

PIANO/VOCAL SCORE

THE LEADER

*a chamber opera
for five singers and ensemble*

Music: Karim Al-Zand
Libretto: Eugène Ionesco

SYNOPSIS

The Announcer and two Admirers are chasing the Leader. Apparently, the Leader is nearby but the trio always seems to arrive a moment too late. Though he eludes them, they yearn to be in his presence. They fervently worship him from afar, following his every action with rapt attention. Meanwhile, two Lovers court each other and profess their mutual affection. Finally, the Leader approaches, the anticipation builds and the Lovers are swept up in the frenzy. The Leader is coming: his imminent arrival is hailed with increasing zeal.

PROGRAM NOTE

On its surface, Eugene Ionesco's *The Leader* is a comedy. Its situations are farcical, its action is madcap, and its cast is full of outrageous caricatures worthy of opera buffa. The Announcer and Admirers, in their fawning adulation, repeat the same words over and over again: platitudes and banalities echoed by mindless followers. Their veneration is preposterous, yet their unquestioning fervor seems all too familiar... As is common in the so-called "theater of the absurd," *The Leader* achieves its effect not through plot machination or character development, but through exaggerated parody, a kind of irony that forces us to reckon with our own sense of the world and its predicaments. It was published in 1953, six years before the playwright's best known work, *Rhinoceros*, but shares with the later work its satirical tone, allegorical character and underlying political critique. Together the plays are often read as a commentary on the rise of fascism in the lead-up to World War II, and a mockery of its dangerously charismatic leaders. But the cautionary message of Ionesco's play is as relevant today as ever. *The Leader* lays bare the cult of personality which accompanies despotism. It inveighs against mob mentality and mass conformity. The cloud of uncertainty with which the play ends shows us the result of such tendencies, and serves as a rallying cry for reason and individual thinking.

SETTING

Modern day. The backdrop is a city scene, but somewhat abstracted: a street "corner" with two walls angled inwards and a gap upstage center. There are several large objects on stage (suitable for characters to hide behind), which might represent a car, telephone pole, trash bin, etc. The two walls are papered with posters, advertisements, playbills, etc. The opera takes place within this single stage setting, and is performed without discrete scene breaks.

CAST

Announcer (lyric baritone)
An on-camera, reporter-in-the-field type

Male Admirer (baritone)
Female Admirer (mezzo-soprano)
Followers of the Leader

Male Lover (tenor)
Female Lover (soprano)
Young Lovers

The Leader (non-speaking)

INSTRUMENTATION

Flute (doubles Piccolo)
B \flat Clarinet (doubles A, E \flat Clarinet)
B \flat Cornet
Trombone
Percussion (1 player)
vibraphone, xylophone, glockenspiel, snare drum, hi-hat cymbals
pedal bass drum, triangle, suspended cymbal, sizzle cymbal
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Cello
Contrabass

DURATION

approx. 35 minutes

PIANO/VOCAL SCORE

for Opera in the Heights and Musiqa
commissioned with funds from the Houston Arts Alliance

THE LEADER

a comic chamber opera in one act
for five singers and ensemble

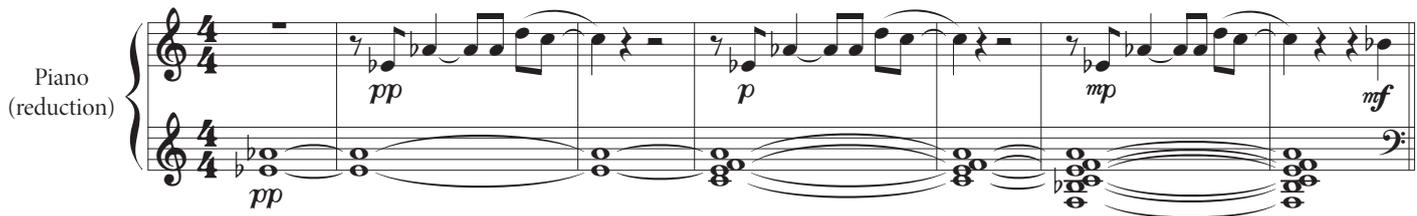
Music: Karim Al-Zand
Libretto: Eugène Ionesco

SCENE: two angled walls with a gap upstage center: a street corner in a city, but somewhat abstracted. There are several large objects lying about (suitable for hiding behind), which might represent a car, telephone pole, trash bin, etc. The walls are decorated with posters, advertisements, playbills, etc.

PROLOGUE [the curtain rises/lights up to reveal the scene]

Very slowly; still, atmospheric ♩=54

Piano (reduction)



[the people depart, revealing signs proclaiming "The Leader!" "The Leader is Coming!" "Long Live the Leader!" etc.]

Slightly faster; expressive ♩=58

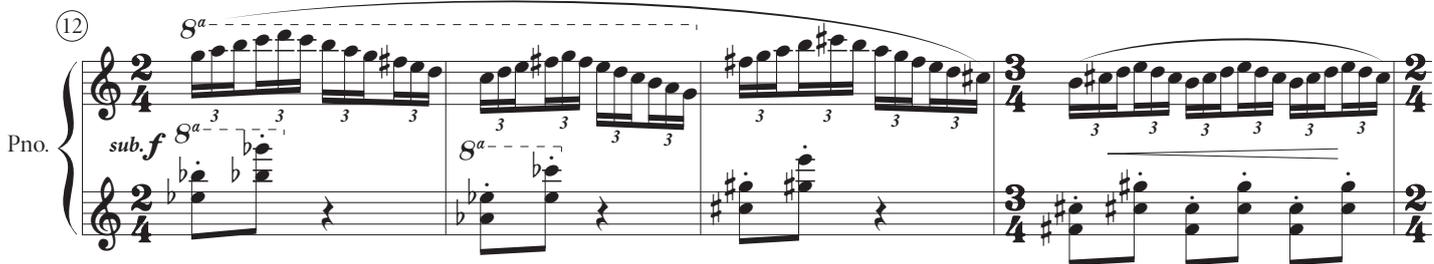
molto rit. - - - -

Pno.



Very quickly; scurrying ♩=104 [the Announcer runs on stage excitedly, looking all around]

Pno.



ANNOUNCER: [he points into the distance] Steady; majestic (same tempo)

Ann. *f* There he is! There he is! There he is! *mf* At the end of the

Pno.



42 *f* [they all scurry around trying to hide]

F. Adm. *f* Watch out! Watch out!

M. Adm. Watch out! Watch out!

Ann. out! Watch out! *mf* It's bet-ter if he does - n't

Pno. *f*

46

F. Adm. Watch out! Watch out!

M. Adm. Watch out! Watch out!

Ann. *f* Watch out! Watch out!

Pno. see us... Watch out! Watch out!

50 [they all hide] *rhapsodic* [the Announcer steps out] *mp*

Ann.

Pno. *mp* *sempre legato* Hoo -

55

Ann. ray!* Hoo - ray! The lead - er! The

Pno.

* throughout, pronounced: "Hurr-áy" (hŭ'rei)

59 *mf*

Ann. lead - er! Long live the lead - - -

Pno.

63 *mf* [the two Admirers step out as well]

F. Adm. Hoo - ray! Hoo -

M. Adm. Hoo - ray! Hoo -

Ann. - er! The lead - - - er!

