

Invictus

Commissioned by Roberto Mancusi

Text: William Ernest Henley, 1875 (publ 1888)

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The musical score is written in 6/8 time and consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The tempo is marked with a quarter note equal to 32 (♩. = 32) and later 64 (♩. = 64). The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The score is divided into several systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line includes lyrics and performance instructions such as *Recitativo*, *Let it sound*, *mf*, *mp*, *p*, and *f*. The piano accompaniment includes dynamics like *f*, *mf*, *mp*, and *f*, as well as articulation marks like *Red.*, ** Red.*, and *sim*. The lyrics are: "Out of the night that covers me", "Black as the pit from pole to pole", "I thank whatever gods may be", "For my unconquerable soul", and "my soul".

f

In the fell clutch of cir - cum - stance I have not winced nor cried a - loud

Detailed description: This system contains the first two measures of the piece. The vocal line is in the bass clef with a dynamic marking of *f*. It features eighth-note patterns with slurs and fingerings (2) indicated. The piano accompaniment consists of a treble and bass clef with a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the treble and rests in the bass.

Un - der the blud - geo - nings of chance my head is bloo - dy

Detailed description: This system contains the next two measures. The vocal line continues with eighth-note patterns and slurs. The piano accompaniment continues with eighth-note accompaniment in the treble and rests in the bass.

mp *p*

my head is bloo - dy my head is bloo - dy

mf *mp*

Detailed description: This system contains the next two measures. The vocal line has a dynamic change from *mp* to *p*. The piano accompaniment has a dynamic change from *mf* to *mp*. The piano part features a long horizontal line in the treble clef, likely indicating a sustained chord or a specific performance instruction.

mf

my head is bloo - dy bloo - dy but un - bowed

mp

Detailed description: This system contains the final two measures. The vocal line has a dynamic marking of *mf* and includes slurs and fingerings (2). The piano accompaniment has a dynamic marking of *mp* and features a long horizontal line in the treble clef.

p

un - bowed

mf *f*

sic *sic*

ff

f

Be -

f *mf* *mp* *p* *pp*

VS

yond this place of wrath Be· yond this place of wrath and tears

Looms but the hor - ror of the shade the shade the

shade And yet the me - nace of the

years Finds and shall find me un - a· fraid.

f

p

mp

pp

p

mf

f

mf

mf

un - a · fraid.

f *ff*

f

It mat - ters not how strait the gate

p *pp* *f*

♩ = 60

f

How charged with pu-nish-ments the scroll I am the mas-ter of my fate I am the cap-tain of my

f

3

ff

soul my soul.

ff *sic* *fff*

Ossia: *ff*

soul my soul my soul my soul.