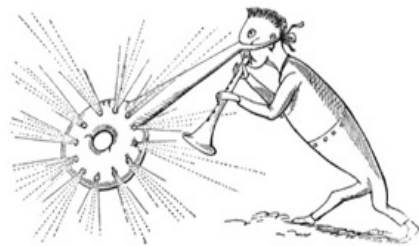


JOHN HAWKINS

The Dong with a Luminous Nose

for voice and clarinet

Words by Edward Lear



Recorded by Aidan Smith (baritone) and Steve Dummer (clarinet)
on Claudio Records CD 'Simplicius'. First live performance (with
mime dancer) at Tête a Tête Opera in September 2022

Duration c.15 minutes

When awful darkness and silence reign
 Over the great Gromboolian plain,
 Through the long, long wintry nights; —
 When the angry breakers roar
 As they beat on the rocky shore; —
 When Storm-clouds brood on the towering heights
 Of the Hills of the Chankly Bore: —

Then, through the vast and gloomy dark,
 There moves what seems a fiery spark,
 A lonely spark with silvery rays
 Piercing the coal-black night, —
 A Meteor strange and bright: —
 Hither and thither the vision strays,
 A single lurid light.

Slowly it wander, — pauses, — creeps, —
 Anon it sparkles, — flashes and leaps;
 And ever as onward it gleaming goes
 A light on the Bong-tree stems it throws.
 And those who watch at that midnight hour
 From Hall or Terrace, or lofty Tower,
 Cry, as the wild light passes along, —
 "The Dong! — the Dong!
 "The wandering Dong through the forest goes!
 "The Dong! the Dong!
 "The Dong with a luminous Nose!"

Long years ago
 The Dong was happy and gay,
 Till he fell in love with a Jumbly Girl
 Who came to those shores one day.
 For the Jumblies came in a sieve, they did, —
 Landing at eve near the Zemmary Fidd
 Where the Oblong Oysters grow,
 And the rocks are smooth and gray.
 And all the woods and the valleys rang
 With the Chorus they daily and nightly sang, —
*"Far and few, far and few,
 Are the lands where the Jumblies live;
 Their heads are green, and the hands are blue
 And they went to sea in a sieve."*

Happily, happily passed those days!
 While the cheerful Jumblies staid;
 They danced in circlets all night long,
 To the plaintive pipe of the lively Dong,
 In moonlight, shine, or shade.
 For day and night he was always there
 By the side of the Jumbly Girl so fair,
 With her sky-blue hands, and her sea-green hair.
 Till the morning came of that hateful day
 When the Jumblies sailed in their sieve away,
 And the Dong was left on the cruel shore
 Gazing — gazing for evermore, —
 Ever keeping his weary eyes on
 That pea-green sail on the far horizon, —
 Singing the Jumbly Chorus still
 As he sate all day on the grassy hill, —
*"Far and few, far and few,
 Are the lands where the Jumblies live;
 Their heads are green, and the hands are blue
 And they went to sea in a sieve."*

But when the sun was low in the West,
 The Dong arose and said;
 — "What little sense I once possessed
 Has quite gone out of my head!" —
 And since that day he wanders still
 By lake and dorest, marsh and hills,
 Singing — "O somewhere, in valley or plain
 "Might I find my Jumbly Girl again!
 "For ever I'll seek by lake and shore
 "Till I find my Jumbly Girl once more!"

Playing a pipe with silvery squeaks,
 Since then his Jumbly Girl he seeks,
 And because by night he could not see,
 He gathered the bark of the Twangum Tree
 On the flowery plain that grows.
 And he wove him a wondrous Nose, —
 A Nose as strange as a Nose could be!
 Of vast proportions and painted red,
 And tied with cords to the back of his head.
 — In a hollow rounded space it ended
 With a luminous Lamp within suspended,
 All fenced about
 With a bandage stout
 To prevent the wind from blowing it out; —
 And with holes all round to send the light,
 In gleaming rays on the dismal night.

And now each night, and all night long,
 Over those plains still roams the Dong;
 And above the wail of the Chimp and Snipe
 You may hear the squeak of his plaintive pipe
 While ever he seeks, but seeks in vain
 To meet with his Jumbly Girl again;
 Lonely and wild — all night he goes, —
 The Dong with a luminous Nose!
 And all who watch at the midnight hour,
 From Hall or Terrace, or lofty Tower,
 Cry, as they trace the Meteor bright,
 Moving along through the dreary night, —
 "This is the hour when forth he goes,
 "The Dong with a luminous Nose!
 "Yonder — over the plain he goes;
 "He goes!
 "He goes;
 "The Dong with a luminous Nose!"