Pno.

67 *f*

F. Adm. - ray! *f* Hoo - ray! Hoo -

M. Adm. - ray! *f* Hoo - ray! Hoo -

Ann. The lead - - - er!

Pno.

[the two Admirers hide again] [the two Admirers hide again]

71

E. Adm. ray! Hoo - ray! Bra - vo!

M. Adm. ray! Hoo - ray! Bra - vo!

Ann. Bra - vo!

Pno.

[notices something in the distance; cries out in disappointment]

75

Ann. Ah! Too bad! He's go-ing a - way!

Pno. *mf* a fanfare in the distance

Fairly quickly; ad lib (♩ = 66)
f with resolve

81

Ann. He's go-ing a - way... Fol-low me quick - ly!

Pno. *mp* dejected even farther away stamps foot

Very quickly; scurrying ♩ = 104 [the two Admirers are exhilarated beyond measure. They run around the stage shouting "Leader!" "Leeeader!" "Lee-ee-ader!"—then quickly follow after the Announcer, their exclamations echoing in the wings like bleating cries.]

[he enjoins the two Admirers then runs off in pursuit]

[the two Admirers are exhilarated beyond measure. They run around the stage shouting "Leader!" "Leeeader!" "Lee-ee-ader!"—then quickly follow after the Announcer, their exclamations echoing in the wings like bleating cries.]

88

Ann. Af-ter him! repeat as necessary

Pno. *f*

93

Pno.

DUO: Forgive me, madame (Serenade)

Slowly; delicate, graceful, with rubato ♩ = 50

[the Female Lover enters, followed by the Male Lover. He notices her.]

97

[mandolin]

Pno.

101

MALE LOVER: *mp*

M. Lover

For - give me, Ma - dame,

Pno.

104

FEMALE LOVER: *f* slightly irritated (3)

F. Lover

I beg your par-don, I'm a-fraid I don't hap-pen to

M. Lover

or should I say Mad' - moi-selle?

Pno.

107

F. Lover

know you!

M. Lover

And I'm a - fraid I don't know you eith - er! I'm a -

Pno.

110 *interrupting, annoyed*

E. Lover

M. Lover *showing off a lot* *f* Then nei-ther of us knows each oth-er. *p* trying again

- fraid I don't know you ei-ther! Ex-

Pno.

113 *f* [she is not having it]

E. Lover

M. Lover *mp* Nei-ther of us knows each oth-er! *mf*

-act-ly. Ex-act-ly. Mad' - moi-selle. Ex-act-ly. We have some-thing in

Pno. [vc.]

116 *as quickly as possible*

M. Lover

com - mon. It means that be-tween us there is a ba-sis of un-der-stand-ing on which we can build the ed-i-fice of our

Pno.

118 *a tempo* *mf ad libitum* *a tempo: but slower, broader* *poco riten.*

E. Lover

M. Lover *p* That leaves me cold, I'm a-fraid. *f* with entirely too much passion

fu - ture. Oh! my dar - ling, I a -

Pno. *fp cresc.*

a tempo *[surprising herself by a sudden change of heart]* *mf* *molto rit.* *f* a tempo

121

E. Lover

M. Lover

Pno.

Dar-ling, so do I! *con bravura* So do

- dore you! I a - dore you, I a -

124

E. Lover

M. Lover

Pno.

I!

- dore you!

rit. ————— a tempo primo

Dar - ling,

decresc. *mp*

128

E. Lover

M. Lover

Pno.

mp *poco rit.* ————— *[they prance away hand in hand]*

Dar - ling, I a-dore you!

I'm tak - ing you with me. Dar-ling, we'll get mar-ried straight a - way.

p

Fairly quickly; ad lib (♩ = 66) MALE ADMIRER:

131 *[the Announcer and the two Admirers run onstage expectantly]* *mf*

M. Adm.

Ann.

Pno.

ANNOUNCER: Are you ab-so-lute ly sure a-bout that?

But... the lead-er swore that he'd be pass-ing here. Yes, yes, of course.

136 FEMALE ADMIRER:

mf

F. Adm. Are we real-ly on his way? *mf*

M. Adm.

Ann. Did you
Yes, yes. He should have passed by here, it was marked on the fes-ti-val pro-gram.

Pno.

141 *cresc.* *ritenuto*

M. Adm. ac-tual-ly see it your - self and hear it with your own eyes and ears? *p*

Ann. *annoyed f* *waving it off p* But who?
He told some-one! Some-one else.

Pno. *f* *p*

148 *p* *a tempo*

F. Adm. Was it a re-li-a-ble per-son? A friend of yours?

M. Adm. Who was this some-one else?

Ann. *mf dismissively* A friend of mine who I know ver-y

Pno. *mf*

Steady; stately (same tempo) *a tempo*

[hearing the fanfare and running around excitedly]

154

Ann. well. That's him now! There he is! Hip, hip! Hip, hip!

Pno. *p mp* *mf*

160 *a tempo* *in a panic* [*shooing the Admirers away*] *cresc.* [*the Admirers hide*]

Ann. Hoo-ray! Hide your-selves! There he is! Hide your - selves!

Pno.

Very quickly; urgently, insistent ♩=152
Breaking News!

165 2+2+3 [*Announcer moves his hand to his earpiece as though receiving "breaking news"*] [*he readies himself for the camera*]

Ann.

Pno. *ff* *f evenly*

xylo. *f*

clarion *f*

TRIO: *The leader's coming*

175 *ad lib.* Quickly; light, sparkling ♩=144

F. Adm. FEMALE ADMIRER: *mf* [*peeking out from hiding*]
 lead-er's com-ing, lead-er's com-ing, lead-er's com-ing, lead-er's com-ing.

M. Adm. MALE ADMIRER: *mf* [*peeking out from hiding*]
 lead-er's com-ing, lead-er's com-ing, lead-er's com-ing, lead-er's com-ing.

Ann. ON CAMERA *mf*
 The lead-er's com - ing. etc., throughout

Pno.

178

F. Adm. lead-er's com-ing, lead-er's com-ing, lead-er's com-ing, lead-er's com-ing

M. Adm. lead-er's com-ing, lead-er's com-ing, lead-er's com-ing, lead-er's com-ing

Ann. He ap - proach - es.

Pno.

[the Admirers bow and bend in various directions]

181 *cresc.*

Ann. He's bend - ing, he's bend - ing, he's bend - ing, he's bend - ing, He's

Pno. *cresc.*

186 [the Admirers slowly "unbend"]

Ann. bend - ing, bend - ing, bend - ing, He's un - bend - ing!

Pno. *f p cresc.*

190

F. Adm. *f mf*

M. Adm. *f mf*

Ann. *mf*

Pno. *f mp mf*

lead - er's com - ing, lead - er's com - ing, lead - er's com - ing, lead - er's com - ing. He's jump - ing, he's

lead - er's com - ing, lead - er's com - ing, lead - er's com - ing, lead - er's com - ing. He's jump - ing, he's

He's jump - ing.

192

F. Adm.

M. Adm.

Ann.

Pno.

jump - ing, he's jump - ing, he's jump - ing. He's jump - ing, he's

jump - ing, he's jump - ing, he's jump - ing. He's jump - ing, he's

He's crossed the riv - er.

