

# **BIG GEORGE**

for: soprano 1, soprano 2, alto, tenor, baritone & bass

by **JENNIFER FOWLER**

Text by the composer.

Duration: 3'30"

*Programme note.*

## **BIG GEORGE**

by Jennifer Fowler

**Big George** is part of a collection of songs with the overall title of “Eat and Be Eaten”. The collection revolves around the subject of food in all its significance. The subject matter allows for a range of moods, from deadly serious (literally) to humorous.

Several themes recur, and the subject of greed and the dangers of over-indulgence feature in a number of items. In this song, Big George is an incarnation of Little George, a small boy who can’t stop eating. His course is paralleled by Big George who builds a business empire with dodgy takeover bids. The text is by the composer. It is scored for 6 vocal lines: Sop 1, Sop 2, Alto, Tenor, Baritone & Bass.

The cycle of songs was commissioned by The Song Company of Sydney.

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# BIG GEORGE

TEXT (by Jennifer Fowler):

Big George said: I want some money.  
The bank manager said: No chance!  
George then said: I've got lots and lots of money.  
In that case, sir, we'll give you more.

So George bought:

One small local radio station,  
A couple of chains of retail shops,  
Three hotels ripe for development,  
Four private pension funds,  
Five gold mines.  
Take-over!  
One whole coast of yachting marinas,  
Two whole valuable riverside sites,  
Buy-out!  
Three lucrative wood-chip factories,  
Four deep-sea fishing fleets,  
Take-over!  
Five airlines.

Six digital import companies,  
Seven iron and nickel mines,  
Eight opal quarries,  
Nine TV channels,  
Ten media empires,  
Eleven multi-nationals,  
Twelve off-shore banks.

George didn't pay for all this plunder,  
Borrowed on each to pay for the next,  
Then stripped the assets and got out fast!  
This couldn't, wouldn't last.

One painting, Post-Impressionist in style,  
(One more risk, you'll come undone),  
Two casinos, beware, the payment's due!  
Three huge mergers - begins calamity,  
Four, the taxman's at the door,  
Five, don't think that you'll survive,  
(Five million shares take a dive),  
Six, spells dumb arithmetics,  
Seven, fool, this way's not heav'n,  
Eight, too late to speculate,  
Nine, this bankrupt's in decline,  
Ten, the prison's lonely den. Amen.

# BIG GEORGE

Jennifer Fowler

(q = 84)                      Slightly faster (q = 92)

1st Soprano

2nd Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Baritone

Bass

mf                      mf                      mf                      mf

I                      \*wah - want                      I                      I

mp                      mf                      mf                      mf

Big George said:                      I                      \*want,                      I                      wah - want                      I

mp                      mf

Big George said:                      I

7

(q = 84)

S1.

S2.

A.

T.

Bar.

B.

mp                      mp

The bank man - a - ger said:

The bank man - a - ger said: -

wah - wah - want

want                      wah, want                      some mon - ey,

\*wah - wah - want                      wah - want                      some mon - ey,

\* rather whining vowel - an open "ah" rather than back-of-mouth "aw"



(q = 84) (q = 104) Crisply

22

S1. *mp*  
In that case Sir, we'll give you more

S2. *mp*  
In that case Sir, we'll give you more

A. *mp*  
In that case Sir, we'll give you more

(q = 84) (q = 104) Crisply

T. *mf*  
So George bought

Bar. *mf* *p*  
So George bought One small loc - al

B. *mf* *p*  
So George bought One small loc - al

28 Speed up (q = 116)

T. *mp*  
Three ho - tels

Bar. *mp*  
radi - o stat - ion, A couple of chains of re - tail shops, Three ho - tels

B. *mp*  
radi - o stat - ion, A couple of chains of re - tail shops, Three ho - tels

32 rit. . . . .

T. *mf*  
ripe for de - vel - op - ment, Four pri - vate pen - sion funds, Five gold mines,

Bar. *mf*  
ripe for de - vel - op - ment, Four pri - vate pen - sion funds, Five gold mines,

B. *mf*  
ripe for de - vel - op - ment, Four pri - vate pen - sion funds, Five gold mines,

A tempo (q = 116)

38 *f*

T. *f* Take over!

Bar. *f* Take over! *p* Two whole valua - ble

B. *f* Take over! *p* One whole coast of yachting mar - in - as, *p* Two whole valua - ble

42 *mf* *mp* *mf*

T. Buy - out! Three lucra - tive wood - chip factor - ies, Buy - out, Four

Bar. *mf* *mp* *mf* river - side sites, Buy - out! Three wood - chip factor - ies, Buy - out,

B. *mf* *mp* *mf* river - side sites, Buy - out! Three lucra - tive wood - chip factor - ies, Buy - out, Four

46 *mf* *molto rit.*

S1. *mf* Take ov - er!