The Dong with a Luminous Nose

EDWARD LEAR

JOHN HAWKINS 2018

$\text{♩} = 56$
misterioso

Clarinet in B \flat
 (sounding)

Baritone Solo

5

gliss.
 gliss.
p
 * lip gliss. if possible

pp *f*

8

[non gliss.]

pp *f*

13

p playfully *f* *p* *f* *p*

17

p *tr*

aw-ful dark-ness and si-lence reign O-ver the great Grom-boo-li-an plain, Through the

crescendo poco a poco

22 (tr) *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr*

crescendo poco a poco

long, long win try nights; When the an-gry break-ers roar As they beat on the rock-y shore; When

27 **accel.**

Storm - clouds brood on the tow - er - ing heights Of the Hills of the Chank - ly

30 **a tempo** $\text{♩} = 56$

Bore: Then, through the vast and gloomy

34 **gliss.**

dark, There moves what seems a fie - ry spark,

38 **f**

A lone - ly spark with sil - very rays Piercing the coal - black

42 **f**

night, A met - e - or strange and bright:

45

f *p* *f* *p* *f*

p *cresc.*

Hi-ther and thi-ther the vis - sion strays, A sin - gle lur - id

48

f *ff* *p* *p poco crescendo*

f *p* *p poco crescendo*

light. Slow-ly it wan-ders, pau-ses, creeps, A-

52 (tr)

mf

non it spark-les flash - es and leaps;

54

f *p*

p

And e-ver as on-ward it gleam-ing

58

p

p

goes A light on the Bong-tree stems it throws And those who watch at that mid-night

64 *pp*

hour From Hall or Terr - ace, or

66

lof - ty Tow - er, Cry, as the wild light

68 *tr* *f* *f* *p* *f*

pass-es a-long, "The Dong! the_Dong! The wan-der-ing Dong through the for-est goes! The

72 *f* *p* *p*

Dong! the_Dong! The Dong with a lum-in-ous nose:!

Allegretto

♩ = 132

76 *p* *f* *p*

nose!___

80

p

Long years a-go the Dong was hap-py and gay, Till he

84

fell in love with a jum - bly Girl who came to those shores one

87

accel.

day. For the Jum - bles came in a sievthey did, Land - ing at eve near the

91

Zemm-er - y Fidd Where the ob - long Oy - sters grow, And theRocks are smoothand

95

crescendo

gray. And all the woods and the vall - eys rang With the Chor-us they dail-y and

99 *tempo primo*

night - ly sang, Far and few, far and few Are the lands where the Jum - blies

104

live; Their heads are green, and their hands are blue And they went to sea in a

108 *poco piu mosso* ♩. = 76

sieve. Happ - il - y, happ-il-y passed those days! while the

112

chee - ful Jum - blies staid; They danced in circ - lets

115

all night long To the plain - tive pipe of the live - ly Dong, In

a tempo

118 ♩. = 66

moon-light, shine or shade. For day and night he was al ways there By the

122

rit.

♩. = 48

side of the Jumb-ly Girl so fair, With her sky - blue hands, and her sea-green hair.

tempo primo

129 ♩. = 56

Till the mor - ning came of that

134

hate - ful day When the Jum-bliessailed in their seive a - way, And the

138 *f* *gliss.* **Lento** *ff* *p*

Dong_ the_ Dong _____ And the Dong the_ Dong was left on the cru - el

142 *p* *gliss.* *p*

shore _____ Gaz - ing Gaz - ing for e-ver more,

150 **Tempo primo** *p* 5 6 *p* *sadly* *p*

E-ver

154 *p* *p*

keep-ing his wear - y eyes on that pea green sail on the far hor - i - zon,

158

Sing ing that Jumb-ly Chor-us still As he sat all day on the grass - y hill,

162

Far and few, far and few Are the

165

lands where the Jum - blies live; Their heads are green, and their hands are blue And they

169

ad lib. quasi recitativo, animato

went to sea in a sieve. But when the sun was low in the

174

West, The Dong a - rose and said; "What lit-tle sense I once pos-essed Has quite gone out of mt

♩ = 112
a tempo giusto

179

head!" And since that day he wan - ders still By lake and for - est,

183

marsh and hill, sing-ing: "O some - where, in

187

vall - ey or__ plain Might I find__ my_ Jumb-ly Girl_ a - gain! For e - ver I'll_ seek_ by