195

E. Adm. jump-ing, he's jump-ing, he's jump-ing.

M. Adm. jump-ing, he's jump-ing, he's jump-ing.

Ann. They're shak - ing his hand, They're

Pno.

199 *cresc.*

Ann. shak - ing his hand, They're shak - ing, shak-ing, shak - ing. He sticks out his thumb.

Pno. *cresc.* *f* *p*

204

E. Adm. *f* They're shak-ing his hand, he sticks out his thumb. *mf* Can you hear? Can

M. Adm. *f* They're shak-ing his hand, he sticks out his thumb. *mf* Can you hear? Can

Ann. *mf* Can you hear?

Pno. *cresc.* *f* *mp* *mf*

207

E. Adm. hear? Can you hear? Can you hear? Can you hear? Can you

M. Adm. hear? Can you hear? Can you hear? Can you hear? Can you

Ann. They're laugh - ing.

Pno.

210 *f*

F. Adm. hear? Can you hear? Can you hear? Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha! Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha! Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha,

M. Adm. hear? Can you hear? Can you hear? *f* Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha! Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha! Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha,

Ann. Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha! Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha! Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha,

Pno. *f* *cresc.*

214 [*becoming increasingly giddy*]

F. Adm. ha! Ha, ha! Ha, ha! He! He! Ha, ha! Ha, ha! He! He!

M. Adm. [*becoming increasingly giddy*]
ha! Ha, ha! Ha, ha! He! He! Ha, ha! Ha, ha! He! He!

Ann. ha!

Pno.

221 begin together, then break into spasmodic, uproarious laughter, hooting, knee-slapping, etc., *ad libitum*...

F. Adm. Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha! Ha, Ha! Ho, Ho! He, He! etc. →

M. Adm. ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha! Ha, Ha! Ho, Ho! He, He! etc. →

Ann. [the Admirers are carrying on too much; the Announcer is not amused]

Pno. *p* *cresc.* *f* *decresc.*

224

...eventually lose steam...

...then sigh, shaking your heads in an isn't-the-leader-simply-amazing sort of way

F. Adm.

M. Adm.

Ann.

Pno.

legato

228

[noticing something]

Ah...! They're giv - ing him a box of tools.

Pno.

233

What's he going to do with them?

Ah...! He's

Pno.

238

sign - ing au - to - graphs.

The lead - er's sign - ing au - to-graphs.

Pno.

243

f amazed

astonished

Spoken: a superb hedgehog!

The lead - er is strok - ing a hedge - hog!

The crowd ap -

Pno.

247 [the Admirers clap] *mf*

F. Adm. He's dan-cing, he's dan-cing, he's dan-cing, he's dan-cing.

M. Adm. He's dan-cing, he's dan-cing, he's dan-cing, he's dan-cing.

Ann. -plauds! He's danc - ing

Pno. *f mp mf*

250

F. Adm. He's dan-cing he's dan-cing he's dan-cing he's dan-cing

M. Adm. He's dan-cing he's dan-cing he's dan-cing he's dan-cing

Ann. with the hedge - hog

Pno.

253 *cresc.*

Ann. He's danc - ing, the crowd ap-plauds, He's danc - ing with a

Pno. *cresc.*

257 *f*

Ann. hedge - hog, he's danc - ing with a hedge-hog in _ his hand!

Pno. *f p cresc.*

262

f

F. Adm. He's danc-ing with a hedge-hog in his hand.

M. Adm. He's danc-ing with a hedge-hog in his hand.

Ann. He's em - brac-ing his danc - er.

f *mp* *mf*

Pno.

266

f

F. Adm. Hoo - ray! Hoo - ray!

M. Adm. Hoo - ray! Hoo - ray!

Ann. Hoo - ray! Hoo - ray!

f

Pno.

272

mf

Ann. He's be-ing pho - to-graphed, with his danc-er in one hand and the

mf

Pno.

277

f

Ann. hedge-hog in the oth - er... He greets the crowd...

f

Pno.

282

in awe
Spoken: He spits a tremendous distance... [they all follow the expectorate's trajectory through the air]

Ann.

Pno.

p *cresc.* *f* *decresc.*

285

Pno.

f *p* **CAMERA OFF**

289

Fairly quickly; ad lib (♩ = 66)

F. Adm.

M. Adm.

Ann.

Pno.

mf *mf* *f*

Is he com-ing past here? *mf* Is he com-ing in our di - rec - tion?
Are we real-ly on his route? *f* Quite, and don't move

293

ritenuto *p* *a tempo*

F. Adm.

Ann.

Pno.

p *f* *f*

But e-ven so... *f* Keep qui-et, I tell you!
you're spoil-ing ev - 'ry-thing...

297

[wanders stage right, seems to notice the leader in the distance] *a tempo*

Ann.

Pno.

p *mf* *f*

Did-n't I tell you he'd prom-ised that he had fixed his i - tin - er - ar - y him-self... Hoo-

[no response; he moves to the other side of the stage and tries again]

301 *poco f* proudly **Steady; triumphant (same tempo)** **a tempo**

Ann. -ray! Hoo - ray! Long live the lead-er! Long live,

Pno. *f* *poco f* *fp*

306 **a tempo**

Ann. long live the lead-er! Long live, long live, long live the

Pno. *fp*

311 *f* [the Admirers unable to contain their enthusiasm any longer] *ff*

F. Adm. Hoo-ray! Hoo-ray! Hoo-ray! Ho - ray! Hoo-ray! Long

M. Adm. Hoo-ray! Hoo-ray! Hoo-ray! Hoo - ray! Hoo-ray! Long

Ann. *f imploring* lead-er! Qui - et! Qui - et! Qui - et! Qui - et! Qui - et!

Pno. *f*

316 **a tempo** [attacca]

F. Adm. live the lead - er!

M. Adm. live the lead - er!

Ann. You two, calm down! You're spoil - ing ev - 'ry-thing!

Pno.

TRIO: Long live the leader

Quickly; jubilant, celebratory ♩=152

320 $3+2+2$ *f* $3+2+3$

Ann. Hoo - ray! Hoo - ray! Long live the lead - er!

Pno.

324

Pno.

328 *mf*

Ann. He's chang - ing his shirt. He

Pno. *mf*

332 *cresc.* *f*

Ann. dis - ap - pears be - hind a red screen. He re - ap - pears! Bra -

Pno. *cresc.*

336

F. Adm. *f* chiming in Long live the lead - er!

M. Adm. *f* chiming in Long live the lead - er!

Ann. - vo! Bra - vo! Long live the lead - er!

Pno. *f*

341 *mf*

Ann. He's

Pno.

345 *cresc.*

Ann. put - ting his tie on. He's read - ing his news - pa - per and

Pno. *cresc.*

349 *f*

Ann. drink - ing his morn - ing cof - fee! Hoo - ray! Hoo - ray! Long

Pno.

353 FEMALE ADMIRER: *f*

M. Adm. MALE ADMIRER: *f*

Ann. live the lead - er!

