

NewOp Doo Wop

Barry Drogin

Bass

$\text{♩} = 128$



mf New Op Doo Wop, "Let Op Be Op." C - Op Be Bop,



Heads Op!* Should C - Op' - ra be Op' - ra or Mu - sic - The - ater? Is



new op' - ra grand - op' - ra, small-scale, or mu - sic, or the - ater or



Wake Op! From New - Op to Non - Op from Pop Art to Dead Art to



Op Art to No Art, From Cage to Page to Stage to Rage to



What's Op! Is this a Song? Is this Per-form-ance? Is it for free or for



me or for you for a fee? Is it Dra-mat-ic? Or Symp-tom-at-ic?



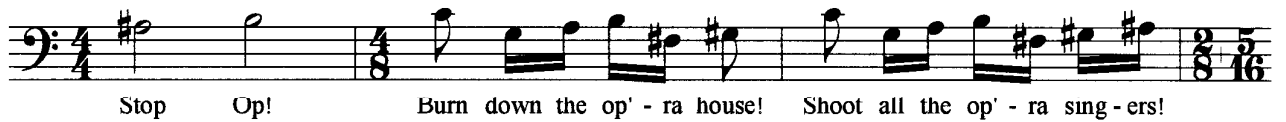
An - ti - Cli - mac - tic? Or mere - ly Di - dac - tic? Give Op! Ir -

$\text{♩} = 100$



rel - e - vant el - e - phant, Co - los - sal fos - sil, De - feat - ist e - lit - ist,

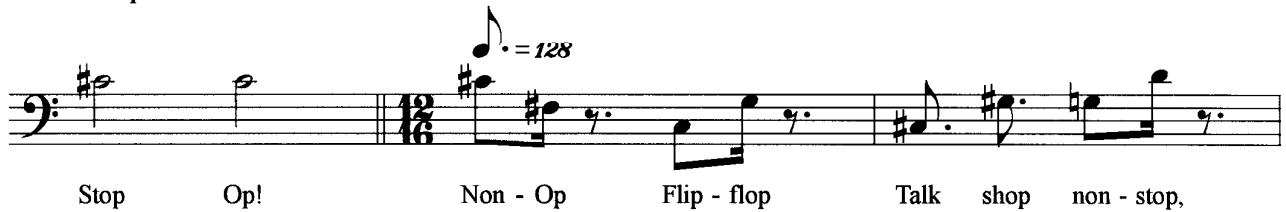
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Stop Op! Burn down the op' - ra house! Shoot all the op' - ra sing - ers!



Break up the op' - ra com - pa - nies! Kill all the
pa - trons and ma - trons and ten - ors and di - vas! Merd - i to Verd - i!

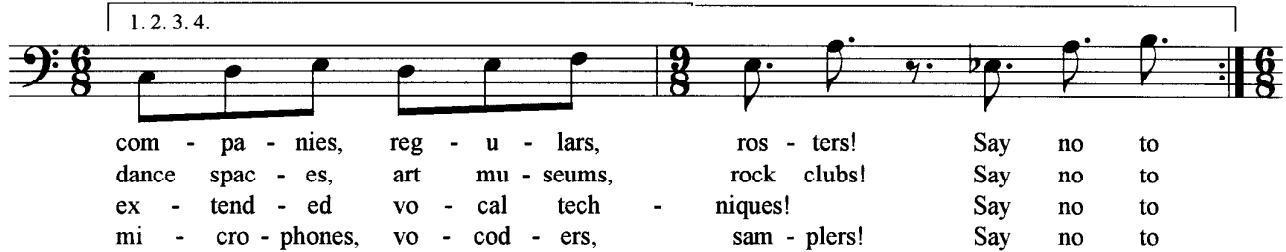


Stop Op! Non - Op Flip - flop Talk shop non - stop,



Work - shop, Co - op, Dream Op! Say no to

sing - ers	booked	years	in	ad - vance.	Say	yes	to
thou - sand	seat	barns	and	sub - scrip - tions.	Say	yes	to
high	notes,	vi - bra - to	and	head voice.	Say	yes	to
sur - ti - tles,	trans - la - tions,	broad - casts.	Say	yes	to		
mem - ber - ships,	clubs	and	con - ven - tions.	Say	yes	to	



