

Breathe Freely

a chamber opera in two short acts

Vocal Score

Words by Julian Wagstaff

Act I

Music by Julian Wagstaff

Time: 1943.

Place: An office within the Department of Chemistry at Edinburgh University.

It is tidy, but not immaculate. There is a desk, a lamp, a telephone and other furnishings, files, papers etc. appropriate to the era.

Pastoral (♩=65)

PROF. JAMES KENDALL enters. He goes to the desk but does not sit down.
He picks up the telephone receiver and dials a number...

4 Poco Più mosso (♩=70)

d.+d. *d.+d+d* Kendall *d.+d*

Hel - lo

ff *sub. p*

5

d.+d.

Ritch- ie? Doc- tor Ritch - ie? Are you there? Damned te- le phone!

mf *p*

6

d.+d. *d.+d.*

Al- ways play- ing up! Yes, Ken - dall here.

f *p*

d. + d

I'm phon - ing re. the Pol - ish chap, Hem - pel, that's the

7 Poco agitato (♩=85)

d + d + d

one, quite a cove by all ac - counts. In - deed, I think we should

take him on_ Now that your peo - ple have said he's clear.

KENDALL leafs through some papers which are lying on the desk.

STANISŁAW HEMPEL enters. KENDALL rises.

10 Tempo primo (♩=65)

There is a knock at the door.

Poco accel. 11 Poco più mosso (♩=75)

Please, come in _____ Ah, good day

Good day, my dear chap. Have I the pleas - ure of add - ress - ing Doc - tor Stan - is - law

12 Hempel

Yes. Hem - pel. Good day _____ to you.

Hem - pel?

KENDALL shakes HEMPEL's hand.

HEMPEL seems unsure of how to respond,
but shakes KENDALL's hand nonetheless.

13 Like a hymn (♩=70)

Kendall

Ken - dall, how do you do. I trust your jour - ney here__

Hempel

The train was ve - ry
__ was not too fraught, not too irk - some.

14

crowd - ed, no seat at all__ till Ber - wick. But Lon - don - Ed - in - burgh is

not so bad, I've seen far worse!—

Kendall (a little more businesslike)

So I hear! And wel-come to our hum-ble

This system contains a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line starts with the lyrics "not so bad, I've seen far worse!—" and then continues with "So I hear! And wel-come to our hum-ble". A character name "Kendall" is written above the vocal line with the instruction "(a little more businesslike)". The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line in the left hand and a more melodic line in the right hand. The time signature changes from 4/4 to 3/4.

15

home, "The Jam Fac - to - ry", As we like to

This system continues the musical score. The vocal line has the lyrics "home, 'The Jam Fac - to - ry', As we like to". The piano accompaniment includes dynamic markings such as *f* and *mf*, and articulation marks like accents (*>*). The time signature changes from 3/4 to 4/4.

16

joke. Now won't you tell me please, how we here may help you?—

This system concludes the musical score. The vocal line has the lyrics "joke. Now won't you tell me please, how we here may help you?—". The piano accompaniment consists of sustained chords in both hands, with the time signature changing from 4/4 to 3/4.