Pno. *p* like an echo

357

F. Adm. *mp* Oh!

M. Adm. *mp* Oh!

Ann. *mp* He's still got his hedge-hog. He's

Pno. *mp* 2+2+3

363

F. Adm. *cresc.* Ah! Oh! Ah! Oh! Ah!

M. Adm. *cresc.* Ah! Oh! Ah! Oh! Ah!

Ann. *cresc.* lean-ing, lean-ing on the edge of the par-a-pet. Lean-ing, lean-ing, on the

Pno. *cresc.*

368

F. Adm. *f* Oh! Ah! Oh! Ah!

M. Adm. *f* Oh! Ah! Oh! Ah!

Ann. *f* *mp cresc.* *with increasing conviction* edge, the par-a-pet breaks! He gets up, he gets up, he gets up un-

Pno. *mp cresc.*

373

F. Adm. *f* Long live the lead-er!

M. Adm. *f* Long live the lead-er!

Ann. *f* - aid - ed! Bra - vo! Well done! Long live the lead - er! He

Pno. *f* etc.

378

F. Adm. Long live the lead - er!

M. Adm. Long live the lead - er! *mp* You

Ann. *mf* bru - shes his soiled clothes. He's mount - ing the stool!

Pno. *mf* [6]

383

F. Adm. FEMALE ADMIRER: *mp* Ah...! the lead - er!

M. Adm. hear that?

Ann. He's rid - ing

Pno. *mf*

389

F. Adm. *mp* Ah...! the lead - er! *mp* Ah...! the

M. Adm. *mp* You — hear that? Oh! If I were king if I — were

Ann. pig-gy back,

Pno.

396

F. Adm. lead - er! —

M. Adm. king...

Ann. [6] They're of - fer-ing him a rid - ing crop,

Pno.

401

F. Adm.

M. Adm.

Ann. he knows it's meant as a joke, and he does-n't mind, he's laugh - ing. *mf* He's

Pno. *cresc.* *f*

407

mp

F. Adm. Ah...! the lead - er!

M. Adm. You — hear that?

Ann. mount - ing the stool. No.

Pno. *mf*

414

mp

F. Adm. Ah...! the lead - er!

M. Adm. You — hear that? Oh! If I were king, if

Ann. He's get - ting down.

Pno.

421

mp

F. Adm. Ah...! the lead - er!

M. Adm. I — were king...

Ann. A lit - tle girl of - fers him a bou - quet of

Pno.

427

F. Adm.

M. Adm.

Ann.

flow - ers... What's he go - ing to do? He takes the

Pno.

cresc.

f

432

Suddenly slowly; delicately $\text{♩} = 84$

F. Adm.

M. Adm.

Ann.

flow - ers! He em - bra - ces the lit - tle girl...

Pno.

p

rit.

436

Very slowly; tenderly, take time, *ad lib* [$\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 44$]

Tempo primo

F. Adm.

M. Adm.

Ann.

calls her "my child"... "my child"... "my child"...

Pno.

(tacet)

p

pp

438

F. Adm.

M. Adm.

Ann. *p tense* [They all become increasingly concerned.] *cresc.*

He gives her the hedge - hog. The lit - tle girl is

Pno. *cresc.*

442

F. Adm.

M. Adm.

Ann. *f* [they are all suddenly happy]

Bra - vo! Bra -

Bra - vo! Bra -

cry - ing. she's cry - ing... Bra - vo! Bra -

Pno.

446

F. Adm.

M. Adm.

Ann.

- vo! Long live the lead - er! Bra - vo! Bra - vo! Long

- vo! Long live the lead - er! Bra - vo! Bra - vo! Long

- vo! Long live the lead - er! Bra - vo! Bra - vo! Long

Pno.

451

F. Adm. *p*
live the lead-er! Long live the lead - er, long live — the lead - er.

M. Adm. *p*
live the lead-er! Long live the lead - er, long live — the lead - er.

Ann. *p*
live the lead-er! Long live the lead - er, long live — the lead - er.

Pno. *fp*

[the Announcer and the Admirers all hurry off stage, crying "Hooray! Hooray!"]

DUO: Let's go to the market (Reverie)

456 Fairly quickly; ad lib (♩ = 66) *mf*

F. Adm. *mf*
Is he com - ing past here?

M. Adm. *mf*
Is he com - ing past here?

Ann. *mf* — *f*
He's go - ing a - way! Hur - ry! Come on!

Pno. *mf* *mp*

Slowly; dreamily, tenderly ♩ = 48

462 [The two Lovers enter, entwined in an embrace. She is carrying a basket. They flit about dreamily, in a romantic haze.]

F. Lover *mp*
Let's go to the

Pno. *mp* (sim.)

465

E. Lover
mar-ket _____ and get some eggs!

M. Lover
Oh! _ I love them as much as you do!

Pno.

poco f

468

E. Lover
Let's go to the mar - ket, _____ Let's go to the mar - ket _____ and get some eggs! _____

M. Lover
Oh!... Oh!...

Pno.

mf

471

[they dance in a loving reverie]

E. Lover

M. Lover
Oh! _ I love them as much as you do!

Pno.

poco f

474

E. Lover
Let's go to the mar-ket _____ and get some eggs! _____

M. Lover
Oh! _ I love them as much as you do!

Pno.

mf

poco f

Quickly; rhythmic but frenetic $\text{♩} = 152$

[the two Admirers barge in, but are embarrassed to be interrupting the Lovers. The Lovers, in turn, are embarrassed to be caught in an intimate moment. They all run around frantically apologizing to each other, themselves, the orchestra, the audience...]

485 2+3 *f*

F. Lover
F. Adm.
M. Lover
M. Adm.
Pno.

FEMALE ADMIRER: *f*
Oh! Sor-ry, sor-ry, sor-ry, so sor-ry! Oh! Sor-ry,
Sor-ry! Sor-ry! Oh! Sor-ry!

MALE ADMIRER:
Sor-ry! Oh! Oh! Oh! Oh! Oh! Oh!

Sor-ry! Sor-ry, oh! Sor-ry, sor-ry, so

491

F. Lover
F. Adm.
M. Lover
M. Adm.
Pno.

sor-ry, sor-ry, so sor-ry! Oh! Sor-ry, sor-ry, sor-ry, so sor-ry! Oh! Sor-ry,
Oh! Sor-ry! Oh! Sor-ry! Oh! Sor-ry! Oh! Sor-ry! Oh! Sor-ry! Oh! Sor-ry! Oh! Sor-ry!

Oh! Sor-ry! Oh! Oh! Oh! Oh! Oh! Oh! Oh! Oh! Oh! Sor-ry! Oh! Oh!

sor-ry! Sor-ry, oh! Sor-ry, sor-ry, so sor-ry! Sor-ry! Sor-ry, sor-ry, so sor-ry! Sor-ry, oh! Sor-ry, sor-ry, so

497

F. Lover
F. Adm.
M. Lover
M. Adm.
Pno.

sor-ry, sor-ry, so sor-ry! Oh! Sor-ry, ss
Oh! Sor-ry! Oh! Sor-ry! Oh! Sor-ry! Oh! Sor-ry! Oh! ss

Oh! Oh! Oh! Oh! Oh! Sor-ry! Oh! Oh! Oh! Oh! Oh! Oh!

sor-ry! Sor-ry, oh! Sor-ry, sor-ry, sor-ry! Sor-ry, oh! Sor-ry, sor-ry, so sor-ry! Sor-ry, oh! Sor-ry, sor-ry, so

Fairly quickly; ad lib (♩ = 66)

[she leaves, leading the

[to the Male Lover] [to the two Admirers] Male Lover by the hand]

503

F. Lover

F. Adm.

M. Lover

M. Adm.

Pno.