com - pa - nies, reg - u - lars, ros - ters! Say no to
dance spac - es, art mu - seums, rock clubs! Say no to
ex - tend - ed vo - cal tech - niques! Say no to
mi - cro - phones, vo - cod - ers, sam - plers! Say no to



friend - ship, con - sen - sus, re - spect! Speak Op, Play Op,



Sing Op, Change Op, Mu - sic - The - ater! Do Op!

Unnecessary Commentary to “NewOp Doo Wop”

The International Meeting of Small-Scale Contemporary Music-Theatre and Opera, founded by Lukas Pairon and Dragan Klaic and first held in Brussels, Belgium in 1992, is not a formal “organization” with a membership, by-laws or any recognized status as an independent entity. That is why sponsors are careful to refer to it as a meeting, not a conference.

Nevertheless, certain traditions have evolved, not necessarily by consensus, but more by convenience. The name of the meeting expanded to “The International Meeting of Small-Scale and Medium-Scale Contemporary Music-Theatre and Opera,” and was then, in 1997, contracted by the sponsor, OMTF, to “NewOp.” Previously, in January 1996, Lukas Pairon and Kent Devereaux, assisted by Don Soucy of the University of New Brunswick, Canada, created the “C-Opera” listserv. In 2002, WUK and zoon vienna musiktheater created a JPEG “NewOp” logo that has been used by other sponsors since.

After the 1998 NewOp in Amsterdam, composer/performer/writer Barry Drogin wrote an essay, “Let Op Be Op! Let Music-Theatre Be Music-Theatre!”, that he later condensed into a song, “NewOp Doo Wop,” which opened the 2000 NewOp Share & Show in Brussels. Mr. Drogin performed the piece again at the 2001 NewOp10 in Oslo, and Eric Salzman, who has attended almost every NewOp, requested Barry perform the piece again at the 2002 NewOp in Vienna. With the presentation of the piece at the 2003 NewOp in Rotterdam, and a request to have the piece performed at the 2004 NewOp, “NewOp Doo Wop” has apparently earned the title of “NewOp theme song.”

In its original form, the piece contains lyrics in English, Dutch (“Let Op” means “Watch Out!”) and Italian (“Merdi” means “Death”). The original English pun, “Heads Op” (a pun on “Heads Up!” which is equivalent to the Dutch “Let Op!”) was invented by Eric Salzman. The song itself is not a doo wop, but ends with the pun, “Do Op!” “C-Op” is, of course, a reference to the “C-Opera” listserv. “Be Bop” is another American song form. “Non-Op” is an alternative title for the NewOp meetings that Mr. Drogin has fruitlessly attempted to convince Lukas Pairon and others to adopt.

Other than at NewOp meetings, the piece has been performed live on-the-air on the Kalvos & Damian New Music Bazaar radio show, which is available archived on the Internet. One of the hosts observed that the “chorus” reminded him of “Cool” from Leonard Bernstein’s “West Side Story.” Mr. Drogin does not dispute a certain resemblance.

“NewOp Doo Wop” has also been performed at the Albert Cuyp Markt in Amsterdam, but the most wonderful performance was on the high-speed train from Paris to Brussels in 2000. The piece was composed in Paris, and Mr. Drogin previewed the piece for his family on the train ride to NewOp9. For the remainder of the ride, Mr. Drogin’s son, Max, just turned 4 years-old, sang the song back to the family.

The piece really does not need this lengthy postscript, but here it is, preserved for all time, to accompany the final version of the score, set and printed using MakeMusic’s Finale Music Notation software.

Barry Drogin, December 14, 2003