on _____ like a trail of _____ blood a - cross the _____ snow _____
intersperse breath as though shivering

Luc

R. Pno
Red. *Red.* *Red.*

25 $\text{♩} = 52$ 27 $\text{♩} = 108$

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

voice - less they have made me__

attention hovers with Lily a moment

Luc

then, stirred by Lily's anger **f** *maybe: slowly close hand to fist*

then__ speak let the fin - gers 'round your neck turn to

let the fin - gers 'round your neck turn to

R. Pno

rit

29

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

Luc

R. Pno

The musical score consists of six staves. The top three staves are for Violoncellos I, II, and III, all in treble clef. The Lily staff is in treble clef with lyrics: "step away, thinking, considering bargaining i would". The Luc staff is in bass clef with lyrics: "dust_ to dust the po - wer is yours speak". The R. Pno part is in bass clef with a bass line starting on B1 and including dynamics like "8ba" and "pp".

dust_

explode fist open on "dust" — 3

to dust the po - wer is yours speak

step away,
thinking,
considering bargaining

i would

8ba
pp

35 ♩ = 65 *poco accelerando*

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

Luc

R. Pno

turn them all to a - shes_ in their beds a hun - dred - fold _____ suf - fe - rings

this and more_ can be done

38

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

mf

my name tat-toed u-pon their torn out tongues

thou - sand fold if you wish it so

spoken, ready to do this

Luc

thou - sand - fold if you wish it so their

R. Pno

.....poco rit.....

41

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

all _____ shall be - hold _____ me

Luc

_____ fin - gers _____ shall be dead _____ man's can - dles

their

R. Pno

The musical score consists of six staves. The first three staves are for Violoncellos I, II, and III, which are currently blank. The fourth staff is for Lily, with lyrics 'all _____ shall be - hold _____ me'. The fifth staff is for Luc, with lyrics '_____ fin - gers _____ shall be dead _____ man's can - dles their'. The sixth staff is for the Right Piano (R. Pno), showing a complex accompaniment with triplets and various chordal textures. A 'poco rit' marking is indicated at the top right of the page.

45  ≈ 130

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

Luc

eyes will melt like ice in spring when the world is born a - new their

R. Pno

rit..... $\text{♩} = 50$ *low fry*
(eyes rolled back? twitchy?)

47

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

Luc

R. Pno

do - ings all_ will slip a - way_____

and_____ die *(or low fry if that note's not there)*

* Lily is likely only half-aware of the full consequences of this phrase — as though slightly disturbed, but distracted

50

pp straight and still

VxAn.I

m

pp straight and still

go from B to matching the horn, then back

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

m

pp straight and still

Lily

serene... if slightly insane

i can hear it_ al - rea - dy_ the_ quiet of it all_ the_

Luc

R. Pno

55

53

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

Luc

R. Pno

— peace — hm — a — new — world — made u - pon a

$\text{♩} = \text{♩}$.

60 $\text{♩} = 140$

57

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

Luc

R. Pno

bat - tle a bat - tle field _____ with li - lies _____

with Li - lies _____

warm legato

* Lily looks over her shoulder at The Stranger

68

72

64

VxAn.I
Ah L ah

VxAn.II
Ah L ah

VxAn.III
Ah u ah

Lily
srou - ting with Li - - lies sprou -

Luc
srou - - ting with Li - - lies sprou

R. Pno

73

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

Luc

R. Pno

- ting_ sprou - - ting_ sprou - ting_ from_ sprou - ting_ from_

- - - ting_ sprou - - ting_ from_ sprou - - ting from

86

81

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

Luc

R. Pno

92 **93** rit.....♩ = 120 **97**

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

Luc

R. Pno

m n m

m n m

m n m

the emp - ti - ness in me floods the

non vib.

m

101 faster ♩ = 150

whisper "nothing"

99

VxAn.I
oh

VxAn.II
oh

VxAn.III
oh

Lily
whole of what i know to win - now it to no - thing to

Luc

R. Pno

molto rit...... **rit**.....

102 *whisper "nothing"* *whisper "nothing"* *whisper "nothing"* **105** ♩ = 115 **p**

VxAn.I
uh

VxAn.II
whisper "nothing" *whisper "nothing"* **p**
uh

VxAn.III
whisper "nothing" *whisper "nothing"* *whisper "nothing"* **p**
uh

Lily
make it in - to no - thing like i was made in - to nthing once a worth - less

Luc
once a worth - less

R. Pno

Ped.

mf

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

Luc

R. Pno

106

3

3

3

3

girl a - mong ma - ny_ face - less_ girls_ i_ shall be queen of_ hea - ven crowned in

girl a - mong ma - ny_ face - less_ girls_

rit.

whisper

VxAn.I

"hospital"

VxAn.II

mf

whisper

"their daughters"

VxAn.III

mf

cough

Lily

5

3

3

3

crim - son stars of war _____ they will ne - ver sleep a - gain _____

Luc

3

3

3

creepy as fuck

they will ne - ver sleep a - gain _____ or if they

R. Pno

rit

Inferno Maestoso ♩ = 48

116

VxAn.I *dawning terror* *f* *horrified* *crah*

VxAn.II *whisper* *"all the suicides"* *mf* *like watching* *f* *horrified* *crah*

VxAn.III *"cast"* *"circle"* *mf* *an atom bomb* *f* *horrified* *crah*

Lily *we shall* *craft such night - mares for them*

Luc *do* *we shall* *craft such night - mares for them*

R. Pno

119

VxAn.I *ingressive phonation* *gasp for air*
su - i - cides

VxAn.II *gasp for air* *ingressive phonation*
su - i - cides

VxAn.III *ingressive phonation*
gasp for air su - i - cides

Lily
all the su - i - cides forced by their be - je - weled hands rain

Luc
rain

R. Pno

120

VxAn.I
e - ə - - o - onz_ oh

VxAn.II
e - ə - - o - onz_ oh

VxAn.III
e - ə - - o - onz_ oh

Lily
death u - pon their own sons let them watch these dead girls whose names were ne - ver_ known

Luc
death u - pon their own sons

R. Pno

122

VxAn.I *staggered* **accel**.....

VxAn.II *shocked*

VxAn.III *hopeless*

Lily
pu - nish the pu - ni - shers their daugh - ters made wret - ched be - fore _____ them

Luc
pu - nish the pu - ni - shers with their own _____ sins

R. Pno

124

molto rall......

VxAn.I

VxAn.II

VxAn.III

Lily

Luc

R. Pno

glo - ry in the un - ma - king of them glo - ry in the blood

ry in the blood

glo - ry in the un - ma - king of them glo - ry in the blood