Oh! Sor - ry! Sor - ry, ev - ry - one!

ss

ad libitum *mf*

mp

Come a-long... No harm done!

Very quickly; urgently, insistent (♩ = 152)

Breaking News!

2+2+3 [the Announcer moves his hand to his earpiece again as though receiving "breaking news"]

508

Ann.

Pno.

f

clarion

TRIO: The Leader is being pressed

A Tempo; busily

ANNOUNCER:

[he readies himself for the camera] [delivered "on camera" with microphone, stop-and-start, as if getting updates through earpiece] *mf*

514

Ann.

Pno.

ON CAMERA

The

519

Ann.

Pno.

lead - er, the lead - er is be - ing, is be - ing

523 *cresc.* *becoming increasingly anxious*

Ann. pressed for - ward, and pressed back, pressed for - ward, and back, pressed for - ward and back,

Pno. *cresc.*

527 FEMALE ADMIRER: *f* *like steam escaping*

pre - sss - t!

MALE ADMIRER: *f* *like steam escaping*

pre - sss - t! *with awe (and barely concealed glee)*

Ann. *f* for - ward and back, pressed pressed pressed for - ward and back, and now they're pres - sing his

Pno. *f* *3+4*

531 *A Tempo; as before*

Ann. trou - sers! *[he pulls himself together]* *[again with the earpiece]* *mf* The

Pno. *[cl. solo, ad lib.]* *f* *tr* *ff* *p* *mf*

535 *[swaying]* *p*

F. Adm. *[swaying]* *p* for - ward and back, for - ward and back, for - ward and back, for - ward and back

M. Adm. for - ward and back for - ward and back *[he smiles]* for - ward and back for - ward and back

Ann. lead - er, the lead - er is smil - ing, is smil - ing.

Pno. *[he smiles]*

539 Subito meno mosso; serene ♩ = 76

Ann. *mp*

While they're pres-sing his trous-ers, he walks a-bout.

Pno. *molto legato p*

542 [the two Admirers begin to walk about, mimicking the actions of the Leader as the Announcer describes them]

Ann.

He tastes the flow-ers and the fruits grow-ing in the stream.

Pno.

545 FEMALE ADMIRER: *angelic, like a chorale pp*

E. Adm.

Ann. *parenthetically, bemused* *suddenly pious p*

He's al- so tast-ing the roots of the trees. He suf-fers the lit-tle child-ren

Pno. *p*

548 Subito più mosso; earnest ♩ = 100

E. Adm.

M. Adm. MALE ADMIRER: *pp angelic, like a chorale*

Ann. *poco f with evident pride*

lit-tle child-ren come un-to him. The child-ren come un-to him. to come un-to him. He has con-fi-dence in ev-ry-bod-y,

Pno. *poco f* [snare]

552

Ann. *f*
con - fi - dence in ev - 'ry - bod - y. He in - au - gu - rates the po - lice force. He pays tri - bute to

Pno. *cresc.* *f*

555

F. Adm. *p*
Bra - vo! Bra - vo! Bra - vo! Bra - vo!

M. Adm. *p*
Bra - vo! Bra - vo! vo!

Ann. *mf noble, grand*
jus - tice. He sa - lutes the great vic - tors

Pno. *mf* *p* *mf*

561

[the two Admirers jeer]

F. Adm. Boo! Boo! Boo! Boo!

M. Adm. Boo! Boo! Boo!

Ann. *cresc.*
and the great van - quished. Fi - nal - ly he re -

Pno. *p*

567 *[the two Admirers clap silently]*
mp *lowing like cows*

F. Adm. Bra - vo! Bra - vo! Bra - vo! Bra - vo! Moo,

M. Adm. Bra - vo! Bra - vo! Bra - vo! Moo,

Ann. *f* (would you look at that!) *mf* [*impressed*] *3*
 - cites a po-em. The peo-ple are ver-y moved.

Pno. *f mp*

572 *[while the two Admirers are weeping, the Announcer seems to receive another "update" on his earpiece; he holds his hand up]*
sobbing p cresc. *sim., eventually becoming uncontrolled blubbering*

F. Adm. Moo, Moo, Moo, Ah! Woo! Ah! Woo! Ah! Wah!

M. Adm. Moo, Moo, Ah! Woo! Ah! Woo! Ah! Wah!

Ann. *3* *3*
 All the peo-ple are weep-ing.

Pno. *cresc.*

578 *f*

F. Adm. Wah! *f*

M. Adm. Wah!

Ann. *interrupting f* *3*
 Sil-ence! They've giv-en the lead-er's trous-ers back.

Pno. *f* *5* *3* *tr* *ff*

581

[the two Admirers pull themselves together;
the Announcer prepares to go "on air" again]

E. Adm. *p* his trou-sers back,

M. Adm. *p* his trou-sers back,

Ann. *mf* The lead - er, the

Pno. *p* *mf*

585

E. Adm. his trou-sers back, he puts them on, he puts them on,

M. Adm. his trou-sers back, he puts them on, he puts them on

Ann. *cresc.* *f* lead - er puts them on, puts them on. He looks hap - py!

Pno. *f*

591

E. Adm. *f* Hoo - ray! Hoo - ray! Hoo - ray! Hoo - ray!

M. Adm. Hoo-ray! Hoo-ray! Hoo-ray! Hoo-ray!

Ann. *f* *mf* Hoo-ray! Hoo-ray! Hoo-ray! Hoo-ray! The lead-er's suck-ing his

Pno. *f*

599

Slow motion $\text{♩} = 48$ Suddenly quickly; ad lib ($\text{♩} = 66$)

[all three, stunned, mouths agape, begin to raise their thumbs to suck them, then...] *poco f* [the Announcer snaps out of it]

Ann. thumb! Back, back to your pla-ces, you two, don't move, be-have your-selves and shout:

CAMERA OFF

Pno. *p* *f*

605

Steady; aggressive (a tempo) Quickly; march tempo $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 92$ [the two Admirers gesture in rhythm, salute, etc., and begin to march about]

F. Adm. FEMALE ADMIRER: *mf cresc. poco a poco* Long live, long live, long live the lead - er! Long live, long live,

M. Adm. MALE ADMIRER: *mf cresc. poco a poco* Long live, long live, long live the lead - er! Long live, long live,

Ann. *f* Long live the lead-er!

Pno. *mf* etc. *cresc. poco a poco*

611

F. Adm. long live the lead - er! Long live the lead - er! Long live, long live, long live the lead-er!

M. Adm. long live the lead - er! Long live the lead - er! Long live, long live, long live the lead-er!

Pno.

[as each new instrument is added and the music becomes increasingly cacophonous,
the two Admirers' singing and marching becomes more fervid and out of control]

615

F. Adm. Long live, long live, long live the lead-er! Long live, long live, long live the lead-er!

M. Adm. Long live, long live, long live the lead-er! Long live, long live, long live the lead-er!

[picc.] *tr.* [+ strings]

Pno.