194

lake__ and shore Till I find my Jumb - ly Girl_____ once

199

tempo primo

lunga

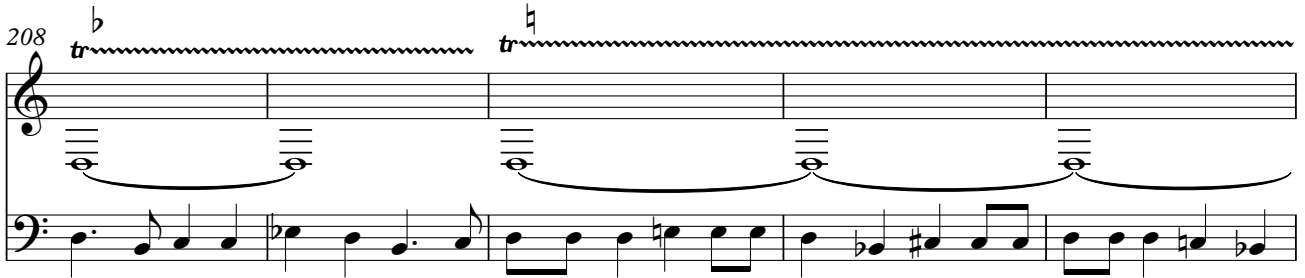
more!" Play-ing a pipe with

204

$\text{♩} = 66$ **Più mosso, quasi recitativo**

sil-ver-y squeeks, Since then__ his_Jum-bly Girl_ he seeks, And be-

208



'cause by night he could not see, He gath-ered the bark of the Twan-gum tree on the flow-er-y plain that

213



grows. And he wove him a won-drous Nose,

219



A nose as strange as a Nose could be! Of vast pro-por-tions and pain-ted red, And

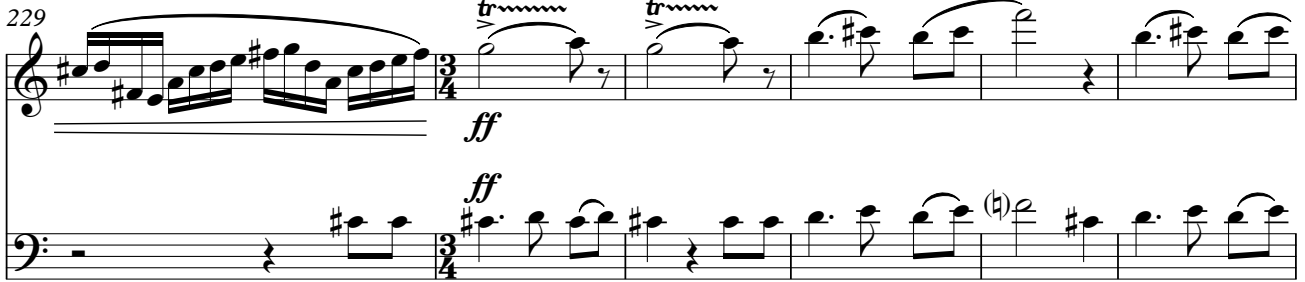
224



tied with cords to the back of his head. In a holl-ow round-ed space it end-ed

a tempo giusto

229



With a lu-min-ous Lamp, with a lu-min-ous Lamp a lu-min-ous

235 *rit.*

diminuendo *mf* *non legato*

Lamp with - in sus - pen - ded All fenced a - bout With a ban - dage stout To pre

243

vent the wind from blow - ing it out; And with holes all round to send the light, In

251 *J. = 48*

pp *p molto legato* *p*

gleam - ing rays on the dis - mal night. And now each night, and

258

crescendo

all night long, Ov - er those plains still roams the Dong; And a - bove the

262

f *p*

wail of the Chimp and Snipe you may hear the squeek of his plain - tive pipe

268

p *p*

While e - ver he seeks, but seeks in vain To meet with his Jum - bly Girl a -

272

pp gain; Lone-ly and wild all night he goes The Dong with a lum-in-ous nose!

277

pp And those who watch at that mid - night hour From

280

pp Hall or Terr - ace, or

281

lof - ty Tow - er, Cry, as they trace the

283

met-e-or bright, Mov-ing a-long through the rear-y night, "This is the hour when forth he goes, The

288

f *p*

Dong! the Dong! The Dong with a lum-in-ous nose!_____

291

p *f* *mf* *p*

a tempo

293 **rit.** $\text{♩} = 48$

pp *pp*

Yon-der o-ver the plain he

298

p

goes; He goes! He goes! The Dong with a

302

p *f* *p* *pp*

luminous nose!"