# The Emperor's New Clothes 

1994, rev. 2012


Gary Bachlund

# The Emperor's New Clothes <br> After the tale by Hans Christian Andersen 

Words and Music by Gary Bachlund
1994, revised 2012

Cast:
Duchess, soprano / Second Weaver, soprano / Lady Largebottom, mezzo soprano
Emperor, tenor / First Weaver, tenor
Duke, high baritone / Minister-of-State, baritone / Privy Councilor, bass
I. Royal Rondeau and Fugue ..... 1
Instrumental ensemble
II. Conspirators' Duet ..... 5
Privy Councilor / Minister-of-State
III. Laughing Quintet ..... 15
Duke / Privy Councilor / Minister-of-State / Duchess / Lady Largebottom
IV. The Emperor
Privy Councilor / Minister-of-State / Duke / Duchess / Lady Largebottom / Emperor
V. The Weavers ..... 34
Emperor / Duke / Duchess / Lady Largebottom / First Weaver / Second Weaver
VI. The Fitting ..... 46
Tutti
VII. The Councilor's Advice ..... 57
Privy Councilor
VIII. A Royal Approval ..... 63
Emperor / First Weaver / Second Weaver
IX. Fanfare and Rondeau Reprise ..... 64
Instrumental ensemble
X. The Unveiling ..... 66
Emperor / Lady Largebottom /Duchess / Duke / Minister-of-State / Privy Councilor
XI. A Velvet Revolution ..... 73
Emperor / Privy Councilor / Duchess / Duke / Lady Largebottom / Minister-of-State

## The Emperor's New Clothes

I. Royal Rondeau and Fugue

Words and Music by
Gary Bachlund

$$
d=72
$$


$8^{v b}$


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$\cdot=72$



II. Conspirators' Duet
. $=90$ [ The Minister-of-State and the Privy Councilor meet on a public street. ]


7 Minister-of-State



35




$$
56
$$

$$
56
$$

M.

P. C.



81


88


 104 recit.

An as-sa-si-na- tion?
How I love po-li- tics! Were
a tempo

kill?



122


Life-less in his rich ar- ray...




## III. Laughing Quintet

[ The Duke, Duchess and Lady Largebottom enter, almost surprising the conspirators.]


broil-ing in Au-gust, and on-ly the strong-est are out at mid-day!
Why is it? Why's it so hot? The

broil-ing in Au-gust, and on-ly the strong-est are out at mid-day!
Why is it? Why's it so hot? The

P. C.




Scan - dal-ous news at the fool he por-trays! Ah, ha- ha! Hee-hee!Ho- ho! Ah, ha- ha! Heh!



Re-buke touch-es each of us!Mis-chie-vous

jo-kers, be- ware! Don't be found to ex-poundjokes with-out care!





Ho - ho! Ha!Ho- ho! Ha! Ho - ho!Ha- ha! Hee!
Ho-ho- ho! Ha! Hee!
L.L.


Ho-ho-ho! Ha! Hee!

Ho-ho- ho! Ha! Hee!


Ho-ho- ho! Ha! Hee!


Ho-ho- ho! Ha! Hee!

Ho-ho-ho! Ha! Hee!
P. C.










IV. The Emperor
[ A fanfare announces the arrival of the Emperor. The five quickly regain their composure. ]


Lady Largebottom
L.L.
D.

The Em-per-or!
Minister-of-State
M.

The Em-per- or!
Privy Councilor

[ The Emperor, suspicious of all, holds an impromptu court. ]









[ Two weavers are brought out of the Emperor's entrouage. They begin a "sales pitch" as they set up a loom with "invisible" threads. ]


1. W.


recit. più mosso a piacere


[ The Emperor and aristocrats pretend to understand, and try to outdo each other, even in assisting in holding the imaginary cloth. The Privy Councilor watches with suspicion.]


69


2. W.
2. W.



$$
102 \quad d=100 \quad{ }^{-}
$$

2. W.

- 




Emperor: Stunning! Breath-taking! Duke: Ever so stunning!






## VI. The Fitting

[ The weavers erect frame hung with a coarse cloth, behind which an impromptu fitting takes place.]

[ The Duke and Duchess bewail that their political position "hangs by a thread," as Lady Largebottom disappears behind the screen. ]

face. Thus, thereby the dread po - li - tic and the strife af - fact us like rats in a


place. Our pri-vi-lege serves well to keen-ly out-flank the cen-sure of fall-ing from grace.
D.

$\qquad$


Lady Largebottom
L. L.
D.

d = 90 [ Lady Largebottom comes from behind the screen, pretending she has seen the new clothes.]




[ The Duchess and Duke retrun, feigning great excitement. ]


D.




D.


Second Weaver


First Weaver

sure! For sure! For sure! For sure!




Em-pe - ror him - self! $\qquad$ No clothes to hide his re-gal, ro-yal parts!


trust-wor-thy?
Worthy
of naught?
Am I
un - a - ble to see what I ought?


187

$\downarrow=100$ 193 Privy Councilor
[ The Privy Councilor asserts his wisdom with a sure hand. ]

Privy Councilor: Follow my lead! And smile!

VII. The Councilor's Advice

what has here oc-curred. Life is most ab-surd. What can be in-ferred when the mean-ing's blurred?


12







70 a piacere
come pima
P. C.


For the sake of your ca- rears...


## VIII. A Royal Approval

[ The Emperor shows only his head from behind the changing screen, and announces his opinion of the new clothes. ]



Emperor

[ The Emperor parades himself in his royal underwear, at best....]


X. The Unveiling
[ Standing proudly in his royal underwear and little else, he seeks reassurance.]

d. $=45$
$4 \quad d=80$
Lady Largebottom
L. L.
Duchess
Ds.

vi - dual at-tire.
E.






Privy Councilor


38
ritardando


Privy Councilor


L. L.
E.


Un-clad, un - co-vered, un-clothed, un-dressed at best. $\qquad$
Minister-of-State
M.

Un-clad, un - co-vered, un-clothed, un-dressed at best. $\qquad$
Privy Councilor


50

L. L.

O Lady Largebottom

Ho - ho - ho! Ha - ha - ha! Ho-ho-ho - ho! Ha! Ho-ho-ho - ho! Ha!
Duke


Minister-of-State


Privy Councilor


XI. A Velvet Revolution
$d=60$

poco movendo


Privy Councilor [ Offering the Emperor a robe. ]



$$
\text { d. }=60
$$

Privy Councilor


What a-bout the a-ri-sto-cra - by?

D.



$$
d=66
$$

[ The Emporer and aristocrats look to the Privy Councilor.]




62