619

optional repeat(s)

F. Adm. Long live, long live, long live the lead-er! Long live, long live, long live the lead-er!

M. Adm. Long live, long live, long live the lead-er! Long live, long live, long live the lead-er!

Ann. ANNOUNCER: *imploring*
Be qui-et, I tell you, Be qui-et, I tell you

[+ trbn.] etc., continuing

Pno.

623

Fairly quickly; ad lib (♩ = 66)

F. Adm. Long live, long live, long live the lead-er!

M. Adm. Long live, long live, long live the lead-er!

Ann. *cresc.* *ff* *f* [exasperated] *mf* [pointing]
qui-et, qui-et, qui-et, qui-et, qui-et, qui-et, qui-et, qui-et! You'll spoil ev'ry-thing! Look out, the

Pno.

629 Quickly; pressing forward $\text{♩} = 100$ *mf excitedly* a tempo

F. Adm. The lead - er's com - ing! The

M. Adm. The lead - er's com - ing! *mf excitedly*

Ann. lead - er's com - ing! Watch out! *[trying to control the two Admirers' enthusiasm and get them organized]*

Pno.

632 a tempo poco rit. - - -

F. Adm. lead - er's com - ing! The lead - er's com - ing! com - ing!

M. Adm. The lead - er's com - ing! The lead - er's com - ing! com - ing!

Ann. And keep qui - et!

Pno.

ad lib. Slow motion $\text{♩} = 48$ Fairly quickly; ad lib ($\text{♩} = 66$) Tempo primo; back in the groove $\text{♩} = 152$

636 *[reacting to the Announcer] p* *[the two Admirers look on, disconsolate]* *[the Announcer runs around, then off stage while singing; the two Admirers follow him with determination]*

F. Adm. Oh...

M. Adm. Oh...

Ann. *f* *[breaking the spell]* *pp* *stamps foot* *f* *[with renewed resolve!]* Oh! The leader's go - ing a - way. Fol - low him! Fol - low me!

Pno.

642

Ann. *(gradually fading away)* [they leave]

Pno. *sub. f*

[the Female Lover bursts onto the stage; she and the Male Lover are playing a coquettish game of tag/hide-and-see, flitting about the stage ridiculously]

DUO: You won't catch me

$\text{♩} = \text{♩} = \text{ca. } 100$ Lively, animated

647

F. Lover *mf flirtatious*

M. Lover *mf [enters, chasing her]*

Pno. *decresc.* *p* *mf*

You won't catch me!

Wait a mo-moment! Wait a

654

F. Lover

M. Lover

Pno.

You won't catch me! You won't catch

mo-moment! Wait a mo-moment! Wait a mo-moment!

660

F. Lover

M. Lover

Pno.

me! You won't catch me!

Wait a mo-moment! Wait a mo-moment! Wait a mo-moment! Wait a

666

F. Lover

M. Lover

Pno.

You won't catch me! You won't catch

mo-ment! Wait! — Wait! — Wait! —

mp legato

671

[Female Lover runs off stage, Male Lover chases her]

[the two Lovers reappear, resuming their silly game, their parts reversed]

F. Lover

M. Lover

Pno.

me!

Wait! —

You

mf flirtatious

sub. f *decresc.* *p*

677

F. Lover

M. Lover

Pno.

mf [enters, chasing him]

Wait a mo-ment! Wait a mo-ment!

won't catch me! You won't catch me!

Wait a mo-ment! Wait a

684

F. Lover

M. Lover

Pno.

mo-ment! Wait! — Wait! — Wait! —

You won't catch me! You won't catch

mp legato

689 *decresc.* [they run off stage again]

E. Lover Wait! *decresc.* Wait a mo - ment!

M. Lover me! You won't catch me!

Pno. *decresc.* *pp*

[the Female Lover suddenly appears again, interrupting the trio; she is followed by the Male Lover and they recommence their manic game; the Announcer and the Admirers freeze in their places, clearly annoyed]

Fairly quickly; ad lib (♩ = 66)

[the Announcer and the Admirers return, dejected]

FEMALE LOVER: *poco f* interrupting

As before ♩ = ca. 100

693

F. Lover You won't catch

F. Adm. *mf* *f* Rot-ten luck! No, that's not true

M. Adm. *mf* *f* We missed him! That's not true!

Ann. *f* It was your fault!

Pno. *mf* *f*

700 [they take turns chasing each other]

E. Lover me! Wait a mo-ment! Wait a mo-ment!

MALE LOVER: *poco f*

M. Lover Wait a mo-ment! Wait a mo-ment! You won't catch me!

Pno.

[the Announcer and the Admirers remain motionless for a time] Rushed; as if recapping quickly (♩=66+)

[they begin again, annoyed to be re-iterating, cuing each other's lines]

707 *decresc.* [the two Lovers run off] *decresc.* *mf* That's not true!

F. Lover You won't catch me!

F. Adm. *mf* That's not true!

M. Lover Wait a moment!

M. Adm. *mf* That's not true!

Ann. *mf* That's not true!

Pno. *mp legato* *decresc.* *pp* *mf* It was your fault!

Fairly quickly; ad lib (♩=66)

Steady; martial (same tempo)

713 *p* *apologetic* *f* [snapping to attention]

F. Adm. *p* *apologetic* No, we did-n't mean — that! Hoo-ray!

M. Adm. *p* *apologetic* No we did-n't mean — that! Hoo-

Ann. *f* Hoo-ray! —

Pno. *f* *a fanfare in the distance*

Are you sug-gest-ing it was mine? Hoo-ray! —

FINALE

♩ = ♩ Quickly; animated ♩=132

[but they are pointing in different directions; they tiptoe each to one side]

719 *mf* [pointing] It's from ov-er there!

F. Adm. *mf* [pointing] Yes, it's from ov-er there!

M. Adm. -ray! Hoo - ray!

Ann. *mf* Hoo - ray!

Pno. *mf*

723

[again pointing and tiptoeing in different directions]

E. Adm.

M. Adm.

Ann.
 Yes, it's from ov-er there!
 It's from o-ver there! [shrugging] b2. Ver - - - y

Pno.

727

Ann.
 well Fol - low me! Long

Pno.

731

E. Adm.
 Long live the lead - er, the lead-er! Hoo-ray!

M. Adm.

Ann.
 Long live the lead - er, the lead-er! Hoo-
 live the lead - er, the lead-er! Hoo-ray!

Pno.

736

E. Adm.
 It's from ov-er there!

M. Adm.

Ann.
 -ray! Yes, it's from ov-er there!
 Hoo-ray!

Pno.

740

F. Adm. Yes, it's from ov-er there!

M. Adm. It's from o-ver there!

Ann. Hoo - ray! Ver - y

Pno.

744

F. Adm. It's from ov-er there! It's from ov-er there! It's from ov-er there!

M. Adm. It's from ov-er there! It's from ov-er there! It's from ov-er there!

Ann. well Fol - low me!

Pno.

747

F. Adm. Long live the lead - er, the *f* lead-er! [they run off stage]

M. Adm. Long live the lead - er, the *f* lead-er!

Ann. Long live the lead - er, the *f* lead-er!