S2. *mf* Take ov - er!

A. *mf* Take ov - er!

T. *p* *molto rit.* deep - sea fish - ing fleets, Take ov - er! Five air - lines,

Bar. *p* deep - sea fish - ing fleets, Take ov - er! Five air - lines,

B. *p* deep - sea fish - ing fleets, Take ov - er! Five air - lines,

53 **A tempo** **rit.** . . . . . **Slower (q = 88)**

S1.

S2.

A.

**A tempo** **rit.** . . . . . **Slower (q = 88)**

T. *mf* *mp*

Bar. *mf* *mp*

B. *mf* *mp*

58

S1. *mp* *mf*

S2. *mp* *mf*

A. *mp* *mf*

T. *mf* *mp* *mf*

Bar. *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf*

B. *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf*



64 **Slower (q = 76)** **(q = 92)**

S1. *f* *mf*  
 lev - en mul - ti - nat - ionals, Twelve off - shore banks. George did - n't pay for

S2. *f* *mf*  
 lev - en mul - ti - nat - ionals, Twelve off - shore banks. George did - n't pay for

A. *f* *mf*  
 lev - en mul - ti - nat - ionals, Twelve off - shore banks. George did - n't pay for

**Slower (q = 76)** **(q = 92)**

T. *f*  
 lev - en \_\_\_\_\_ Twelve off - shore banks.

Bar. *f*  
 lev - en \_\_\_\_\_ Twelve off - shore banks.

B. *f*  
 lev - en \_\_\_\_\_ Twelve off - shore banks.

70

S1. *mp*  
 all this plun - der,

S2. *mp*  
 all this plun - der, Bor - rowed on each to pay the next,

A. *mp*  
 all this plun - der, Bor - rowed on each to pay the next,

T. *mp*  
 Then stripped the ass - ets and

Bar. *mp*  
 Then stripped the ass - ets and

B. *mp*  
 Then stripped the ass - ets and

74

S1. *mf* *f*  
This\_ could - n't, last! 3

S2. *mf* *f* *mf*  
This\_ could - n't, would - n't, last! 3

A. *mf* *f* *mf*  
This\_ could - n't, would - n't, last! 3

T. *mf* *f* *mf* *f*  
got out fast, This\_ could - n't, would - n't, last! 3

Bar. *mf* *f* *f*  
got out fast, This\_ could - n't, last! 3

B. *mf* *f* *f*  
got out fast, This\_ could - n't, last! 3

79

S1. *mp*  
-n't\_ last!\_ One\_ paint - ing, Post - Im -

S2. 3 3  
-n't\_ last!\_

A. 3 *mp*  
-n't\_ last!\_ One\_ paint - ing, Post - Im -

T. 3 3  
could - n't\_

Bar. 3 3  
could - n't\_

B. 3 3  
could - n't\_

S1. *mp* pression-ist in style,

S2. *mp* One more risk you'll come un - done,

A. *mp* pression-ist in style, Two cas-in - os, be - ware, the pay-ment's

T. *mp* Two cas-in - os, be - ware, the pay-ment's

Bar. *mp* Two cas-in - os, be - ware, the pay-ment's

B. *mp* Two cas-in - os, be - ware, the pay-ment's



S1. due!

S2. Four, the

A. *mf* due! Four, the

T. *mf* Two, your sums have gone a - skew, *mf* Three, your wealth's in jeo - par-

Bar. *mf* due! Three huge merg-ers be - gins ca-lam-it-y

B. *mf* Three huge merg-ers be - gins ca-lam-it-y

91 *mf*

S1. Five mill - ion shares take a dive, Sev - en,

S2. *mf* Five, don't think that you'll sur - vive, Six spells dumb a - rith - me -

A. tax - man's at the door, Six spells dumb a - rith - me -

T. dy, Five mill - ion take a dive,

Bar.

B.

94 **Slower (q = 76)**

S1. fool, this way's not heav'n, Nine, this bank - rupt's in de -

S2. tics, Eight, too late to spec - u - late, Nine years of tax due,

A. tics, too late to spec - u - late, bank - rupt's de -

**Slower (q = 76)** *mf*

T. bank - rupt's de -

Bar. *mf* de -

B. *mf* de -

97 (q = 50) mp

S1. cline Ten, the pris - on's lone - ly den,

S2. Ten, the pris - on's lone - ly den,

A. cline Ten, the pris - on's lone - ly den, A - men.

(q = 50) mp

T. cline Ten, the pris - on's lone - ly den, A - men.

Bar. cline Ten, the pris - on's lone - ly den, A - men.

B. cline Ten, the pris - on's lone - ly den, A - men.