Pno. *f*

752

F. Lover

M. Lover

Pno. *cresc.* *f* *sub.p*

accel. [the Lovers re-enter, still playing their game]

757 FEMALE LOVER:
mp You won't get me! — *fp* — — — — — *f* *mp* You won't get me! — *fp*

MALE LOVER: *mp* I'll get you, I'll get you, I'll get you, I'll get you! *f* Wait a mo-ment! I'll *mp*

Pno. *mp*

760 (sim.) You won't get me! —

(sim.) get you, I'll get you, I'll get you, I'll get you! Wait a mo-ment! I'll get you, I'll get you, I'll get you, I'll get you!

Pno.

763 [they run off stage...]

You won't get me! —

Wait a mo-ment! I'll get you, I'll get you, I'll get you, I'll get you!

Pno. *sub. f* *8^a*

[the Announcer and the Admirers run back on stage]

766

Pno. *decresc.*

769

FEMALE ADMIRER: *mp*

MALE ADMIRER: *mp*

ANNOUNCER: *mf*

It's from ov - er here! It's from ov - er here! It's from ov - er here!

It's from ov - er here! It's from ov - er here! It's from ov - er here!

The lead - er, long live the lead - er!

Pno. *mp*

771

F. Adm.

M. Adm.

Ann.

Pno.

It's from ov - er there! It's from ov - er there! It's from ov - er there!

It's from ov - er there! It's from ov - er there!

The lead - er, long live the lead - er!

773

F. Adm.

M. Adm.

Ann.

Pno.

It's from ov - er here! It's from ov - er here!

It's from ov - er here! It's from ov - er here! It's from ov - er here!

We'll get him, the lead - er,

775

F. Adm. It's from ov - er there! It's from ov - er here! It's from ov - er here!

M. Adm. It's from ov - er here! It's from ov - er here!

Ann. Fol - - - low me!

Pno.

[...the Lovers run back on stage; everyone is now on stage]

777

Pno. *sub. f* *8^a* *decresc.*

[chaos ensues...]

781

F. Lover *sotto voce* You won't get me!

F. Adm. *sotto voce* It's from ov - er here! It's from ov - er here!

M. Lover *sotto voce* I'll get you, I'll get you, I'll get you! Wait a mo - ment!

M. Adm. *sotto voce* It's from ov - er here! It's from ov - er here! It's from ov - er here!

Ann. *mf* [trying to take the lead] Fol - - - low me!

Pno. *mf* *sempre legato*

783

F. Lover: You won't get me! _____

F. Adm.: It's from ov - er there! It's from ov - er there! It's from ov - er there!

M. Lover: I'll get you, I'll get you, I'll get you! Wait a mo - ment!

M. Adm.: It's from ov - er there! It's from ov - er there!

Ann.: Fol - - - low the lead - - - er.

Pno. (Piano accompaniment)

785

F. Lover: You won't get me! _____

F. Adm.: It's from ov - er here! It's from ov - er here!

M. Lover: I'll get you, I'll get you, I'll get you! Wait a mo - ment!

M. Adm.: It's from ov - er here! It's from ov - er here! It's from ov - er here!

Ann.: Long live the

Pno. (Piano accompaniment)

787

F. Lover
You won't get me!

F. Adm.
It's from ov - er there! It's from ov - er here! It's from ov - er here!

M. Lover
I'll get you, I'll get you, I'll get you! Wait a mo - ment!

M. Adm.
It's from ov - er here! It's from ov - er here!

Ann.
lead - - - er, the

Pno.

789 *f* [they suddenly all come together]

F. Lover
Long live the lead - er! Fol - low him, fol - low him, fol - low him, fol - low him! Long live the

F. Adm.
Long live the lead - er! Fol - low him, fol - low him, fol - low him, fol - low him! Long live the

M. Lover
Long live the lead - er! Fol - low him, fol - low him, fol - low him, fol - low him! Long live the

M. Adm.
Long live the lead - er! Fol - low him, fol - low him, fol - low him, fol - low him! Long live the

Ann.
lead - er, the lead - er! Fol - low him, fol - low him, fol - low him, fol - low him! Long live the

Pno.

793 *poco accel.* — — — —

F. Lover
lead-er! Fol-low him, fol-low him, fol-low him, fol-low him! We'll get him! _____

F. Adm.
lead-er! Fol-low him, fol-low him, fol-low him, fol-low him! We'll get him! _____

M. Lover
lead-er! Fol-low him, fol-low him, fol-low him, fol-low him! We'll get him! _____

M. Adm.
lead-er! Fol-low him, fol-low him, fol-low him, fol-low him! We'll get him! _____

Ann.
lead-er! Fol-low him, fol-low him, fol-low him, fol-low him! We'll get him! _____

Pno.
fp *cresc.*

Even Faster ♩=152
[confusion, mayhem once again]

799

F. Lover
f You won't get *f* me! _____

F. Adm.
It's from ov - er here! It's from ov - er here!

M. Lover
f I'll get you, I'll get you, I'll get you! Wait a mo - ment!

M. Adm.
f It's from ov - er here! It's from ov - er here! It's from ov - er here!

Ann.
f Fol - low me!

[trbn.]

Pno.

801

F. Lover
You won't get me!

F. Adm.
It's from ov - er there! It's from ov - er there! It's from ov - er there!

M. Lover
I'll get you, I'll get you, I'll get you! Wait a mo - ment!

M. Adm.
It's from ov - er there! It's from ov - er there!

Ann.
Fol - - - low the lead - - - er.

Pno.

803

F. Lover
You won't get me!

F. Adm.
It's from ov - er here! It's from ov - er here!

M. Lover
I'll get you, I'll get you, I'll get you! Wait a mo - ment!

M. Adm.
It's from ov - er here! It's from ov - er here! It's from ov - er here!

Ann.
Long live the

[trpt.]

Pno.

805

F. Lover: You won't get me!

F. Adm.: It's from ov - er there! It's from ov - er here! It's from ov - er here!

M. Lover: I'll get you, I'll get you, I'll get you! Wait a mo - ment!

M. Adm.: It's from ov - er here! It's from ov - er here!

Ann.: lead - - - er, the

Pno.

807 [they all come together again]

F. Lover: Long live the lead-er! We'll get him, we'll get him, we'll get him, we'll get him, we'll get him! Long live the

F. Adm.: Long live the lead-er! We'll get him, we'll get him, we'll get him, we'll get him, we'll get him! Long live the

M. Lover: Long live the lead-er! We'll get him, we'll get him, we'll get him, we'll get him, we'll get him! Long live the

M. Adm.: Long live the lead-er! We'll get him, we'll get him, we'll get him, we'll get him, we'll get him! Long live the

Ann.: lead - er, the lead-er! We'll get him, we'll get him, we'll get him, we'll get him, we'll get him! Long live the

Pno.

811

F. Lover
lead-er! We'll get him, we'll get him, we'll get him, we'll get him, we'll get him! Fol-low the lead-er!

F. Adm.
lead-er! We'll get him, we'll get him, we'll get him, we'll get him, we'll get him! Fol-low the lead-er!

M. Lover
lead-er! We'll get him, we'll get him, we'll get him, we'll get him, we'll get him! Fol-low the lead-er!

M. Adm.
lead-er! We'll get him, we'll get him, we'll get him, we'll get him, we'll get him! Fol-low the lead-er!

Ann.
lead-er! We'll get him, we'll get him, we'll get him, we'll get him, we'll get him! Fol-low the lead-er!

Pno.

814

F. Lover
Long live the lead-er! the lead-er, the lead-er, the lead-er, lead-er, lead-er, lead-er, lead-er, lead-er, lead-er!

F. Adm.
Long live the lead-er! the lead-er, the lead-er, the lead-er, lead-er, lead-er, lead-er, lead-er, lead-er, lead-er!

M. Lover
Long live the lead-er! the lead-er, the lead-er, the lead-er, lead-er, lead-er, lead-er, lead-er, lead-er, lead-er!

M. Adm.
Long live the lead-er! the lead-er, the lead-er, the lead-er, lead-er, lead-er, lead-er, lead-er, lead-er, lead-er!

Ann.
Long live the lead-er! the lead-er, the lead-er, the lead-er, lead-er, lead-er, lead-er, lead-er, lead-er, lead-er!

[trpt.]

Pno.

819 [they are all transfixed]

F. Lover *p* The leader...

F. Adm. *p* The Leader...

M. Lover *p* The leader...

M. Adm. *p* The leader...

Ann. *p* The leader...
The lead-er is ar-riv-ing. The lead-er,

Pno. *p*

827 [they snap out of it]

F. Lover The lead-er...

F. Adm. The lead-er...

M. Lover The lead-er...

M. Adm. The lead-er...

Ann. The lead-er...
here's the lead-er. To your plac-es! At-ten-tion!

Pno. *f* *sub. f*

[Suddenly the Female Lover and Male Admirer, and the Male Lover and Female Admirer find themselves in each other's arms (the wrong arms), embracing passionately. The Female Lover and Male Admirer are to the right of the Announcer (stage left) and the Male Lover and Female Admirer are to his left (stage right)]

accel. ----- ♩ = 168

832 [they prepare themselves, scrambling about, hiding, etc.]

Pno. *mf* *cresc.* *sub. p*

$\text{♩} = 84$ Suddenly lyrical, heartfelt

$\text{♩} = 168$

838 [to the Male Admirer] [the (wrong) couples declare their love]

F. Lover *mf* My dear, my dar - ling!

F. Adm. [to the Male Lover] *mf* My dear, my dar - ling!

M. Lover [to the Female Admirer] *mf* My dear, my dar - ling!

M. Adm. [to the Female Lover] *mf* My dear, my dar - ling!

Pno. *mp*

$\text{♩} = 168$ [breaking the spell]

842 ANNOUNCER: [they again prepare themselves, scrambling about, hiding, etc.]

Ann. *b* Si - lence! To your plac - es!

Pno. *sub. f* *mf* *cresc.*

848 Breaking News!

F. Lover *f* Lead - er...

F. Adm. *f* Lead - er... Lead - er...

M. Lover *f* Lead - er...

M. Adm. *f* Lead - er...

Ann. *f* Lead - er... The lead - er has eat - en his soup.

Pno. *f* [xylo.]

854

[they throw confetti]

F. Lover: Lead-er...

F. Adm.:

M. Lover: Lead-er...

M. Adm.:

Ann.: Hoo-ray! _____

He is com-ing. He _____ is nigh. _____

Pno.:

859

molto pesante

F. Lover: *cresc.* Hoo-ray! *ff* Long live the lead-er!

F. Adm.: *cresc.* - ray! *ff* Hoo-ray! Long live the lead-er!

M. Lover: *cresc.* Hoo-ray! *ff* Hoo-ray! Long live the lead-er!

M. Adm.: *cresc.* Hoo-ray! *ff* Hoo-ray! Long live the lead-er!

Ann.: *cresc.* Hoo-ray! *ff* Hoo-ray! Long live the lead-er!

Pno.:

[snare] *ff* *mf*

[They all turn themselves around, their backs to the audience, staring fixedly upstage, two on either side of the Announcer (perhaps one on bended knee on each side of him). The Announcer is in the middle, arms spread-eagled. He genuflects, then hurls himself to one side to allow the Leader room to pass. The others are frozen in place, arms outstretched. The Leader enters from upstage center. Somewhat surprisingly, he is headless, though he is wearing a hat.* The Leader's appearance should produce an uncanny and surreal impression, the characters paralyzed in their astonishment.]

* "This illusion may be accomplished by any number of means, perhaps most simply by using an overcoat with its collar turned up around the forehead, topped with a hat." [Ionesco]

[the Leader pauses briefly, then leaves with great energetic strides; the others do not move for a time; they are stupefied]

866 Fairly quickly ♩=66
[the Leader enters slowly, advances downstage center to footlights]

Pno.

cresc. molto *ff*

871 Slow motion ♩=48 ad lib. Fairly quickly; ad lib (♩=66)
[dumbstruck, one at a time, they turn towards the audience, revealing various expressions of ecstasy/rapture/exultation]

F. Adm. FEMALE ADMIRER: *mp* [the Female Admirer, alone, is confused]

Ann. But...but...the leader has-n't got a head! ANNOUNCER: dismissively *f*
What's he need a head for

Pno. *pp* *p* *mp* *f*

876 ad lib. Very slowly; as if in a dream ♩=50
[they all look at the Announcer, bewildered...] [but then nod to each other in agreement] [suddenly they are all confused, disoriented, forgetting themselves, turning to each other in a dazed stupor]

F. Lover

F. Adm. [to the Announcer] *pp*

M. Lover MALE LOVER: *mp* [to the Female Lover] *pp* What's yours? ____
That's true! What's your name? ____

M. Adm.

Ann. when he's got gen-ius! [to the Female Lover] *pp* What's

Pno. *mp* *pp* bell-like

882 FEMALE LOVER:
[to the Male Admirer] *[they all ask each other]*

pp What's your name? *p* What's your name? *p* What's your name?

F. Lover

p What's your name? *p* What's your name?

F. Adm.

p What's your name? *p* What's your name?

M. Lover

MALE ADMIRER:
[to the Male Lover] *pp* *p*

What's your name? What's your name? What's your name?

M. Adm.

What's your name? What's your name? What's your name?

Ann.

your name? What's your name? What's your name?

Pno.

885

name? What's your name? What's your name?

F. Lover

What's your name? What's your name? What's your name?

F. Adm.

What's your name? What's your name? What's your name?

M. Lover

your name? What's your name? What's your name? What's your name?

M. Adm.

What's your name? What's your name? What's your name? What's your name?

Ann.

What's your name? What's your name? What's your name? What's your name?

Pno.

888 *[they slowly turn to the audience, addressing them]*

mp *mf* *mp*

F. Lover
Your name? What's your name? _____ What's _____ your name? _____ What's

F. Adm.
Your name? What's your name? _____ What's _____ your name? _____ What's

M. Lover
name? What's your name? _____ What's _____ your name? _____ What's

M. Adm.
your name? What's your name? _____ What's _____ your name? _____ What's

Ann.
_____ What's your name? _____ What's _____ your name? _____ What's

Pno.

894 *molto rit.* *rit.* *[the Leader (or his silhouette) appears behind them]*

p *p* *p* *p* *p*

F. Lover
your name? _____ your name... _____

F. Adm.
your name? _____ your name... _____

M. Lover
your name? _____ your name... _____

M. Adm.
your name? _____ your name... _____

Ann.
your name? _____ your name... _____

Pno.

End of the Opera
8/1/2019

Dari Al-Zand.